

**LA CROSSE
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

USD 395

La Crosse, Kansas 67548



**STUDENT HANDBOOK
2026-27**

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LA CROSSE MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK

NOTICE

This handbook has been set forth to reflect board policy and district operating procedures at the time it was adopted and approved by the Board of Education (BOE.) It should be noted, however, that policy and procedure change from time to time to reflect the changing needs of USD 395. Therefore, the accuracy of this handbook may suffer due to the length of time from initial adoption. Every attempt will be made to keep patrons, students and staff aware of these changes. In all cases, BOE adopted policy changes and revised operating procedures take precedence. If you ever have a question or want clarification, please do not hesitate to ask.

U.S.D. #395 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap in admission or access to, treatment or employment in its programs and activities. If you have questions regarding the above, please contact the Superintendent of Schools, U.S.D. #395, La Crosse, KS 67548 785-222-2505.

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #395

Administration and Staff:

Superintendent.....	Mr. Bill Keeley
Board Clerk	Mrs. Jesssica Dellett
Assistant Board Clerk.....	Mrs. Helen Showalter
Treasurer.....	Mrs. Helen Showalter
Director of Transportation	Mrs. Ann Mayo

Principals:

La Crosse Middle/High School.....	Mr. Jon Webster
La Crosse Elementary School	Mr. Bill Keeley

Board of Education:

(President) Mr. John Irvin; McCracken, Kansas 67556
(Vice President) Mr. Aaron McGaughey; La Crosse, Kansas 67548
Mr. Glenn Herrman; La Crosse, Kansas 67548
Mrs. Erin Petersillie; Rush Center, Kansas 67575
Mr. Brian Baalman; LaCrosse, Kansas 67548
Mrs. Sandy Showalter; Alexander, Kansas 67513
Mr. Harland Werth; Liebenthal, Kansas 67553

SCHOOL CLOSING

In the event of inclement weather or mechanical breakdown, school may be closed or starting time delayed. The same conditions may also necessitate early dismissal. These events will be announced through district text notification and on the following radio/TV stations: KSNK-TV (Channel 2) in Great Bend, KWCH-TV (Channel 12) in Wichita, and KAKE-TV (Channel 10.) Reports in the morning will be between 6:00 and 7:30 a.m. If it is possible to make an announcement the preceding evening, the television stations in Great Bend and Hays will be notified in time for the 10 p.m. news. Please do not call the school, as telephone lines must be kept open for emergencies.

LA CROSSE HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs. Tonia Rush	High/Middle School Secretary/ A.D. Secretary
Mrs. Hilary Wilhelm	Aide/SSL/Sub Coordinator/ITV Monitor
Mrs. Anita Butler	Library Aide
Mrs. Jerridy Morgan	Paraprofessional
Mrs. Alyssa Sehl	Paraprofessional
Mrs. Sherri Herrman	Food Service Supervisor
Mrs. Katrena Baez	Cook
Ms. Toni Bourassa	Cook
Mrs. Lori Woods	Cook
Mr. Sean Key	Head Custodian
Ms. Catherine Thielenhaus	School Psychologist
Mrs. Kaylin Miller	School Nurse
Mr. Phillip Hammeke	Aide

LA CROSSE HIGH SCHOOL 2025/26 TEACHING & SPONSOR ASSIGNMENTS

NAME	TEACHING FIELD	SPONSOR (subject to change)
Mr. Jamie Castaneda	Rule 10	Head Girls Basketball
Mrs. Lori Dierksen	Science	Asst. Girls Basketball,
Mr. Keith Hall	Industrial Arts	Freshmen Class
Ms. Sabrina Hedding	English, Drama	Play, Senior Class
Mr. Erhik Hermosilo	Rule 10	Ast. FB
Mrs. Tera Herrman	Special Education	STUCO, PDC Chair, Scholar's Bowl, Head Teacher, JR Class
Mrs. Sherri Herrman	Food Service Supervisor	Concessions Coordinator (MS/HS)
Mrs. Rachel Holopirek	Academic Coordinator	National Honor Society, Accreditation Coordinator
Mr. Rob Holopirek	Science	Freshmen. Class, Athletic Director
Mrs. Sally Jacobs	District Music Coordinator	Instrumental, Vocal, Freshman Class
Ms. Olivia Keeley	Math/Science	Junior Class
Mrs. Taylor Kershener	LES	Co-Cheer Sponsor
Mrs Brooke Maier	Vo. Ag	FFA,
Mrs. Bailey Morgan	LES	Co-Cheer Sponsor
Ms. Kaylee Murhcie	Social Science	Senior Class, District Publications, Senior Class, Cross Country
Ms. Megan Roy	Art	Sophomore Class
Mrs. Regan Scheib	Student Support Worker	SADD
Mr. Kyle Schmidt	LES (PE)	Head Boys Basketball, Head Track
Mr. Andrew Schroter	P.E., Phys. Cond.	Ast. FB, Ast. Track, Weights, Sophomore Class
Mr. Clinton Toney	Business	Junior Class
Ms. Taylor Vredenburg	English	
Ms. Jaycine Watson	Math	Sophomore Class
Mr. Jon Webster	Principal	Head Football, Weights

LA CROSSE MIDDLE SCHOOL 2025/26 TEACHING & SPONSOR ASSIGNMENTS

NAME	TEACHING FIELD	SPONSOR (subject to change)
Miss MaKinsey Schlautman	LES (1st)	Cheerleading
Mr. Gabe Dierksen	LES (5/6th)	Head Football
Mrs. Lori Dierksen	Science	Head Girls Track, STUCO, 8th Grade
Ms. Emma Garcia	Rule 10	Head Volleyball
Mrs. Sabrina Hedding	English, Drama	
Mr. Phillip Hammeke	Rule 10	Ast Boys Basketball
Mr. Keith Hall	Industrial Arts	
Mrs. Darlene Toney	LES	Head Boys Track
Mrs. Tera Herrman	Special Education	Head Teacher
Mrs. Rachel Holopirek	Academic Coordinator	NJHS
Mr. Rob Holopirek	Science	Ast. Track, Athletic Director
Mrs. Sally Jacobs	District Music Coordinator	Instrumental, Vocal
Mrs. Brooke Maier	FFA/Vo-Ag	7th grade
Mrs. Kaylee Murchie	LHS Social Science	Cross Country
Mr. Dylan Schmidt	Social Science, STEM	Quiz Bowl, 7th Grade
Mr. Andrew Schroter	Physical Education	Head Girls BB, Summer Weights,
Mrs. Regan Scheib	Student Support Worker	SADD
Mr. Clinton Toney	Business	Ast. Football
Mrs. Darlene Toney	LES	Ast. MS Track
Ms. Taylor Vredenburg	English	8th Grade
Ms. Megan Roy	Art	
Ms. Jaycine Watson	Math	
Mr. Jon Webster	Principal	Summer Weights

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

A. MISSION STATEMENT: USD 395 Staff is dedicated to providing a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment that nurtures academic excellence and whole-child development, empowering all students to become confident, responsible, and successful members of the community

“Nurturing Minds. Inspiring Hearts. Shaping Futures.

B. PHILOSOPHY: La Crosse Middle/High School serves all students who reside in the U.S.D. #395 school district and who have successfully completed the eighth grade. It is the goal of the Board of Education, administrators and teachers at La Crosse Middle/High School to create an environment for the maximum development of each student. The total program shall be student-centered, with the welfare of the student as the criteria on which all programs and proposals are evaluated. The school is dedicated to providing not only academic and vocational education, but also to help young people to understand themselves and the world around them. It is the final goal of the district to provide sound leadership for students through qualified and interested administrators and teachers, and to influence students to become morally and socially responsible citizens.

C. HISTORY OF LA CROSSE HIGH SCHOOL: La Crosse High has had one-hundred thirty graduating classes and four thousand, six hundred and seventy-six graduates. The first graduating class of 1893 consisted of three students. The school began in 1890, and was then known as La Crosse Rural High School. Classes were in a single room of the old grade school building, with only one teacher teaching all the subjects. Due to the lack of students, there were no graduates in 1894, 1895, 1900 and 1907. In 1915, a new building, north of the Barnard Library, was dedicated. The graduating class of that year had fifteen students. The present building was dedicated in 1956 and in 1970 the vocational agriculture building was added to the high school complex.

D. NEW STUDENTS: Any students enrolling in U.S.D. #395 for the first time must have proof of identity (i.e. birth certificate) and certification of immunization.

E. WITHDRAWAL OF STUDENTS: A student planning to withdraw from school must report his or her intentions to the office. It is important that the student's records be marked to this effect, his or her textbooks, equipment and properties checked in, detentions served, and settlement of outstanding bills made. The school reserves the right to withhold credit for work completed until withdrawal arrangements are properly made with the school.

F. FEES AND REFUND POLICY: High school textbook rental is \$60 (\$30 per semester) and is due at the time of enrollment. If a student withdraws from school during the first 9-weeks of school, he shall have 50% of the fee refunded. If he withdraws from school during the second 9-weeks period, he shall receive 25% of the fee. There will be no refund for the last semester withdrawal. If a student loses a rental book, he shall be charged the book value, depending on the years of use and the condition of the book. Abuse of a school owned book will result in the student being assessed repair or replacement cost for the book.

Copying fees are set at \$.50 per copy.

Technology fees are \$40.00 a year for all MS/HS students.

Middle School (yearly) Fees: Art \$10.00, Wood Shop 120.00, VoAg Shop \$10.00, Band/Music \$10.00

High School (yearly) Fees: Art \$30.00, Wood Shop \$30.00, VoAg Shop \$30.00, Drafting fees are \$20.00 a year, Food Science \$25.00 and Design & Digital Media \$25.00 *Welding projects/shop fee is 10% of the cost of materials. Band/Music \$10.00, Band/Music instrument rental fee is \$50.00 per year.

All fees are due at the time of enrollment.

School hall and gym locker locks are available through the office for \$5.00 per lock or locks may be brought from home. Students who want to safeguard their belongings with their own personal lock are required to provide the school office with a spare key or combination. All damages to the locker(s) will be the financial responsibility of the student.

G. SCHOOL LUNCH: Student lunches are \$3.55 (grades 7-12 & adult) daily or \$71.00 for each 20 day period. Students are to pay in advance for lunches for a 20-day period. Breakfast will be \$2.30 (7-12) daily or \$46.00 for a 20-day period. Students must have a card/code to eat breakfast. Extra milk is .60 a day. Adult lunch cost is \$4.85, and adult breakfast cost is \$3.30.

BREAKFASTS/LUNCHES MUST BE PAID ON DATE DUE OR STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO EAT A SCHOOL LUNCH. All students are encouraged to complete a free and reduced

lunch application at time of enrollment. Applications are available at enrollment, and in the school office and may be completed throughout the school year as needed.

*Applications should be completed and returned to the building office or to the district office.

La Crosse Middle/High School students are on an offer versus serve lunch program. Students are offered items for all five food groups each day. State funding requires students to take three of five offered food groups.

H. NO SMOKING/TOBACCO POLICY: Kansas State Law makes La Crosse Middle/High School a non-smoking facility. The use of all tobacco products, in any of its forms, and all other smoking inhalants by students is prohibited on school grounds at all times. Vape pens, E-cigs, and any other device of similar nature are strictly prohibited under this policy. (Refer to page 14 on acts of unacceptable behavior).

Use and/or possession of any tobacco product or nicotine delivery device by students is prohibited in any district facility; in school vehicles; at school- sponsored, activities, programs, or events; and on school owned or operated property.

Student violations may also result in parent/guardian notification, participation in a tobacco education program, suspension and/or expulsion from school and/or extracurricular activities, community service, and/or notification of law enforcement.

The following definitions apply to this policy.

“Nicotine delivery device” means any device that can be used to deliver nicotine or nicotine salts to the person inhaling from the device. Such definition shall include, but may not be limited to, any electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, pipe, personal vaporizer or nicotine pouch.

“Tobacco product” means any product that is made from or derived from tobacco, or that contains nicotine, that is intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to, a cigarette, a cigar, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or snuff.

“Tobacco product” also means any component or accessory used in the consumption of a tobacco product, such as filters, rolling papers, pipes, and substances used in electronic cigarettes, whether or not they contain nicotine.

I. ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY: The reasonable suspicion of student use, possession, distribution, sale, or being under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, controlled substances, “look-alike” drugs, steroids, or possessing drug paraphernalia on any school premises or at any school function (home or away) is strictly prohibited. Minimum penalty for violation of this policy will be suspension from school; however, violation of the policy could result in expulsion from school. Law enforcement officials may be contacted upon initial investigation for verification of the violation. The school reserves the right to require medical testing to either substantiate or exonerate the suspicion. Drug dogs (with or without prior notice) may search the school including the building, lockers/bookbags, classrooms and school grounds including cars parked in the school parking lots. Note: This policy is separate from the school’s random drug testing policy and the activities policy.

J. STUDENT DRUG TESTING POLICY: The La Crosse USD 395 Board of Education has adopted the “Student Drug Testing Policy” for drug testing of students participating in and/or attending school sponsored activities including all performances and competitions. The full policy can be accessed through the District Website at www.usd395.org.

K. LOCKER/CAR SEARCHES: The principal, in the presence of another staff member or law official, shall have the right to inspect a student’s locker or car parked on school grounds with or without his/her presence if there is a suspected item of danger to others or to the school. Otherwise, all locker and car searches will be made in the presence of the student.

SECTION II: SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

A. PHILOSOPHY: Successful mastery of a class is directly related to student attendance. Since so much of learning occurs with student involvement during the class period, it is important for the student to be in attendance. If a student is not in school, he/she is absent and must be counted, regardless of the reason. Regular and punctual attendance has a definite effect upon the quality of work done by a student. The BOE discourages any absence from school other than for illness, yet recognizes that the responsibility for school attendance clearly rests on the parents and guardians pursuant to state law. In addition, state law empowers the board with a legal duty to adopt rules for determining valid excuses for absenteeism. When absences become excessive, it becomes impossible for students to acquire the knowledge and understanding necessary to truly master a course of study. Completing make-up assignments cannot truly substitute for the learning that is accomplished while taking part in classroom discussion and other class activities. Consequently, the school will allow a certain number of absences, but it retains the right to withhold credit when absences become excessive.

B. ABSENCES: An absence is defined as a school day, or portion thereof, in which one or more classes are missed. Student attendance is recorded based on an eight period day and only those periods missed will count against the student. Unexcused absences will result in no credit given for work missed or made up.

NOTE: Perfect attendance applies to students who have attended school every day and who miss no more than 4 periods per year to an excused absence. The definition of excused absences includes the following:

- *personal illness
- *health-related treatment, examination or recuperation
- *serious illness or death of a member of the family
- *obligatory religious observances
- *participation in a district-approved or school sponsored activity or course

*Leaving school when school is in session without obtaining permission and the failure to sign out in the main office shall be deemed an unexcused absence.(moved from ISS/OSS section)

*Note: All absences which do not fit into one of the above categories would be considered an unexcused absence. A student serving a period of suspension or expulsion from the district shall not be considered inexcusably absent. Students who are unexcused are not permitted to attend or participate in the same day after school activities.

The building administrator reserves the right to determine the validity of all tardies and absences.

C. ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students may not exceed 5 absences per semester without consequence. School activities do not count as one of the absences. (Juniors are allowed one college visit day and Seniors are allowed two college visit days in regards to school activities.)

Students will automatically receive a zero in the grade book for all missed assignments. The student will have the number of days missed plus one (consistent with the make-up work policy) to complete the work for full credit. If the time allotted to complete the work passes and the assigned work has not been submitted to the teacher, the zero remains a zero. **It is the student's responsibility** to communicate with their teachers concerning time missed and due dates, especially with circumstances involving multiple absences. Students with excessive absences should expect to meet with their teachers as a team to discuss the problem and possible resolution.

Extenuating Circumstances (providing a timely and thorough notice has been communicated by parents) include but are not limited to:

- Hospitalization of the student.
- The student is suffering from a chronic illness or serious health condition and should not attend school as verified by a physician in writing.
- A family member's serious illness (as verified by a parent or guardian) that warrants care and support of the family.
- A family member's funeral (as verified by a parent or guardian). Bereavement days will be considered.
- Students of active duty military personnel may have additional excused absences at the discretion of the Principal for visitation relative to leave or deployment.

Students may appeal to the attendance committee for an extended amount of time to make up work after 5 absences, or with questionable circumstances may appeal so the absences do not count against the students 5 days. The committee will consist of the Stuco President, Class Presidents, Counselor, Principal, and three teachers. The committee will hear evidence presented and vote thereafter to determine a decision, which will be presented to the student no later than one school day after the conference.

D. MAKE UP WORK: It is the responsibility of students to see their instructors and arrange for make-up work and due dates for classes missed due to excused absences. An authorized school activity or an unexpected excused absence allows the student the privilege of making up the work missed and receiving a grade and credit when the make-up work is completed within a reasonable amount of time. **The amount of time for doing make-up work would be interpreted as the number of days absent plus one day (that is one day total, NOT one day for each missed day).** Work NOT made up by the student within the set time-frame or that defined by the teacher will result in no credit earned. Teachers are required to have make-up assignments for students who miss their class due to either school activities or an excused absence. Course work missed due to participation in school-sponsored activities must be made up! All expected absences due to individual pre-arranged events where the student knows he or she is going to be absent (especially for more than one day) should be made up prior to the absence occurring unless the teacher indicates otherwise. All students should pay heed to the assignment sheet procedure for all known and unexpected absences.

The Building Principal has the authority to request a doctor's statement to verify specific absences.

A doctor's note to verify illness may be requested at any time for students who have been excessively absent due to illness or who have missed 3 consecutive days of school or more due to illness. A student may be asked to submit a signed doctor's note verifying the illness in order for the absences to be considered excused.

E. NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE: Parents are asked to notify the school of all absences and the reason for the absence. **Students returning to school following an absence must report to the office** and when knowledge of upcoming absences exists, parents are asked to telephone the school **before** the day of the

absence. In case of student illness, parents are requested to notify the office by telephone that morning. A phone call or note from a parent or legal guardian is required to verify an excused absence and should provide the following information: name of student; date and reason of absence; date of expected return; telephone number at which the parent/guardian may be reached in the event of a question; and, if a note, the signature of the person writing the note. When the school is not notified of an absence by the parent/guardian the school will attempt to contact the parent or guardian to determine the reason for the absence. If the attempt is unsuccessful the absence may be counted as unexcused. **Students returning to school following an absence must obtain an admit slip before returning to class.**

F. ISS/OSS: Absences resulting from ISS and OSS do not count toward the allotted 5 and will be the same as any excused absence as it applies to the awarding of credit. A student in In-School Suspension (ISS) or Out-of-School suspension (OSS) will be allowed to make up missed work and given credit for all work completed while in suspension. Students serving ISS/OSS will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities for the day or days served.

G. TRUANCY: According to Kansas Statute 31360: 72-113 a student is truant if he/she has 3 consecutive unexcused absences in any semester; 5 unexcused school days in any semester; or 7 unexcused school days in any school year.

H. ADVANCE NOTICE OF ABSENCE-MAKE-UP WORK: Advance make-up work may be given by teachers to students who need to be gone. However, it will be the student's responsibility to plan ahead and forewarn each instructor of a planned absence. The best interest of the student may not be served if the scope of the class work is taken out of sequence. In many cases, classes are taught in a progressive manner and in a logical sequence. One lesson may be the groundwork for all succeeding lessons. It is to the discretion of each teacher to determine specific requirements for make-up work in each class, although at least some make-up work is required and students are to make up work before planned absences.

I. TARDINESS: Students at La Crosse High will be counted tardy if they are not in class when the final bell rings. Any student tardy to his/her first class of the day must report to the office before going to class for determination of validity of the tardy. Students detained by a teacher must obtain a pass from the teacher for admittance to the next class; otherwise, any tardy that results will be an unexcused tardy.

The consequences for unexcused tardies in a semester for each class period are:

1. First (1) unexcused tardy - WARNING by teacher.
2. Second (2) unexcused tardy - 30 minutes with classroom teacher & call home to parents by teacher.
3. Third (3), fourth (4) & fifth (5) unexcused tardies - **ONE HOUR** in the detention room after school and parents will be notified.
4. After the fifth (5) unexcused tardy in a semester, the student will spend time in ISS and may not be allowed to attend or participate in school activities for a duration set by the Principal.

The building administrator reserves the right to determine the duration of ISS and/or other disciplinary action.

**** Any Habitual tardiness to school or class could result in a conference between the Principal & the student & students parents. Failure to comply with the Principals request could result in a suspension as deemed necessary by the Principal.**

EXCESSIVE TARDINESS TO SCHOOL WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!

J. DETENTION ROOM POLICY:

1. Students may be detained before or after regular school hours by any certified staff member of USD 395. Teachers assigning detention time in their own classroom will be responsible for the supervision of detained students.
2. Students may be assigned detention time in the detention center by the administration as a consequence for violating rules and regulations of USD 395, or for disturbing good order and decorum during the school day or at school activities. Excessive office detentions could result in ISS and is at the discretion of administration.
3. Detentions will be served one school day after they are assigned unless other arrangements have been made.
 - a. If detention is not served at this time without notification to the detention room supervisor or Principal, one hour will be added.
 - b. If detention time is not served within the request of the detention supervisor or Principal, two hours will be added and parents will be notified.
 - c. If a third detention is missed before all detention time is served, the student will be suspended until he/she begins to serve detention time. Parents will be notified.
 - d. The administrator assigning detention will complete and sign the detention form in triplicate. The original will be forwarded to the detention supervisor and ultimately filed in the student's records. One copy will be kept in the office and one copy mailed home to the parents.
4. The following regulations will govern the detention center:
 - a. Detention time can vary. The detention room supervisor has the authority to work with the student on the exact times to meet. Students **will** be seated immediately and sit quietly working during the entire hour and/or be assigned a work schedule, such as cleaning in the shop if an Ind. Arts/Vo-Ag instructor is the detention room supervisor. **NO SLEEPING!**
 - b. Students shall bring school assignments or assigned reading materials to the detention center.
 - c. The detention supervisor will have the right to dismiss any students not complying with the rules. Any time missed will be made up with possibly extra time added.
5. The detention supervisor will maintain a record of detention slips, which will be returned to the principal along with communication concerning attendance and behavior.

K. MAKE-UP TEST POLICY: Tests will be made up when students return to school, if no new material was covered during the student's absence and the student knew when the test was scheduled. Make-up tests are NOT to be given to returning students during class time. Make-up tests are to be given either before or after school, except that on occasions, a make-up test may be given to a student during class time if the class is reviewing a specific test and this would afford sufficient time for the make-up test to be taken. Make-up tests are to be completed at the discretion of the teacher within three (3) days after the student returns to school.

L. CHECKING OUT OF SCHOOL:

1. After a student has reported to school he/she is not to leave the building at any time, except after reporting to the office and receiving permission.
2. Permission will not be granted unless a telephone call has been received from the parents or a travel contract for a specific class is on file.
3. Prior to leaving the building, the student will sign out in the office and will sign back in upon returning.

4. Failure to follow the proper procedure when leaving the building will result in disciplinary action taken at the discretion of the administration.
5. Daily, weekly and special bulletins will carry announcements of students who are to be excused for participation in special activities. In such cases, the student should be marked absent for the teacher records and he/she will be given the opportunity to make up the work missed.
6. A student checking out and missing more than one-half of the period will be counted absent for that period.

M. SENIOR COLLEGE OR CAREER ABSENCE: Seniors are allowed two (2) days (in regards to school activities) for the expressed purpose of exploring educational or career options. Juniors are allowed one day. Request forms for college/career absence are available and must be completed and signed by the student's parents and approved by the principal prior to the planned absence request date. All work missed in classes during the planned absence must be made up to the satisfaction of instructors. Any other days used by students for college/career purposes must be approved by the administration with parent permission being mandatory.

SECTION III: ACADEMICS AND GRADUATION

A. CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS: Students shall be classified at the opening of the school year according to the number of unit credits successfully completed. **NOTE:** Students shall participate in activities according to their classification at the beginning of the year. Examples would be homecoming activities, elections, student meetings & activities, etc. If unusual circumstances arise, exceptions could be made by the class sponsor, counselor & principal. Students shall obtain lockers in their class hallway regardless of deficient credits.

The following is a **minimum** number of units (credits) necessary to advance to current year classification:

*One semester of a passing grade is equivalent to .5 unit (credit).

Upcoming **freshmen** shall have successfully completed the eighth grade

Upcoming **sophomores** shall have successfully completed a minimum of 5 units.

Upcoming **juniors** shall have successfully completed a minimum of 10 units.

Upcoming **seniors** shall have successfully completed a minimum of 16 units.

B. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: To be eligible for graduation, students must have received a passing grade in 24 units of credit which are to include:

A. Four units of English.

B. Three units of social studies which shall include one unit of World History, one unit of United States History and one-half unit of American Government.

C. Three units of science which shall include one unit of Earth/Space or Physical and one unit of Biology (with lab).

D. Three units of mathematics. which shall include one unit of Algebra (Algebra I, II or college level) and one unit of Geometry.

E. One unit of physical education which shall include one-half unit of health. One unit of Digital (Computer) Applications

G. Eight units of elective courses.

H. One Fine Arts credit will be required which may include art, music, or design principles.

*These requirements will be applied to the graduating classes of 2025, 2026, 2027. The Kansas Department of Education has changed the graduation requirements starting for the Class of 2028.

The following is the suggested course map to meet graduation requirements.

9th Grade:	10th Grade:	11th Grade:	12th Grade:
English I	English II	American History	Government
Earth/Space Science	World History	English III	English IV/College accredited
Pre-Alg/Algebra I	Biology	Math	English Course
PE & Health	Algebra I/Geometry	Science	
Digital Apps.			

*1 Fine Arts and 8 Elective credits are also required.

NOTE: Any course offered through LHS for college credit will also account for HS credit and appear on the official high school transcript. All approved online courses taken at LHS will also account for HS credit and appear on the official high school transcript. College coursework completed outside of LHS will not be included on the high school transcript unless pre-approved by the building principal and academic coordinator. Approval will not be granted after course work is completed.

New Graduation Requirements (Starting with the Class of 2028): To be eligible for graduation, students must have received a passing grade in 24 units of credit which are to include:

- A. FOUR UNITS OF COMMUNICATIONS: 3.5 English/Language arts & .5 Communication
- B. SEVEN UNITS OF STEM: 3 Math, 3 Science, 1 STEM
- C. FOUR SOCIETY & HUMANITIES: 3 Social Sciences & 1 Fine Arts
- D. NINE EMPLOYABILITY & LIFE SKILLS: .5 Physical Education, .5 Health, .5 Personal Finance, .5 Digital Applications, & 7 electives
- E. TWO POST-SECONDARY ASSETS:

C. STUDENT CLASS LOAD: All regularly enrolled high school students are required to carry eight subjects. Seniors may be exempted for one period, with administrative approval, to serve as a student aide. Student aides will be graded on a pass-fail basis and will not count toward the student's GPA.

D. SCHEDULE CHANGES: Students may adjust their schedules prior to the beginning and during the first **three days** of the first or second semester. Once a semester begins and the first three days have expired, only teacher or administration requested changes will be considered.

Changes can be made or a course dropped if:

- 1. The change will not overload a particular class;
- 2. The change results in a reasonable program of study in terms of the established curriculum; and/or
- 3. The change is approved by parent(s)/guardian, teachers involved, counselor and principal.

E. DUAL CREDIT COURSES: Junior and senior students enrolled in dual credit courses may nest 2 dual credit courses in the same academic hour with the approval of administration. Students that drop dual credit courses after the first three days of the semester will have an "F" appear on their transcript. Administration will determine what class the student is placed in for the remainder of the semester.

Students that earn a grade of a D or F in a dual credit course, will not be allowed to enroll in another dual credit course that meets a graduation requirement.

F. COURSE CREDIT: Credit is based on satisfactory completion of the class each semester. It must be remembered that learning is sequential and the acquiring of new knowledge or skills is based on mastery of previously taught knowledge or skills. Any student failing a semester of a required class will have to retake that semester to receive credit. Any alternative plan for credit retrieval must involve the counselor, principal,

superintendent and existing educational partnerships with LHS. It will be the student's choice as to what elective to take opposite a required semester retake class. The student should understand they may have to take an elective that is available that particular semester. It is the responsibility of the student to check with the principal and counselor at the time of enrollment in regard to the meeting of graduation requirements.

If a student drops out of school before completing the four-year program, even though he or she may have completed the required number of units for graduation, no diploma will be issued until his or her class graduates. Exceptions may be made in these regulations by the Board of Education for students with special circumstances.

*Note: Students taking dual credit courses are responsible for understanding the scholarship and enrollment policies of the school he/she will be attending after graduation from LHS.

G. FINAL EXAMS: Each instructor will administer and record an end of the semester assessment (unit or comprehensive) for all classes, which will be part of the students semester grade.

H. GRADE SCALE: In reporting grades, teachers will use the following percent criteria and must be noted as such on both the students grade card and the grade sheet turned into the office. Grades and attendance in ITV classes are based on the policies of the sending school as stated in the ITV Policies and Procedure Handbook.

A+ 98-100%	B+ 88-89%	
A 93-97% Superior Grade	B 83-87%	Very Good Grade
A- 90-92%	B- 80-82%	
C+ 78-79%	D+ 68-69%	
C 73-77% Average Grade	D 63-67%	Below Average Grade
C- 70-72%	D- 60-62%	
F 59% or lower		

Inc. - Incomplete - Work must be completed and turned in within five school days after the grading period has been concluded. Incomplete grades exceeding this time limit will be automatically recorded as a failing grade. There will be no incomplete grades given at the end of the academic year.

I. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Academic dishonesty is not acceptable. Cheating, defined as copying another student's work and claiming it is your own and plagiarism, defined as the use of another person's original ideas or writing without giving credit to the true author, are both prohibited practices. Materials taken from electronic sources are covered by this policy. A student who engages in any form of academic dishonesty will be subject to the loss of credit for the work in question, as well as other possible disciplinary measures.

J. GRADE REPORTS: Grade reports are issued at the end of each nine weeks session, with letter grades used to designate a pupil's progress. Progress reports may be sent at any time between marking periods of students who need some type of special attention. These reports do not necessarily mean that a student is failing, but a deficiency is noted, which needs correction. Acknowledgement of this report by a note, phone call or visit with the teacher is encouraged.

K. HONOR ROLL AND ACADEMIC LETTER: Honor rolls are announced every nine weeks following the distribution of report cards. An Academic Letter or Bar is given by the faculty at the Honors Convocation to those students who have earned a 3.25 GPA for the first three quarters of the school year.

Principal's Honor Roll--3.80 or better GPA Honor Roll--3.25-3.79 GPA

L. GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND CLASS RANK:A student's Grade Point Average is based on 4.0 system.

A - 4 B -3 C - 2 D - 1 F - 0

To obtain the overall GPA, the total number of points earned by the student is divided by the number of credits earned. The student's G.P.A. is based on the student's semester grade. Class Rank is determined by listing students in order of their G.P.A., highest to lowest. Both the student's G.P.A. and Class Rank are information requested by colleges for admission and scholarship purposes.

***GRADUATION HONORS**

GPA will be calculated as stated above but class rank will no longer be determined.

La Crosse High School Academic Recognition

Laude Honors Points

Pathways- Must complete 3 courses within CTE State Approved Pathway

- 1 pathway = 0.25 point
- 2 pathways = 0.5 point
- 3 pathways = 1 point

Kansas Academy of Math and Science

- 0.5 point

ACT Score

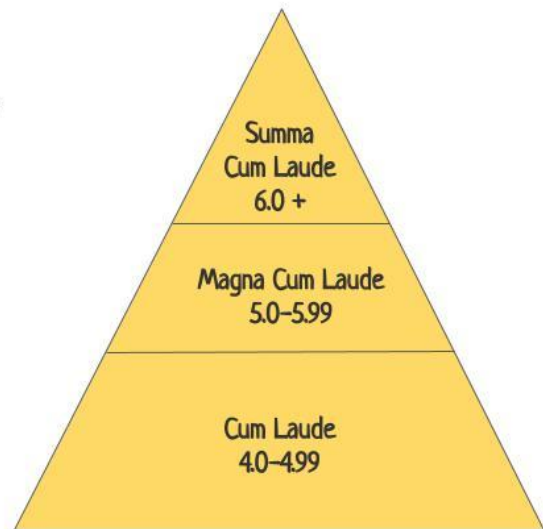
- 21 - 23 = 0.25 point
- 24 - 26 = 0.50
- 27 - 29 = 0.75 point
- 30+ = 1 point

LHS Scholar- Determined by courses completed (KS Scholars Curriculum or 16 NCAA Approved Credits)

- 1.25 point

***GPA must be ≥ 3.75 to qualify for Laude Honors Points**

GPA_____ + Laude Points _____ = _____



- **Summa Cum Laude** (with highest distinction), Laude Score of 6 or greater
- **Magna Cum Laude** (with great distinction), Laude Score of 5.0 - 5.99.
- **Cum Laude** (with distinction), Laude Score of 4.0 - 4.99

M. GRADUATION POLICY: Fourth year students who do not have the necessary credits at the beginning of either semester of their senior year to meet the minimum graduation requirements will be notified that their graduation is in question. Failure by the student to acquire the needed credits/minimum course requirements will prevent them from participating in the graduation ceremonies and their name will **NOT** be listed on the commencement program.

A student who, through correspondence credit or other properly authorized work, has satisfactorily made up the deficient units of credit needed by the May 1st deadline of the current school year, will be allowed to participate in the commencement exercises and will be listed on the commencement program.

A student who completes the needed deficient credits/requirement after the May 1st deadline and before the date set for graduation of the current school year, will be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremonies but will **NOT** be listed on the commencement program.

A student will not receive a diploma until all graduation requirements are met, all outstanding debts to USD #395 are paid in full, and all school property is returned. In addition, a student must be in good standing (conduct) with the school to receive a diploma.

Any student attending the Kansas Academy of Math and Science (KAMS) will be considered for academic honors granted by La Crosse High School and the Central Prairie League, as well as colleges/universities and scholarships for which they meet the criteria. Any award or academic honor at LHS or in the CPL where only a percentage of students are selected and/or where grade point averages determine the honorees will include KAMS students alongside LHS students, i.e.... LHS students will be selected first for qualifying numbers or positions for honors or awards, with KAMS students added accordingly, so as to share recognition and accolades.

N. GRADUATION DRESS POLICY: All graduating students are required to dress appropriately for the graduation ceremony or no diploma will be awarded. A dress check will begin approximately one hour before graduation and any student not dressed appropriately will be sent home to change or not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. NO shorts, casual sandals, flip-flops or tennis shoes will be allowed. Ladies are expected to wear appropriate dresses, skirts or slacks with dress shoes. Men are expected to wear nice shirts, slacks, socks and dress shoes. This is a special time and you are on public display; please act and dress accordingly.

O. KANSAS SCHOLARS CURRICULUM: To be named a State Scholar and to be eligible to apply for state scholarships, you must complete the following pre-college curriculum as determined by the Kansas State Board of Regents. We highly recommend students to complete this curriculum, for their own achievement as well as further preparing them for their future education.

1. English - 4 units (In addition, students are encouraged to take Speech, Forensics, and Journalism)
2. Math - 4 units (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one year of advanced math)
3. Natural Science - 3 units (must be Biology, Chemistry & Physics; it is also recommended to take other science courses in addition to the minimum requirements)

4. Social Studies - 3 units (must include 1/2 unit in American Government, 1 unit in American History, 1/2 unit in World History, World Geography, or International Relations, 1/2 unit selected from History, Sociology, Psychology, Current Events, etc.)
5. Computer Technology - 1 unit
6. Foreign Language - 2 units (must be the same foreign language)

KANSAS REGENTS SCHOOLS: EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY, and WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY.

SECTION IV: STUDENT CONDUCT

A. PHILOSOPHY: One of the most important lessons education should teach is discipline. While it does not appear as a subject, it underlies the whole educational structure. Through discipline, the student develops self-control, character, orderliness, and efficiency. It is the key to good conduct and proper consideration for other people.

B. TEACHER AUTHORITY Teachers are expected to maintain a proper school environment. This responsibility extends beyond their own classrooms and their particular assignment of pupils. Inherent within the responsibilities and rights of each teacher is their ability to discipline students. Each teacher is expected to have their own established classroom rules and code of conduct to help guide their students. Pupils who refuse to comply with reasonable requests of any teacher discharging this responsibility will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. A student is expected to give his/her own name if asked for by a teacher who is dealing with a problem situation.

C. SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION POLICY

Short-term suspension will constitute one (1) to five (5) school days.

Long-term suspension will be longer than five (5) days, not to exceed the last day of the current semester.

Expulsion means removal of a student for the remainder of the entire school year.

The Board of Education of U.S.D. #395 has authorized the administration and/or its designee to suspend any student guilty of any of the following:

1. Willful violation of any published regulations for student conduct adopted or approved by the Board of Education.
2. Conduct which disrupts, impedes or interferes with the educational mission of the public schools.
3. Conduct which impinges upon or invades the rights of others.
4. Conduct which has resulted in conviction of the student of any offense specified in Chapter 21 and Chapter 65, Article 41 of the Kansas Statute annotated or criminal statutes of the United States or the State of Kansas.
5. Disobedience of an order by a teacher, peace officer, school security officer, or other authority, when such disobedience can reasonably be anticipated to result in disorder, disruption or interference with the operation of the public school's educational mission and/or impingement upon or invasion of the rights of others.

All suspensions will initially be short-term (not to exceed five days), with written notice of the short-term suspension and the reason for the suspension furnished to the student involved, to the student's parent or guardian and to the superintendent within 24 hours after the suspension has been imposed. Any notice of proposal to suspend for an extended term or to expel shall state the time, date, and place that the student will

be afforded a hearing. Such date shall not be later than the last day of the short-term suspension of such pupil(s) or student(s). Such notice of the extended suspension shall be accompanied by a copy of K.S.A. 72-8901 et seq. as amended and a copy of the regulations of the Board of Education.

Any hearing held in compliance with K.S.A. 72-8901 et seq. as amended will be conducted by an administrator in accordance with the due process outlined in Kansas Statute.

Absences resulting from out-of-school suspensions will follow Board Policy JBD-R. This policy states that the day(s) a student is suspended or expelled shall not be counted as unexcused absences in allowing make up work, since the loss of those days have already served as the basis for a penalty for the behavior causing the suspension or expulsion.

ALL SCHOOL OFFENSES THAT ARE ALSO IN VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL CODES OF LA CROSSE WILL ALSO BE PROSECUTED BY THE PROPER AUTHORITIES.

ACTS OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR THAT MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION (INCLUDING IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION) UPON FIRST OFFENSE, DEPENDING UPON THE SEVERITY OF THE INFRACTION, OR WHICH MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION FOR REPEATED INFRACTION, INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Possession, consumption of, or sale of alcoholic and/or substances harmful to the health or safety of students; (Board Policy JDDA-R.)
2. Possession, use of, consumption of, or sale of tobacco (in any of its forms) and any other smoking inhalant.
3. Possession, threat of use, or use of lethal weapons, which includes pocket knives and other bladed devices.
4. Vandalism or destruction of school property.
5. Fighting and/or provoking a fight. (Fighting will result in either suspension or other disciplinary action by school personnel.)
6. Intimidation, threatening by word or deed.
7. Extortion of any type and/or amount.
8. Stealing.
9. Excessive public display of affection.
10. The use of profanity and/or vulgarities-verbally or gestured.
11. Uncontrollable displays of temper (temper tantrums.)
12. Conduct which disrupts the school's activities and educational mission.
13. Open defiance of authority.
14. Failure to comply with a reasonable request from an administrator, teacher, and/or other school employee.
15. Repeated violations of school regulations.
16. Excessive tardiness.
17. Truancy.

FIRST OFFENSE: Short term suspension. The number of days depends upon the severity of the incident and the students attitude towards the offense. Suspension from student activities as decided by the principal and/or other certified staff involved in the incident. The incident shall also be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials.

SECOND OFFENSE: Long term suspension from school; suspension from all student activities of not less than one semester or four months; and reported to appropriate law enforcement officials. A student placed on long term suspension may be readmitted on a probationary status if the student agrees to complete a drug and alcohol rehabilitation program.

THIRD & SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES: Expulsion from school for the remainder of the school year; suspension from participation and attendance at all school activities for the year; and reported to appropriate law enforcement officials. A student who is expelled from school under the terms of this policy may be readmitted during the term of the expulsion only if the student has completed a drug and alcohol education and rehabilitation program at an acceptable program.

D. ABNORMAL OR IRRATIONAL BEHAVIOR: When it is determined that any student whose actions are abnormal, irrational, or suffers from emotional disturbances, and that behavior and/or academic performance is not normal, the following steps will be taken:

1. The student shall be suspended from school until a conference has been held between the student, parents and administrators.
2. The student may be evaluated by the appropriate agency whenever possible, to verify the condition and cause of behavior.
3. Any further instances of this type may result in long-term suspension for the semester.

E. HALL CONDUCT: Proper conduct in the building is expected at all times. This means students are to pass quietly through the halls and should not loiter, run, jump, push or hit others as they pass. **Sitting in the halls is not permitted before school.** Courtesy and mutual respect is expected at all times.

F. RELATIONSHIPS: Proper relationships are expected at all times. Overt physical displays of affection are not acceptable at any time. Physical contact which exceeds hand holding will result in disciplinary action. Discipline referral forms may be submitted by any staff member at any point during the day. Repeat offenders may be suspended. Students who display too much affection toward one another (more than hand holding) in the school environment should expect detention time and or suspension. It is the belief of administration and staff that it would be much less complicated for students to conduct themselves appropriately than it would be to serve detentions/suspensions.

G. STUDENT DRESS CODE Each student attending La Crosse High School shall be responsible for maintaining appropriate school dress and for the development of personal grooming standards which will result in a neat, clean personal appearance. Students should make a conscientious and proper selection of school attire each morning when getting dressed for school. The building principal as well as all staff members are responsible for requiring students to make improvements in grooming whose appearance does not give indication of an effort to dress appropriately, to be neat and clean, and whose appearance is disruptive. Any staff member at any point during the day may request a student to improve their appearance. Students who participate in or attend interscholastic activities will be expected to adhere to the personal appearance standards developed by the sponsors/coaches of those activities and as approved by the building principal.

The following items listed are some (not an all-inclusive list) that are considered inappropriate for school wear for all students:

1. Hats (including bandanas and visors) - are to be left in lockers during regular school hours and may not be carried around (except to put in lockers) or worn before school, during school or in and about school after the final bell. Hats are allowed outside the school, after school and at school activities for non-participating students.
2. Sunglasses
3. Profane, obscene, double meaning or suggestive shirts
4. I-pods, smart-watches, personal communication devices, earbuds, headphones, or personal stereos of any nature are not to be worn or carried in school (classroom teachers may allow students to use at appropriate times)
5. Extreme or sloppy styles which are disruptive

6. Clothing or other wearing apparel that promotes and/or advertises alcohol, tobacco, illegal substances, firearms or other weaponry
7. Visible tattoos that promote and/or advertise alcohol, tobacco or illegal substances, firearms or other weaponry
8. Shoes are to be worn at all times. Shoes with wheels are prohibited. All shoes must have a substantial sole.
9. Billfold chains **cannot** be worn since they could be used as a potential weapon.
10. Wild hair/wigs appearance or any type of inappropriate hair color (dying multiple colors, etc.) that intentionally attracts attention to the individual and distracts the learning atmosphere is strongly discouraged.
11. Gang clothing or any signs of gang wear (certain hats, chains, tattoos, etc.) will not be allowed. Any gang signing or other affiliation to a gang will absolutely NOT be tolerated in school
12. Strapless shirts/dresses or spaghetti straps - **the garment must have two shoulder straps which are minimum one-inch in width each. Layered spaghetti straps will not account for additional inches.** Dresses/shirts which bare the entire chest and shoulder area are not appropriate for school.
13. Cut-out backs or razorbacks. No low-cut necklines. No gaping or torn armholes. No shirts that do not completely cover the midriff area when in a normal stance. No undergarments should show.
14. Shirts, skirts and shorts should be at an appropriate length for the school setting. Appropriate being determined by staff & administration.
15. Low-cut or drooping pants that reveal undergarments
16. Leggings must be worn with shirt/tunic that covers the buttocks
17. Pajama pants
18. House slippers
19. Tools outside of shop classes (pliers, tape measures, etc)
20. Flags as apparel
21. Face Paint

*** **NOTE:** Appropriateness of dress will be determined by administration/staff on an individual basis.***

CONSEQUENCES: 1. Change shirt, skirt, shorts or pants to appropriate dress if the student has access to alternate clothing. Otherwise, parents will be called to bring appropriate clothes to the school.

OR

2. Office staff will provide an appropriate shirt /shorts/sweats to wear the rest of the school day (providing items are available). Borrowed clothing will be turned in at the end of the school day.

Non-compliance with the dress code will result in the student being sent home and receiving an unexcused absence for the time missed. The student will make up missed time by serving a detention. Students are encouraged to make wise choices when choosing their attire for the day.

H. PROHIBITED ITEMS: Students are not to bring WEAPONS, ANIMALS, REPTILES AND TOXIC PLANTS TO THE SCHOOL. Skateboards, bicycles, rollerblades, shoes that roll, scooters, etc. should not be used for recreational purposes on school grounds. Personal communication devices, including but not limited to cell phones, smart watches, tablets, pagers, etc, are not allowed during the academic day.

I. SETTING OFF FIREWORKS Anyone found guilty of possession of or setting off fireworks or bottle rockets inside the building(s), on school grounds, or any area which endangers students or staff will be suspended for a minimum of three (3) days with the possibility for a recommendation made to the Board of Education for long-term suspension for the remainder of the semester. Also, charges may be filed with the proper law enforcement authorities.

J. DETENTION: STUDENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES Teachers should detain, after regular school dismissal, any student who could benefit from a student-teacher conference. Some signs of the necessity of a student-teacher conference include:

1. Back work (daily lesson assignments, book reports, special projects, tests, etc.) that has not been completed within a reasonable amount of time;
2. Failing work for the previous week
3. Poor citizenship

Student-teacher conferences are scheduled to begin at 3:35 p.m. and may extend until 3:50 p.m. One day's notice will be given to all students scheduled for a conference in order that transportation home can be arranged, unless the current day is convenient for all parties involved.

Students may be assigned detention as a consequence of behavior which is inappropriate or disruptive of classroom or school procedure. These may include (not an all-inclusive list):

1. Dress code violations
2. Disrespect of authority
3. Use of profanity or vulgarity
4. Overt display of affection
5. Proper procedure not followed in checking in or out of school
6. Disruption of classroom; or sleeping in class
7. Refusal to follow a reasonable request of a staff member
8. Use of cell phones (Cell Phone usage is NOT ALLOWED IN SCHOOL. School phones are available for emergency situations.)

Students serving detention must report on time to the detention location. Detention may be assigned in the morning from 7:35 am or in the afternoon beginning at 3:35. During detention, students are required to bring their study materials and will not be allowed to talk or leave their assigned seat during the detention. Detention supervisors may assign students an alternate task. Once a detention has been assigned, the student must attend at the assigned time, however, if there is an emergency, arrangements may be made with the Principal through a conference with the parent(s). Failure to serve will result in either additional detentions or suspension, and quite possibly a loss of extracurricular privileges.

K. SEXUAL HARASSMENT What is sexual harassment? Sexual harassment includes (but is not limited to) unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. It could be student-to-student, staff-to-student, student-to -staff, or staff-staff. Sexual harassment could be perceived as intimidating, hostile or offensive. It could also be directed toward someone because of his or her gender.

Examples of sexual harassment include but are not limited to:

- * sexually oriented verbal "kidding";
- * sexually suggestive remarks, gestures, or jokes;
- * remarks of a sexual nature about one's appearance;
- * defaming the reputation of an individual by implying sexual involvement through verbal rumors or written notes or graffiti;
- * displaying offensive sexual illustrations;
- * pressuring or requesting sexual activity; and
- * pulling at clothing in a sexual way.

Sexual harassment will not be tolerated in USD 395. Regardless of whether they are reported or not, sexual harassment problems have negative consequences in the workplace and classroom and can seriously affect the safety, health, and self-esteem of the individual. The USD 395 Board of Education's policies concerning sexual harassment

are on file in the office of the Principal. **Any student who believes he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment should discuss the alleged harassment with the principal, guidance counselor, or another certified staff member.** Complaints of sexual harassment will be promptly investigated and resolved. Every effort will be made to preserve confidentiality for both the accuser and the accused, to the extent the investigative process allows.

L. HAZING/HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING/MENACING/SEXTING: The school is committed to providing a positive and productive learning and working environment. Hazing, harassment, intimidation, menacing, bullying or sexting by students, staff or third parties is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated in the district.

Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion. Staff whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal. Third parties whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate sanctions as determined and imposed by the superintendent or board.

Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

M. BULLYING: Bullying means: Any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act or threat that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for a student or staff member that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of:

- Harming a student or staff member, whether physically, mentally or emotionally
- Damaging a student's or staff member's property
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm; or
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to the student's or staff member's property

Bullying also means any form of intimidation or harassment prohibited by the board of education of the school district in policies concerning bullying adopted pursuant to K.S.A. 72-8205, and amendments thereto. USD 395 will not tolerate these actions by students or staff. "Cyberbullying" means bullying by use of any electronic communication device through means including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, mobile phones, pagers, online games and websites. Cyberbullying is included as a form of bullying and will not be tolerated! Any act of bullying by either an individual student or group of students is prohibited on or while utilizing school property, in a school vehicle or at school-sponsored functions. This policy applies to students who directly engage in an act of bullying, to students who, by their behavior, support another student's act of bullying, and to all staff members who engage in similar behaviors. No teacher, administrator, or school district employee shall engage in, permit, or tolerate bullying. Retaliation against a victim, good faith reporter, or a witness to bullying is prohibited. A person who engages in an act of bullying, reprisal, retaliation or false reporting of bullying, shall be subject to discipline in accordance with school district policy and procedures. The school district may take into account the following factors: the ages of the parties involved; the developmental and maturity levels, special education needs of the parties involved, and the severity of the behavior. Offenses over time may result in discipline up to and including suspension and/or expulsion or termination from employment. As appropriate, reports to local law enforcement will be filed to report criminal bullying behaviors.

N. SEXTING – Sexting means sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing sexually explicit messages or indecent visual depictions of oneself or another person via a cell phone or other telecommunication device.

O. Emergency Safety Intervention – The board of education is committed to limiting the use of Emergency Safety Interventions (ESI'S), such as seclusion and restraint, with all students. The board of education encourages all employees to utilize other behavioral management tools, including prevention techniques, de-escalation techniques, and positive behavioral intervention strategies.

An Emergency Safety Intervention is the use of seclusion or physical restraint when a student presents an immediate danger to self or others. Violent action that is destructive of property may necessitate the use of an emergency safety intervention.

Seclusion – requires all three of the following conditions to be met:

1. the student is placed in an enclosed area by school personnel
2. the student is purposefully isolated from adults and peers
3. the student is prevented from leaving, or reasonably believes that the student will be prevented from leaving the enclosed area

Chemical Restraint – means the use of medication to control a student's violent physical behavior or restrict a student's freedom of movement.

Mechanical Restraint – means any device or object used to limit a student's movement.

Physical Restraint – means bodily force used to substantially limit a student's movement.

Physical Escort – means the temporary touching or holding the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder or back of a student who is acting out for the purpose of inducing the student to walk to a safe location.

Time Out – means a behavioral intervention in which a student is temporarily removed from a learning activity without being confined.

Prohibited Types of Restraint: All staff members are prohibited from engaging in the following actions with all students:

- Using face-down (prone) physical restraint;
- Using face-up (supine) physical restraint;
- Using physical restraint that obstructs the student's airway;
- Using physical restraint that impacts a student's primary mode of communication;
- Using chemical restraint, except as prescribed by a licensed healthcare professional for treatment of a medical or psychiatric condition; and
- Use of mechanical restraint, except:
 - Protective or stabilizing devices required by law or used in accordance with an order from a licensed healthcare professional;
 - Any device used by law enforcement officers to carry out law enforcement duties; or
 - Seatbelts and other safety equipment used to secure students during transportation.

Training: All staff members shall be trained regarding the use of positive behavioral intervention strategies, de-escalation techniques, and prevention techniques. Such training shall be consistent with nationally recognized training programs on the use of emergency safety interventions. The intensity of the training provided will depend upon the employee's position. Administrators, licensed staff members, and other staff deemed most likely to need to restrain a student will be provided more intense training than classified staff who do not work directly with students in the classroom. District and building administration shall make the determination of the intensity of training required by each position. Each school building shall maintain documentation regarding the training that was provided and a list of participants.

Documentation: The principal or designee shall provide written notification to the student's parents any time that ESI is used with a student. Such notification must be provided within two (2) school days. In addition, each building shall maintain documentation any time ESI is used with a student. Such documentation must include all of the following:

- Date and time of the intervention,

- Type of intervention,
- Length of time the intervention was used, and
- School personnel who participated in or supervised the intervention.

All such documentation shall be provided to the building principal, who shall be responsible for providing copies of such documentation to the superintendent on at least a biannual basis. At least once per school year, each building principal or designee shall review the documentation of ESI incidents with appropriate staff members to consider the appropriateness of the use of ESI in those instances.

Reporting Data: District administration shall report ESI data to the state department of education as required.

Local Dispute Resolution Process: The board of education encourages parents to attempt to resolve issues relating to the use of ESI informally with the building principal and/or the superintendent before filing a formal complaint with the board. In the event that the complaint is resolved informally, the administrator must provide a written report of the informal resolution to the superintendent and the parents and retain a copy of the report at the school. The superintendent will share the informal resolution with the board of education and provide a copy to the state department of education.

If the issues are not resolved informally with the building principal and/or the superintendent, the parents may submit a formal written complaint to the board of education by providing a copy of the complaint to the clerk of the board and the superintendent.

Upon receipt of a formal written complaint, the board president shall assign an investigator to review the complaint and report findings to the board as a whole. Such investigators may be a board member, a school administrator selected by the board, or a board attorney. Such investigators shall be informed of the obligation to maintain confidentiality of student records and shall report the findings and recommended action to the board in executive session.

Any such investigation must be completed within thirty (30) days of receipt of the formal written complaint by the board clerk and superintendent. On or before the 30th day after receipt of the written complaint, the board shall adopt a report containing written findings of fact and, if necessary, appropriate corrective action. A copy of the report adopted by the board shall be provided to the parents, the school, and the state board of education.

SECTION V: PROCEDURES

A. BUILDING HOURS Students are encouraged not to enter the building prior to 7:50 a.m. or after 3:50 p.m. without permission and supervision from a staff member. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. to accommodate the staff. Students not involved in after school activities are **NOT** to loiter in and around the school building. Bus students may wait in the lobby areas during cold weather months and other inclement weather days, but should wait outside during warm weather months or weather permitting days. Students are reminded to refrain from horseplay or any other level of misconduct as they wait for transportation to arrive. Students who are not waiting for a ride to arrive should promptly leave the campus area on foot.

B. CLOSED LUNCH PERIOD The Board of Education of U.S.D. #395 has an established policy of a closed lunch period. Students are expected to remain in the cafeteria for lunch. Each student may purchase a lunch through the School Lunch Program or bring a sack lunch to be eaten in the school lunchroom. After lunch students are to remain within the designated areas (southwest wing) of the main building.

C. BELL SCHEDULE:

LHS
1st Hour: 8:10 to 8:55
2nd Hour: 8:58 to 9:43
3rd Hour: 9:46 to 10:31

LMS
1st Hour: 8:10 to 8:55
2nd Hour: 8:58 to 9:43
3rd Hour: 9:46 to 10:31

4th Hour: 10:34 to 11:19
5th Hour: 11:22 to 12:07
Lunch: 12:10 to 12:40
6th Hour: 12:43 to 1:28
CAMP: 1:31 to 1:54
7th Hour: 1:57 to 2:42
8th Hour: 2:45 to 3:30

4th Hour: 10:34 to 11:19
Lunch: 11:22 to 11:52
5th Hour: 11:55 to 12:40
6th Hour: 12:43 to 1:28
CAMP: 1:32 to 1:54
7th Hour: 1:57 to 2:13
8th Hour: 2:16 to 3:30

D. FOOD & DRINKS IN THE SCHOOL: Students may bring drinks and small snacks to school. Students who bring food items to the school are required to eat in a designated area and dispose of all trash. Items must be kept in student lockers. Students will not carry food to classes. The vending machines are available for student's use prior to the morning warning bell. All vending machines are available for use after the designated eating time during the lunch period and after school. Machines are **NOT** available for student use during class time or during passing period. Students are not permitted to take food or drink into the classrooms or through the hallways during consumption. All food and drink before school should remain in the vicinity of one's locker, however, students are permitted to carry one small plastic-bottled water or reusable water bottle in their book bag to prevent excessive hall pass use and drinking fountain concerns. Access to the bottled water is at teacher discretion, and all bottles should remain in the bookbag away from the study area and not on top of the desks. Vending machines will be turned off for repeated violations of the food & drink policy. Food and drink for class parties require prior approval from the teacher and principal. Students are encouraged to remove all beverage containers and food wrappers from their lockers at the end of each school day and dispose of them in nearby trash cans to prevent unsanitary conditions in the school. Staff members may allow students to drink coffee in their classrooms. Coffee must be consumed prior to the end of the period.

E. VISITOR PERMITS: All visitors to the school are required to report directly to the office upon entering and obtain a visitor's pass from office personnel. Parents of students attending La Crosse High School are encouraged and invited to visit the school at any time to become acquainted with the school. If you will contact the office, a guide will be provided and the proper arrangements made. Permits to visit the school are granted by the administration only to members of approved groups and to those with official business with the counselor, main office or other school personnel. Other visitors will be restricted. Persons requesting to relay messages to students, teachers, or other employees must stop in the office to make the proper arrangements. Those who do not comply with this regulation will be considered unauthorized and will be asked to leave the school grounds; those who abuse this practice will be reported to the authorities and charged with trespassing. (Loitering on school property is a violation of state law governing public schools.)

F. STUDENT GUESTS: The school reserves the right to deny student requests to bring friends and family to class. The presence of guests has the potential to disrupt the learning environment and can complicate the work day for the teacher/sponsor. All lunch guests must be approved by office staff prior to the invitation.

G. TELEPHONES: The school telephones must be restricted to school business during school hours. Teachers and students will not be called from the classroom to answer the telephone unless it is an EMERGENCY. The school phones will be restricted from excessive student use unless the student is sick, it is an emergency, or reason is deemed important by office personnel. Student use of the intercom system is prohibited. **CELL PHONE USAGE IS NOT PERMITTED IN SCHOOL** and will be confiscated by school personnel (when seen or heard) and handed over to administration. Students using or carrying cell phones at school should expect disciplinary action.

H. STUDENT PROJECTS: All student projects (Industrial Arts, Vocational Agriculture, Art, etc...) must be paid for (if applicable) and removed from the school building/grounds upon completion of the project or by the date set by the instructor, and absolutely by the last day of school. Incomplete projects will become the responsibility of the student, and may not be worked on at the school at times outside of the regular school day without the instructor present.

I. HALL PASS: It is expected that the student will be in class at all times. Students will use the hall pass provided by the teacher/staff member. A hall pass will be issued at the teacher's discretion and should be used appropriately and not in excess. Students who are habitual users of the hall pass will be asked to return to class and future passing privileges may be denied for an extended period. A staff memo will communicate to all teachers concerns associated with students and hall passes. LMS/LHS will follow the 10 Minute Rule for the 2025/26 school year. This rule states that no hall passes will be granted in the first 10 minutes of a class.

K. INSURANCE: Student insurance brochures explaining the benefits under programs (school time and 24 hour coverage, etc.) are distributed during registration and are available at other times in the office. Please study the policy provisions to avoid misunderstanding about coverage. **THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DOES NOT CARRY HEALTH OR ACCIDENT INSURANCE ON YOUR CHILD.**

L. ILLNESS DURING SCHOOL: If a student becomes ill during the day, he may not leave without checking out through the office. Students not ill enough to leave school will remain in their classrooms. Those students waiting for parents may wait in the office area.

M. LICENSE NUMBER REGISTRATION: All students who drive motor vehicles must have the license tag numbers registered in the office. Students with restricted licenses are permitted only to drive to and from school by the most direct route.

N. PARKING REGULATIONS To provide for the safety of all parties concerned, the following driving and parking regulations are in effect for La Crosse High School:

1. Faculty/staff parking will be along the building in the lot east of school.
2. There is no student parking allowed on the south side of the building on 3rd Street or in front of the school sheds during school hours. Seniors may park along the football field in the paved parking lot east of the main building if there are any stalls available after staff parking. All students (with the exception of Seniors parking in the designated area) must park in the front of the school on the west side of the main building. **Please never park or drive on the grass, and never block parking areas for buses.**
3. No student parking is allowed in the Vo.Ag. building lot. Student vehicles used for transport or receiving maintenance will require teacher and office approval on a daily basis.
4. The parking lot is considered an extension of the school and all school regulations apply.
5. The parking lot is not to be a turn around; when you enter the lot you should be ready to park.
6. Once you have parked the car, it is not to be driven during the school day without permission from the office. Park vehicles in marked stalls in the appropriate areas.
7. Students are not allowed to be in the parking lot during the school day without permission from the office.
8. Any school violation occurring while sitting in a car on school property will be considered a violation of the policy of the school.
9. These regulations also apply to other types of vehicles driven or ridden to school.
10. The school expects students to drive courteously and at a safe speed at all times (**not to exceed 10 m.p.h. in parking areas**).
11. Students should **NOT** park in the church parking lot south of the school. Offenders will be assigned lunch duty.

O. LIBRARY POLICY: Food & drink are not permitted in the library unless permission is granted by librarian due to medical circumstances. Magazines must be checked out before they are taken from the library. Current magazines may be checked out for one hour only. If the magazine is returned damaged, a \$2.00 fine could be imposed. Frequent disregard of the prompt return of magazines will lead to the loss of magazine privileges. Older magazines may be checked out for as long as two weeks. Reference books

should stay in the library unless permission is granted. Students who have overdue books will be charged .05 cents per day for each overdue book. This is to ensure books are returned on time, or renewed in the library. Library privileges could be revoked until books are returned and fines are paid.

P. COMPUTER USAGE, ELECTRONIC MAIL, AND INTERNET ACCESS: USD 395 offers a comprehensive system of technological equipment. Users may have access to internal and external resources in order to retrieve and process information designed to facilitate learning and enhance educational information exchange. USD 395 assumes responsibility for the management of the structure, hardware, and software that allow users access to information technologies for educational purposes. District equipment includes (but is not limited to) computers, drives, printers, scanners, networks, video, and audio recorders, cameras, photocopiers, telephones, modems, and other related technological resources. Software includes (but is not limited to) computer software, print and non-print resources. Networks include (but are not limited to) all voice, video, and data systems, including the district's internal network and the Internet.

The purpose of these technology systems is to facilitate communications in support of education and research that is consistent with educational objectives and the outcomes for USD 395. The school district reserves the right to monitor all use of technology systems. The district may, at its discretion, review any and all technology systems accessed by users. Such monitoring may be conducted without notice.

Acting as agents of USD 395, the administration will determine whether or not specific use of the technology systems is appropriate and/or consistent with acceptable use. **This decision is final. The use of district technology systems is a privilege and may be revoked at any time.** USD 395 is not responsible for any actions taken by the users that do not support the purposes and outcomes of USD 395. NOTE: Personal computers and other technology devices should not be brought to school for personal or school related use. Violators will be asked to leave these items in the office and claim them after school.

Prohibited User Activity may include but is not limited to:

- Using, possessing, or distributing any media containing applications or data inconsistent with educational objectives.
- Using the technology systems for personal or private business, for product advertisement or political lobbying, or for incurring financial commitments over the Internet or external network.
- Using the technology systems to disrupt the activity of others, to harass or discriminate against others, to gain unauthorized access to computer systems or programs, or to initiate any type of virus in any computer system or program.
- Using profanity, obscenity, discriminatory language, vulgarities and other inappropriate language, graphics, sound or music.
- Using the system to obtain or to disseminate pornographic and/or sexually suggestive content.
- Revealing any personal, confidential, or private information about another individual such as home address, phone number, etc.
- Representing oneself as someone other than who you are.
- Using someone else's account number or password or allowing someone else to use your account number or password.
- Trespassing in folders not authorized to users.
- Damaging equipment or intentionally wasting resources.
- Removing hardware and/or software from the premises without prior authorization.

- Violating any federal or state copyright or unfair trade law.
- Violating any federal, state, local, common law, or criminal law.
- Conducting any activity that exposes the district to litigation or expenses.
- Violating any laws that might suggest libel or slander.

NOTE: A **Computer Usage Agreement** consistent with USD#395 policy in regards to Internet activity will be made available at enrollment for all students and parents to sign and date. This form must be on record as verification that students and parents understand the terms and conditions.

Chromebook Checkout: USD 395 is committed to a variety of technology programs. Many of these involve using the school owned Chromebooks. Teachers and students are encouraged to use the Chromebooks for as many learning experiences as possible. Students are stressed to use the Chromebooks as they were intended; for the enhancement of learning. If a student is caught doing inappropriate activities with his/her Chromebook, he/she will lose some and possibly all privileges of using the Chromebook. This could also be for inappropriate handling and care of the Chromebook. This will be an administrative decision. The same rules apply with the Chromebook usage as they do with the internet usage policy. Every student and their parents 7th-12th grade will have to sign an Acceptable Use Policy and an Electronic Device Agreement before being able to possess Chromebooks. 7th and 8th grade students may be limited on Chromebook usage at home. All damage fees must be paid in full prior to a student receiving his/her chromebook for the year. Students may use the classroom chromebook but not have the ability to take a chromebook home.

*Students will be allowed to check their chromebook for the summer to complete approved summer courses. Students and their parents must sign a checkout agreement.

Q. PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES: While on school property or while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities, students shall not use personal communication devices including but not limited to pagers, beepers, cellular phones, ear buds and smart watches. Students in possession of personal communication devices and other related electronic devices shall observe the following conditions:

1. Devices must be shut off prior to the 8:10 bell. Devices can be turned back on after the 3:30 final bell.
2. Devices must be stored in their locker or vehicle.
3. Any visible or heard device will be confiscated by school staff.
4. Consequences for violation
 - a. 1st offense - student will serve a 1 hour after school detention (the item will be returned after serving).
 - b. 2nd offense - student will serve one day of in-school suspension. (the item will be returned after serving the suspension or to a parent at the conclusion of the school day).
 - c. 3rd offense and subsequent offense - student will serve one day of out of school suspension (the item will be returned to the parent when the student is picked up for the suspension).
5. Exceptions to this policy.
 - a. students may use a personal communication device to access dual credit course login
 - b. students may have access to their device for travel to any educational opportunity, P.L.A.C.E., or work study off campus.
 - c. AN IEP or 504 Plan requires students to use a personal communication device.

Telecommunication devices may be turned on and operated on the school grounds only before school (prior to first bell: 8:10a.m.) and after the regular school day unless an emergency situation exists that involves imminent physical danger or a school administrator authorizes the student to use the device.

Students shall not send, share, view or possess pictures, text messages, emails or other material depicting sexually explicit conduct, in electronic or any other form on a cell phone or other electronic device, while the student is on school grounds at school sponsored events, or on school buses or vehicles provided by the district.

Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, and losing the privilege of bringing the device onto school property. In addition, an administrator may confiscate or with reasonable suspicion search the device, which shall only be returned to the student's parent/guardian. Content or images that violate state or federal laws will be referred to law enforcement.

R. BATHROOM USAGE: Students and guests must use the bathroom, lockerroom, or other multiple-occupancy private space that corresponds with their biological sex at birth.

SECTION VI: COUNSELING

A. COUNSELING TESTING PROGRAM: In order to monitor and evaluate both student achievement and instructional programs, the school counselor provides a comprehensive testing program. In addition to the Kansas State Assessments the following tests may be given:

Freshmen: Pre-ACT (optional)

Sophomores: KAP

Juniors: ACT (optional), WorkKeys (optional), KAP

Seniors: KAP

B. RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION: The Board of Education has designated the following information as directory information in order to comply with the Family Rights and Privacy Act.

1. The student's name, address, telephone number and date of birth.
2. The student's major field of study and date(s) of attendance.
3. The student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports.
4. The weight and height of members of athletic teams.
5. Degrees and awards received (scholarship, honor roll).
6. The most recent previous school district attended by the student.

This information is considered public information, which may be released by the school district without a parent's prior consent. **Parents must notify the district in writing by the first day of student classes of the current school year to inform the school district that any or all of the directory information should not be released without prior consent. Students over eighteen may make their own requests.**

SECTION VII: BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY

A. SAFETY DRILLS: Fire, tornado, lock down and evacuation drills are held regularly to develop safety practices that will help students react quickly and safely in a real emergency. Rules of safety and evacuation routes are posted in each classroom. All persons are asked to take these drills seriously because personal safety in a real emergency depends on our readiness to react to any situation.

FIRE: The intermittent hallway alarm is the signal for the fire drill. At that time, the students will file out of the classroom in a pre-arranged route, usually to the nearest outside exit. Familiarize yourself with the escape routes, which are posted in each classroom. The students will file from the building in a neat and orderly fashion, and move to an area well clear of the building. **NOTE: ALL STUDENTS WILL MOVE IN SILENCE AND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. THERE SHOULD BE NO RUNNING.** The signal to return to class after a fire drill will be an actual wave of the arm given by either administration or custodial staff.

TORNADO: The sounding of a steady and constant alarm will designate a tornado drill. Students will file out of the classroom in a pre-arranged route to a designated area. All students will move in silence and as quickly as possible. A short bell will be sounded to return to the classroom. (Note: The community alarm for tornado warning is a continuous siren.)

LOCKDOWN: An all-call announcement will designate a **partial** or **full** lockdown drill. **Partial** lockdown drills will require teachers shutting their classroom doors and not granting hall passes. Teachers and students will be expected to carry on with instruction and learning as usual. An all-call will signal the partial lockdown is over and the regular routine may resume. During a **full** lockdown drill students will be expected to remain quiet and calm as they follow their teacher's directions to move to the corner or side of the room most difficult to see from outside the door. Students will huddle close together as they sit on the floor with their knees drawn to their chest. Students are expected to refrain from using cell phones, visiting with one another or accommodating anyone to gain access to the room. Teachers are responsible for shutting off the lights and closing the blinds. A school official will signal the completion of the drill at which time students are expected to return to their assigned seats in a quiet and orderly fashion.

EVACUATION: Students and staff will be notified of an evacuation drill through an all-call announcement. In the event of known circumstances they will be instructed to listen carefully for directions on how and where they should proceed. All will be expected to exit the building in a controlled fashion – quietly and as quickly as possible. Evacuations for intruder or high alert situations will require less structured procedures and be geared toward seeking safety through the quickest, least restrictive route.

B. CARE OF PROPERTY: The students and faculty are proud of their school building and campus. Much of the reason LHS is considered a community asset is due to the care given to it by our custodians and because teachers and students are careful not to abuse it. In the event a student is apprehended for willfully and maliciously mutilating, defacing or destroying school property, the student will be suspended in accordance with Board of Education policy. The student will also be required to pay a dollar amount including labor cost for repairing the damages. Damage resulting from accidents or horseplay may result in full payment by the student(s) responsible. Parents and taxpayers are legally required to pay taxes that build and maintain our school. Damage done to facilities or equipment, buses or books must be paid for with your own money.

C. PERSONAL ITEMS: Students are encouraged not to bring valuables or money to school. If valuables or money are brought to school, the student would be wise to leave them in the office for safe keeping. All personal clothing should be labeled with the student's name. The school will not assume responsibility for the loss of personal items. However, a lost and found department will be maintained in the office. Student radios, tape/CD players, I-Pods, headphones, smart watches, cell phones, personal cameras, computers and other technology devices are not permitted to be used in the building during the regular school day. Students who violate this rule should understand the risks involved and should maintain the safety of one's own

valuables. The school shall not be held accountable for any loss of such items regardless of whether the item was misplaced, lost or stolen.

D. LOCKERS: Lockers are assigned to students for storing books and personal property, yet they remain under the jurisdiction of the school and the administration has the authority to check them. School locks are made available at enrollment and students are encouraged to keep their lockers closed and locked at all times. If a student **chooses** not to lock their locker they will be expected to take full responsibility for any abused or stolen item. Students who wish to safeguard their items with their own personal lock (rather than a school issued lock) may do so, but the student is required to provide the school office with a spare key or combination.

SECTION VIII: ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

A. PHILOSOPHY: Co-curricular activities are an essential part of our total educational program at La Crosse High School. These activities provide equal opportunities of self-development for student growth in areas outside the academic classroom. They nurture character, leadership, sportsmanship, cooperation and responsibility. They are designed to help students develop self-confidence and self-discipline, and to acquire skills and talents which carry over through a whole lifetime. Any student who does not wish to participate in any required, school-sponsored activity must file a written statement with the superintendent requesting that the student not be required to participate in the activity. The written statement must be signed by one of the student's parents and explain the reason(s) why the student should be exempt from participating in the activity.

B. ELIGIBILITY POLICY: All students must meet Kansas State High School Activities Association and La Crosse High School rules governing academic and disciplinary status in order to participate in student activities. Weekly and semester grades are used to determine eligibility for participation in activities.

It is important that students be aware of KSHSAA guidelines pertaining to outside competition, all star teams, Olympic trials, amateur status and other rules and regulations governing their activities. Students should not participate in any contest that is not sponsored by the school until they check with the Athletic Director. Such participation may jeopardize the student's eligibility for representing La Crosse in competition with other schools.

For a student to be eligible for participation in any KSHSAA sport or activity, he/she must be a bona fide student in good standing in school. They must also **have passed five new subjects** (those not previously passed) the previous semester, and be enrolled full-time as a student. Any student who reaches nineteen on or before September 1, shall be ineligible for interscholastic activities.

C. WEEKLY ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY WEEKLY ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY: High school students who wish to participate in any school sponsored activity (on or off campus), other than attending regularly scheduled classes during the normal school day and participating in practices, **may not have one failing grade for two consecutive weeks. The first week will be a probation period and the second week will be considered ineligible until the grade is raised above the failing grade.** A "week" is defined as starting on a Monday and going through Sunday.

Once the student is deemed as ineligible, the student has until 8:10AM on the day of said activity to improve the failing grade to participate. If the student improves a failing grade during the week of probation or during the ineligible week, but then fails a different class, the student will begin a new week of probation.

This policy does not apply to activities where participation in that activity is required for a grade in a class.

Grade reports will be generated on Tuesday, and any failing grades will be flagged. If a student is deemed "on probation", the probationary period will take effect on the Monday after grade reports are generated. If a student is then deemed "ineligible", the ineligible period will take effect on the following Monday. The list will be emailed to coaches, sponsors and teachers. Probation letters and ineligible letters will be mailed home to families. The previous quarter grades will determine the student's eligibility for the first week of quarter 2 and quarter 4. The semester grade earned will determine the student's eligibility for the first week in the 3rd quarter. Thereafter, the cumulative class grades earned each week will apply.

*Students who are serving an In School Suspension or an Out of School Suspension are **ineligible** for participation in activities/practices the day(s) of the suspension.*

D. ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES: In most cases, students not in attendance for any part of the day should be ineligible for practice or participation in that day's activity unless permission is gained through the Administration as to the validity of the time missed. The building Principal & Athletic Director will determine if class time missed is considered excused or unexcused.

Students who miss the morning immediately after an activity with an unexcused absence in which he/she participated in, will be ineligible for the next scheduled competition if deemed necessary by the coach and/or administration in that sport/activity.

Arrangements for exceptions to this must be made in advance whenever possible. The principal will be responsible for reviewing the circumstances and he or she alone will render a decision of eligibility. All cases are contingent upon circumstances. As a rule, if a student is too sick to attend class all day then participation will be denied. Those students who have been suspended may not participate in any activities or be on school property until reinstated.

E. GENERAL PARTICIPATION RULE: Students representing LaCrosse High School in the student activity program will be required to follow the rules established by the Coach or Sponsor and approved by the building principal, superintendent and the board of education for each activity. This policy applies to all activities sponsored by the school. (i.e. athletics, music, drama-debate, etc.)

LHS ACTIVITIES POLICY

1. Students representing LHS in any activity may not be in possession of alcoholic beverage, tobacco (in any of its form), other smoking inhalants, or drugs at any time during the season of sport or activity. All consequences for any alcohol, tobacco and other smoking inhalants offense will fall under the LHS/LMS Activity Policy/Contract. All consequences for any drug offense will fall under the USD 395 Student Drug

Testing Policy. The season of sport or activity shall be defined as the first day of legal practice to the last day of competition or activity participation.

2. The student may be reported in violation of this rule by law enforcement, the coach or sponsor, parent of participant or self-admission (validity of violation will be determined by the coach/sponsor and/or administration). Upon the **FIRST** offense he/she will be suspended from participation for the next event in all activities for which they participate. Any further consequence is at the discretion of each coach/sponsor. Upon the **SECOND** offense, while participating in the same activities, the student will be dismissed from the team/activity for the duration of the season. In regards to activities where participation is required for a grade in a class (examples: band, vocal, art, industrial art, Vo. Ag.) the sponsors shall establish their own consequences approved by the administration.

3. Non-athletic activities shall determine eligibility by semester.

4. All students participating in a sport or activity covered by this policy shall have a signed regulation sheet by both the student and parent covering the expectations of this policy. This must be turned in to the coach/sponsor before they can participate or practice.

5. Individual coaches/sponsors may, with the approval of the administration, set further team/group training rules, codes of conduct, etc. Students are then obligated to follow such policies if they plan to participate.

F. SCHOOL ACTIVITY TRANSPORTATION: Students shall ride school provided transportation to and from the activity site. Students will only be released to their **own parents/guardians** after the scheduled activity. Students are not permitted to ride to and from activity sites with other people including boyfriends, girlfriends, other students or other students' parents/guardians. If emergency or unusual circumstances occur, then such must be reported to and arrangements made through the administration and coaches **before** the bus departs for the event. Sponsors are encouraged to have a note written by the parents to release the student. Participating students leaving the school event early and failing to communicate **directly** with his/her coach or sponsor are subject to discipline. Alternative travel arrangements may be arranged by contacting administration by noon of the day of the activity. The guidelines set-forth in this policy will be used to determine if the alternative travel arrangements are approved. No student will be permitted to travel with anyone under the age of 18.

Any student missing the scheduled bus time may ride to the site with their parents or with school officials with parents approval, but may not participate unless unusual circumstances are involved. These unusual circumstances must be validated by the coach/sponsor and administration.

G. DANCE/SOCIAL GUIDELINES FOR LA CROSSE HIGH SCHOOL:

1. Dances/Socials will be supervised by club sponsors and other staff members as arranged.
2. Parents are welcome to visit all dances.
3. Dances/Socials will end no later than 11 p.m.
4. Anyone leaving a dance may not be allowed to return.
5. The doors will close 30 minutes after the beginning of the dance/social with no admittance after that time. Students who come during the first 30 minute time frame will not be allowed to leave until the 30 minutes are up. Exceptions may be made if prior arrangements are made with the principal or sponsor.

6. Each student is limited to one guest to accompany them to a dance/social. Out-of-school guests must be registered in the office and approved at least one day in advance. La Crosse High School students are responsible for the guest's behavior. Guests are to be governed by the policies set forth in this handbook.
7. Anyone suspected to be drinking prior to arrival will NOT be admitted to the dance/social and will be asked to leave. Parents will be notified.
8. Students drinking at a school dance/social will have their parents notified and will be detained until parental direction is received. Disciplinary action will be given.
9. Unruly conduct will not be tolerated.
10. All school policies are in effect at all dances/socials.
11. Groups or clubs sponsoring dances should obtain at least two USD 395 employees. Parent sponsors are also encouraged. These sponsors shall be turned in to the principal and office. Dances will not be allowed if this minimum sponsorship is not obtained.

H. TRANSPORTATION POLICY:

1. The driver is in charge of the bus. The activity sponsor/coach is responsible for proper behavior of students in their charge while on the bus, as well as at the activity.
2. The driver or sponsor of an activity may assign seats to students on the bus. They must be sure that each student is provided a seat.
3. Students must be on time. The bus cannot wait for those who are tardy.
4. Unnecessary conversation with the driver is prohibited. Do not talk loud or distract the driver's attention.
Remember, safety is the primary responsibility of the driver.
5. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom conduct is to be observed.
6. Students may not throw waste paper or other rubbish on the floor of the bus. Help keep the bus clean and sanitary at all times.
7. Students must not at any time extend arms or head out of bus windows.
8. Any damage to the bus is to be reported at once to the driver.
9. Use of tobacco, intoxicating liquor/alcohol, or illegal drugs are not allowed on the bus.
10. Audio/music from Ipods, cell phone, or other electronic devices are not to be played inside the bus. All electronic equipment **with ear pieces** may be used with the approval of the driver and sponsor.
11. Food and open pop containers are not allowed on the bus without the approval of the **sponsor**

Penalty: Students violating these rules will be reported to the school principal who can, in addition to applying the school discipline code, deny students the privilege of riding the bus.

I. ASSEMBLY PROGRAMS: Financed by the school a limited number of assembly programs will be selected and scheduled by the student council, faculty and administration each year. Programs will be selected that are informative, educational, and entertaining. Student body attitudes toward assemblies and respect shown for the participants will determine the number of programs scheduled. Students are expected to demonstrate proper respect toward the presenters. Whistling, blurting out, lounging low in the seat, elevating feet and legs, and sleeping is not considered proper respect for performers. Students will sit in the following rows of seats:

Seniors - 1st 3 rows of middle section
Juniors - Rows 4, 5 & 6 of middle section

Sophomores - 1st 3 rows of east side
Freshmen – Rows 4, 5 and 6 of east side

J. CHURCH NIGHT: Wednesday night is church night in the community. No local school events are to be scheduled for this evening when church is in session.

K. RESCHEDULED ACTIVITIES: Any school activity that has to be rescheduled on a Wednesday night or other week night due to inclement weather or any other unforeseen circumstances remains mandatory (not optional) if the activity is for a grade. Teachers will communicate with parents concerning the reschedule date and consider conflicts.

SECTION IX: PROTECTION OF STUDENT RIGHTS

All educational programs which are funded in whole or in part by the United States Department of Education are subject to the following:

A. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS: All instructional materials, including teachers' manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the children.

B. RIGHTS: No student shall be required, as part of any applicable program, to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning -

1. political affiliations;
2. mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his/her family;
3. sexual behavior and attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior;
5. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships such as those of lawyers, physicians, and minister,
7. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program), without the prior consent of the student (if the student is an adult or emancipated minor), or in the case of an unemancipated minor, without the prior written consent of the parent.

All School Policies are subject to change by the USD 395 Board of Education