

Alliance Middle School

2013-2014

**1115 Laramie
Alliance, NE 69301
308 762-3022
apschools.schoolfusion.us**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

**2013-2014
Alliance Middle School**

Administration

White, Katie	Principal
Van Tilburg, Alan	Assistant Principal

Middle School Faculty and Staff

Bauer, Pat	Cafeteria
Brixius, Linda	Cafeteria
Calder, Jim	7th Social Studies
Colwell, Patty	Girls P. E.
Dickenson, Vicki	5th/8th Art
Erickson, Kelly	5th/6th L. A./Literature
Escamilla, Ruth	Para professional/Mig.
Folchert, Dana	5th-8th L.A./Lit./Math
Foster, Roxane	5th/6th L.A./Literature
French, Diana	8th Math/Algebra 1
Friesen, Greg	Multimedia/Comp. Appl.
Garcia, Mike	Vocal Music/Counselor
Garza, Amy	Migrant
Gillaspy, Chris	Para professional
Glesinger, Sarah	Custodian/Cafeteria
Guthmiller, Karri	Para professional
Halouska, Jeanne	7th and 8th L.A./Literature
Hanson, Audrey	8th Science
Hawk, Travis	8th Social Studies
Heusman, Becki	Para professional/BAC
Hipsag, Sue	I.S.S.
James, Anita	Girls P.E.
Kiss, Lynnette	5th/6th L. A./Literature
Kunzman, Julie	Librarian/Media
Kutschke, Dave	Para professional
Kusek, Jane	Secretary
Laursen, Starla	Para professional
Mangas, Laura	Band
May, David	Band
McCaffrey, Cathe	5th Social Studies/Math
McKay, Donna	F.C.S./Counselor
Messersmith, Micki	7th/8th L.A./Lit./Math
Miranda, Oscar	Geography/Spanish/C.A.
Moody, Wanda	Cafeteria

Moran, Hannah	6th Science/L.A.
Morrison, Wanda	5th Science/Literature
Patrick, Katie	5th/6th L.A./Lit./Math
Payne, Cliff	Maintenance/Custodian
Peak, Travis	Boys P.E.
Pinedo, Kristina	7th/8th L. A./Literature
Pruneda, Amanda	6th Soc. St./Keyboarding
Reilly, Amanda	5th/6th L. A./Literature
Rudden, Roberta	5th/6th L. A./Literature
Sheets, Shonda	5th Math
Shellabarger, Linda	7th L. A./Literature
Shellabarger, Rodger	7th Science
Steggall, Carolyn	Secretary
Stone, Cindy	Cafeteria Director
Sughroue, Ed	Boys P.E.
Swanson, Danielle	6th Math
Trennepohl, Roger	8th Soc. St./Leadership
Underwood, JoEllen	B.A.C./Math
Vasquez, Ana	Maintenance/Custodian
Wall, Michael	Maintenance/Custodian
Walla, Lori	Industrial Technology
Wickham, Rick	Maintenance/Custodian
Wilson, Tracey	Para professional
Wonderly, Jerry	7th/8th Math
Wyman, Judy	Library Assistant
Yuill, Ray	Speech Pathologist

Alliance Public Schools 2013-2014 School Calendar

August 2013							September 2013							October 2013						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	PD	PD	PD	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	PD-E&GV	PD	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

November 2013							December 2013							January 2014						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2014							March 2014							April 2014						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1						1			1	2	3	4	5	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

May 2014							June 2014							July 2014						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	PD-E	19	PD-M	PD-H	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Closed Half Day for Students PD Professional Development (no school for students) Report Cards First and Last Day of School Parent Teacher Conferences
10/24 & 3/4 or 3/11 - 8:00 -8:00 Pending State Basketball Schedule | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 16 - AMS Graduation 172 (Em & GV) student days Q1 (E & GV) 10/18-43 days Q1 (AMS & AHS) 10/18-44 Q2 12/20 40/83/84 days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 18 AHS Graduation 185 teacher days 175 (AHS & AMS) student days Q3 3/10 - 46 days Q4 5/16 (E & GV)- 43/89 days Q4 5/22 (AMS & AHS) - 45/91 |
|--|---|---|

TERMINOLOGY USED IN THIS HANDBOOK

Throughout this manual, when actions, duties or responsibilities are ascribed to the “superintendent” or the “principal,” it shall be understood that those actions, duties or responsibilities are ascribed to the “superintendent or his/her designee” or to the “principal or his/her designee.”

Throughout this manual, when actions, rights or responsibilities are ascribed to the “parent” of a student, it shall be understood that those actions, rights or responsibilities are ascribed to the “parent(s)/guardian(s)” of a student.

MISSION STATEMENT of Alliance Public Schools

The Board of Education, administration and staff are committed to develop in all students the individual skills, the desire for knowledge, and the personal commitment essential for a successful future.

ANNUAL NOTICE of NON-DISCRIMINATION PUBLIC NOTICE FOR ALLIANCE MIDDLE SCHOOL

It is the policy of Alliance Middle School not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national origin in its education programs, administration, policies employment or other district programs.

VISITORS

APS Board Policy #1005

Parents and other community members are welcome to visit the school. Please come to the office by entering the building through the southwest door. At the top of the steps on the second floor, come to the office, sign in, pick up a visitors tag, and wear it during your stay.

MUTUAL RESPECT

Alliance Public Schools expects every staff member and student to be treated with respect and dignity. A show of disrespect toward a staff member or insubordination on the part of students will not be tolerated.



GENERAL INFORMATION

APS Board Policy # 601

SCHOOL DAY

Arrival at School

Students will be allowed to come into the building at 7:53 a.m. No student should arrive at school before 7:45 a.m. When going to breakfast, the B.A.C., or requested by a teacher, students may enter the building at 7:30 a.m. **Prior to 7:45 a.m. the school is not responsible for supervision of the students.**

7th and 8th Grade Daily Time Schedule

7:20 – 7:45	.....	Breakfast
7:30 – 7:53	.....	Bulldog Achievement Center Monday-Thursday
8:00 – 8:50	.....	Period One/Announcements
8:53 – 9:43	.....	Period Two
9:46 – 10:36	.....	Period Three
10:39 – 11:29	.....	Period Four
11:32 – 12:22	.....	Period Five - Seventh and Eighth Grades
12:25 – 12:47		Seventh and Eighth Grade Lunch
12:50 – 1:40	.....	Period Six
1:43 – 2:33	.....	Period Seven
2:36 – 3:26	.....	Period Eight
3:30 – 4:00	.....	Bulldog Achievement Center Monday-Thursday

5th and 6th Grade Daily Time Schedule

7:20 – 7:45	.....	Breakfast
7:30 – 7:53	.....	Bulldog Achievement Center Monday-Thursday
8:00 – 8:35	.....	Period One/Announcements
8:38 – 9:13	.....	Period Two
9:16 – 9:51	.....	Period Three
9:54 – 10:29	.....	Period Four
10:32 – 11:07	.....	Period Five
11:10 – 11:45	.....	Period Six
11:48 – 12:15		5 th and 6 th Grade Lunch
12:18 – 12:53	.....	Period Seven
12:56 – 1:31	.....	Period Eight
1:34 – 2:09	.....	Period Nine
2:12 – 2:47	.....	Period Ten
2:50 – 3:26	.....	Period Eleven
3:30 – 4:00	.....	Bulldog Achievement Center Monday-Thursday

Departure From School

Students will be dismissed at the end of the last period of the school day unless there are other circumstances (early dismissal, detention, practice, AAP, BAC, etc.). Upon dismissal, students must leave the school grounds and proceed home or to a previously designated location unless participating in a school-sponsored activity. **The school is not responsible for supervision of students once the students are to have left school grounds.**

Certain days on the calendar are “shortened days,” meaning the school day starts or ends other than on the normal schedule. Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to be aware of those days so their children are not left in an unsupervised situation or without a means to get home upon dismissal.

Custody and Parental Rights

APS Board Policy #508

Students being released before the end of the school day will only be released to immediate family members or individuals authorized by parents or legal guardians, and identification is required when an adult picking up the student is unfamiliar to staff or volunteers.

Disagreements between family members are not the responsibility of the school district. The school district will not take the "side" of one family member over another in a disagreement about custody or parental rights. Court orders that have been issued shall be followed by the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the person requesting an action by the school district to inform and provide the school district the court order allowing such action.

Signing a Child In and Out of School

Parents are required to sign their children in and/or out of school if they are entering after their first class or leaving prior to their final class. The parent must report to the office for this purpose. A child may sign in and/or out of school on the office computer. If a child is being signed out, the school secretary will call the appropriate classroom and indicate to the teacher the child is leaving. Parents are not to go directly to the classrooms. The schools will only release children to adults designated by the parent on the emergency card.

School Volunteers

APS Board Policy #607

Citizens who voluntarily contribute their time and talents to the improvement and enrichment of the public schools' instructional and other programs are valuable assets. The board encourages constructive participation of groups and individuals in the school to perform appropriate tasks during and after school hours under the direction and supervision of professional personnel. Volunteers will sign in/out on the office computer.

Emergency Closing Procedures

Parents are requested to provide an emergency contact telephone number to have on file in the event of an emergency closing or any other general or individual situation that requires the immediate presence of a parent.

Bulletins and Announcements

Bulletin Boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by the Principal's office. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces. Place posters on marble, glass, metal, brick and wood. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

Cafeteria Breakfast and Lunch

APS Board Policy #802

The school cafeteria is maintained as a vital part of the health program of the school.

Students are assigned pin numbers to be used during meals. Students must deposit their money for a meal ticket at the office before school or during passing time between 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th periods.

The lunchroom management and your fellow students will appreciate your cooperation in:

1. Depositing all lunch litter in wastebaskets.
2. Returning all trays and utensils to the dishwashing area.
3. Leaving the table and floor around your seat in a clean condition for others.

No food may be taken from the cafeteria.

Students eating lunch in the cafeteria may go outside after their area has been cleared, and as directed by the school personnel supervising the lunch period. If students elect to go outside they are to exit through the south door and enter by the designated door.

Closed Campus for Lunch

All students will stay on school grounds during lunchtime. A parent must check out a student from the office.

Physical Education

Physical education is a required course for all middle school students unless excused by a physician for medical reasons. Each student must provide his/her own clothing and all should be clearly marked in permanent ink. Failure to bring proper clothing will cause a student's grade to be lowered. Clothing should be taken home on weekends and washed. Students are encouraged to shower after classes involving physical activity. **Student issued P.E. locks must pay a \$10.00 replacement fee if lost.**

Lost and Found

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the owner may claim the articles. If articles are lost at school, report that loss to office personnel.

Student Valuables

Students are responsible for their personal property. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of value to school. If it is necessary to bring more money than needed to pay for lunch or valuable items, leave them at the office for safekeeping. Do not leave either in your locker. The school is not in a position to guarantee that the student's property will not be subject to loss, theft, or damage. Alliance Middle School assumes no responsibility for articles lost, stolen, or damaged.

Student Fines/Charges

APS Board Policy #505

Students must pay all fines and charges before they can receive their memory book/disc and final grades.

Homework Procedures

Please refer to the District Handbook for specific information concerning the A.P.S. Homework Administrative Procedures.

Time Guidelines for Homework:

5th grade – 50 minutes total

6th grade – 60 minutes total

7th grade – 70 minutes total

8th grade – 80 minutes total

USE OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS

APS Board Policy 504

Entering and Leaving the Building

Students will be allowed into supervised areas prior to school time in case of bad weather or at times when students must come early to school to participate in school related programs. They should not be on school grounds prior to 7:45 a.m. When a student's academic day is complete, the student should leave the building and school grounds.

BEGINNING of SCHOOL: During fair weather conditions, the first bell will ring at 7:53 a.m. During inclement weather the entrance will be open by 7:45 a.m. for students to enter the building. Students are to stay in the hall and are not to go to any other part of the building without permission.

END of SCHOOL: School ends at 3:26 p.m. The Bulldog Achievement Center is available at 7:30 a.m. before school starts and until 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. It is important that students, who are involved in any after school activities, report to the designated area on time. All other students must clear the building as soon as possible.

Care of School Property

Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, supplies, lockers, and furniture supplied by the school. Students, who disfigure property, break windows or do other damage to school property or equipment will be required to pay for the damage done or fines replace the item. Criminal charges may be filed.

Fines are determined on books according to the following criteria:

Lost Book:	Replacement cost
Missing one or both covers:	Replacement cost
Loose Cover:	\$1.00
Missing Page:	\$.50 per page
Torn Page:	\$.20 per page
Ink Marks:	\$.20 per mark

School issued items that are stolen or damaged from unlocked lockers are the responsibility of the student to which they were issued.

Fire Apparatus/Protocol

The following information is provided by the City of Alliance:

1. **INTERFERENCE** – No person shall willfully offer any hindrance to any officer or fireman in the performance of his duty at or about a fire, or while going to or from a fire, nor shall any person give a false alarm of fire, nor shall any person in any manner injure any fire apparatus or drive any vehicle over any fire hose.
2. **FALSE ALARM** – The willful and knowing initiation or transmission of a signal, message or other notification of an event of fire when no such danger exists.
3. **FIRE ALARM** – The giving, signaling, or transmission to any public fire station, or company or to any officer or employee thereof, whether by telephone, spoken word or otherwise, of information to the effect that there is a fire at or near the place indicated by the person giving, signaling, or transmitting such information.
4. **REMOVAL OF OR TAMPERING WITH EQUIPMENT** – It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, tamper with or otherwise disturb any fire hydrant, fire detection and alarm system, fire suppression system, or other fire appliance required by this code except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, training purposes, recharging or making necessary repairs, or when approved by the code official.

The 1st offense of any of these Alliance Municipal Codes is a \$500.00 fine that increases with each offense.

Lockers

Each student will be assigned his/her own locker. Students must use their own lockers and are not to share lockers with other students unless assigned by administration. Students may be assessed a fine for damage to lockers.

Searches of Lockers and Other Types of Searches

The school owns student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property. The school exercises exclusive control over school property. Students should not expect privacy regarding usage of or items placed in or on school property, including student vehicles parked on school property. School property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Periodic, random searches of lockers, desks, computers and other such property may be conducted at the discretion of the administration. Rules for searches of students and of a student's personal property and to the seizure of items in a student's possession or control:

1. School officials may conduct a search if there is a reasonable basis to believe that the search will uncover evidence of a crime or a school rule violation. The search must be conducted in a reasonable manner under the circumstances.
2. Illegal items or other items reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety of others or a threat to educational purposes may be taken and kept by school officials. Any firearm or

- other weapon shall be confiscated and delivered to law enforcement officials as soon as feasible.
3. Items, which have been or are reasonably expected to be used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process, (nuisance items) may be removed from student possession.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

Students must turn off cell phones/electronic devices during the school day, unless a school activity permits, i.e. voting in the cafeteria during Channel Zero presentations, reading an AR book downloaded on a cell phone/electronic device.

Violation of this rule will result in school personnel taking the cell phone/electronic device from the student's possession, sealing the device in an envelope, and delivering it to the principal's office to be held until the student's parent can meet with the building administrator to receive the device. It shall be the responsibility of the student to inform their parent of the violation and the need to meet with the building administrator.

The above rule governing use of cellular phones and other electronic devices is with district policy as expressed as APS Board Policy 504.12 and Board Policy 505.

Penalties: 1st – Parent/Guardian will pick up the cell phone/electronic device from the administrator.

2nd – Parent/Guardian will pick up the cell phone/electronic device from the administrator. Student will be assigned one-day detention.

3rd – Parent/Guardian will pick up the cell phone/electronic device from the administrator. Student will be assigned one day I.S.S.

Continued violations of the cell phone/electronic devices policy may result in O.S.S. and/or expulsion.

Bicycles

Bicycles must be parked in the racks provided. All bicycles should be provided with locks and licenses. The school is not responsible for damage or theft of parts while bicycles are on school property.

Use of Telephones

Use of the office phone will only be allowed in an emergency or when a student is ill. Use of the phone is not an excuse to be tardy to class. The office phone is not to be used for social purposes or to arrange for rides unless staying after school.

Dating Violence Prevention

Alliance Public Schools prohibits behavior that has a negative impact on student health, welfare, safety, and the school's learning environment. Incidents of dating violence will not be tolerated on school grounds, in district vehicles, or at school sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.

Dating violence is defined as a pattern of behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner. Dating partner means any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious or long-term.

Alliance Public Schools will provide appropriate training to staff and incorporate within its educational program age-appropriate dating violence education that shall include, but not be limited to, defining dating violence, recognizing dating violence warning signs, and identifying characteristics of healthy dating relationships. Neb. Statute 79-2,141

ATTENDANCE

APS School Board Policy 503

All students have a responsibility to attend regularly and promptly all classes for which they are scheduled. By LAW only school authorities can excuse students from school. If it is necessary for a student to be absent from school for any reason, a parent/guardian should call the school office, 762-3022. Calls regarding absences should be made from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. If the school office has received no phone call, students must bring a written statement from the parent/guardian to the office upon returning to school. No student is to attend any class after returning to school until the student has checked in at the office. All notes must be dated and specifically state the days missed. NO NOTE CONSTITUTES TRUANCY. If no note or phone call has been received when the student returns, he/she will begin making up time. It is the parent and student's responsibility to clear absences.

Classified Absences

Absences will be categorized as Type A – Excused, Type B – Non-Verified. The procedures defined in the following sections refer to single period, multiple period or entire day absenteeism.

Type A – Excused

Valid reasons for absences include: illness, family emergency, funerals, medical, counseling, or court appointments. **Documentation will be required for students with excessive absences.**

Type B – Non-Verified

A student who is absent from school without parent notification will be classified as non-verified and considered truant.

Type C – Unexcused

Not in attendance for reasons other than those listed under Type A, are unexcused absences.

Accumulated Absences

The middle school attendance policy allows each student a maximum of five (5) absences from each class per quarter. All absences, regardless of the purpose for which they occur, will count towards the maximum number twenty (20) per school year, except absences due to school sponsored activities and students being called to the guidance or principal's office. From the tenth (10) absence on, medical notes will be needed for the absence to be recorded as excused. **If a student has an excessive number of absences, the school can lower the student's grade. The school reserves the right to determine whether a student passes or fails based on accumulated absences. Ten (10) or more undocumented absences may result in required summer school attendance.**

The following procedure will be used to communicate with student and parent:

1. Five (5) absences from class during the quarter: the counselor will notify the parent/guardian to verify accumulated absences and state at 5 absences for the quarter, the student will be in non-credit status.
2. Ten (10) absences from class during the semester: the Assistant Principal will mail a letter to the parent stating the student is in non-credit status for the classes with 10 or more absences. The county attorney will also be notified.

Non-Credit Status

A student who is absent ten (10) times or more from a class during a semester will be placed in non-credit status. The student in non-credit status may have his/her credit reconsidered based on the following:

- a) Having completed all required make-up work and daily assignments satisfactorily
- b) Having shown regular attendance
- c) Having acceptable class conduct

If the requirements have been met, the teacher will provide a grade and credit for the student. The principal, assistant principal, and counselor will review this recommendation and make the final decision. The administration will notify the Box Butte County Attorney of all cases of habitual truancy.

Tardy to School

Students will be considered tardy to school if they are not seated within the first ten minutes of school. Students who are late to school report directly to the office to sign in.

Tardy to Class

Students will be considered tardy to class if they are not in their classroom when the teacher begins class, unless they have a pass from the teacher or administrator who detained them. Specific tardy guidelines, once students are in the classroom doorway, are at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Students have three minutes between all class changes. Classroom teachers will assign corrective measures for all tardies, however; students who are consistently tardy will be referred to the office. Consequences for consistent tardies may be assigned by the administration.

NOTE: Car problems, oversleeping, and other personal reasons, generally, will not be acceptable reasons for tardies.

Leaving School

Students, who leave school, for any reason during the school day, must check out at the office before leaving. Students leaving school must be cleared in advance by a note or phone call from parents. Upon returning to school that same day, students are expected to check in at the office. Students who leave school without permission and without signing out in the proper manner, or who leave their assigned classroom without teacher permission, will be considered truant.

Truancy

A student who engages in unexcused absences may be considered truant as per state law. Truancy is a violation of school rules. The consequence of truanicies may include disciplinary action up to expulsion and referral to the county attorney for compulsory attendance violation.

Make-up Work

Written make-up work may be assigned for each day missed regardless of the type of absence. If make-up work is not completed, the student will receive no credit for the work required.

The time each student is allowed will be determined by mutual agreement between the student and teacher. The student has the responsibility to contact teachers, initially, regarding make-up assignments.

Make-up work will be sent to the B.A.C.

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

APS Board Policy 611

Alliance Middle School will use the letter grading system as follows:

A	93-100	Excellent
B	85-92	Good
C	77-84	Satisfactory
D	70-76	Needs Improvement
F	Below 70	No Credit

Each teacher will define to students the grading procedures for each respective class.

Middle School Yearly Course Requirements

Middle School students in all grade levels are required to register in the following courses: Math, Social Studies, Health and Physical Education, Language Arts Core, and Science.

8th grade students who qualify will earn high school credit for the Algebra I class and Spanish.

Middle School Electives

Fifth Grade students have five electives for the school year.

Sixth-Eighth grade students may have up to four electives for the school year; two per semester.

5th grade electives: Art, Counseling/Library skills (Student Development), Vocal Music, Keyboarding.

6th Grade electives: Art, Band, Computer Application, Vocal Music, and World Marvels.

7th Grade electives: Art, Band, F.A.C.S., Multi-media, and Performing Arts.

8th Grade electives: Adv. Multi-media, Art, Band, Leadership, Industrial Technology, Performing Arts, Spanish I.

Guidance and Counseling

APS Board Policy 608

The student guidance program may include individual or group activities that will assist students with their personal, educational, social and career development. The program will assist students in the development of positive relationships with others, develop appropriate behaviors for various educational and social settings, develop effective study habits, improve their understanding of self in terms of interests, abilities, achievement and values. It will provide assistance to students in academic planning and placement. The program shall be coordinated with the educational program and involve certificated employees.

8th Grade Celebration

8th grade celebration is open to all 8th grade students to attend with family members with the exception of any student expelled through and including the date of the celebration. This will not be a promotion ceremony.

Bulldog Achievement Center

Mission Statement: The mission of the Bulldog Achievement Center is to improve the scholastic achievement of all students in grades 5-8 through individual tutoring and mentoring research based interventions, and best practices instruction.

All students are welcome to attend the B.A.C. before school, after school, if sent by their teacher during study hall, or as directed by their classroom teacher.

B.A.C. Procedures

Bring Agenda/Planner

Sign In – computer

- Place pass in the basket

Entering Bulldog Achievement Center

- Find a seat quietly

Behavior in the B.A.C.

- Be respectful to staff who are assisting you
- Be respectful to other students' learning

Proper Way to Ask for Assistance

- Raise your hand
- Wait quietly and respectfully

Bring All Materials Needed

Textbook

Assignment

Paper

Pens/Pencils

No Passes

Promotion/Retention

The staff at Alliance Middle School will place students at the grade level and in the courses best suited to them academically, socially, and emotionally.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement.

The final decision to promote or retain a student shall be based on a combination of the following:

1. 70% or better in a core subject that includes: Math, Science, Social Studies, Literature, and Language Arts in three of the four quarters.
2. Performance on District reading, writing, and math assessments
3. Attendance during the regular school year. 90% attendance that equals no more than 20 days per year.

Nebraska Education Law 79-209. Compulsory attendance; nonattendance; school district, duties; remedial services; enforcement. *The number of absences in the policy shall not exceed five days per quarter or the hourly equivalent.*

4. Previous retentions in grade level.

The Promotion/Retention committee shall review student progress for those in danger of failing. A letter shall notify parents at the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters. When a student is recommended for retention or is identified as being at risk for retention, the school shall provide opportunities for remedial instruction through the Bulldog Achievement Center.

Retentions may be appealed once in grades 5-8. Appeals must be in writing to the principal and evaluated by the promotion/retention committee.

Promotion/Retention may be subject to a student's IEP or 504 plan.

Summer School

Summer school attendance will be based on quarter grades, NeSA scores, NWEA scores, and attendance.

Grades: Students who earn F's in two of the four quarters for math, literature, language arts, science, or social studies.

Standardized Assessments: Students who have not met benchmark scores in the NeSA and NWEA may be required to attend summer school.

Attendance: Students with excessive absences (20 or more) may be required to attend summer school.

Parents will be notified by mail if a student is required to attend summer school.

Schedule Changes

Students needing schedule changes should notify the principal. The teacher(s) involved, the principal or guidance counselor, and student's parents must initiate schedule changes. The principal will make final approval of all schedule changes.

Advisory Program

The AMS staff selects 10-12 students to be in their advisory group; the groups will consist of 5th-8th grade students. Advisory meeting dates will be determined throughout the school year.

Advisory will be a link between home and school. Advisors will make contact with parents of their students at least once a month.

During parent/teacher conferences, parents will conference with the advisor. If the parent would like to visit with the classroom teacher, a conference may be scheduled.

The purpose of the advisory group is to promote a connection between school and home. Advisory groups will show support for our students at AMS and make connections with adults who care about them personally.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

For parent/teacher conferences, please refer to the school calendar. Conferences with teachers, at any other time, are possible by calling the school office and making arrangements with one or more teachers as needed.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued after the end of each quarter. Students have two weeks after the end of the quarter, with the exception of the 4th quarter, to make up incomplete work. Failure to do so will cause the incomplete grade to change to an "F".

Honor Roll

The purpose of the honor roll is to recognize those students who demonstrate academic excellence. Honor roll will be determined for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters.

Students will be recognized accordingly:

1. Students earning all "A's" will be classified as students with DISTINCTION.
2. Students earning no other grade lower than a "B" will be classified as students with HONOR.

Honor roll lists are published in The Alliance Times Herald newspaper.

President's Award for Academic Excellence

Students in the eighth grade who meet the criteria for the President's Award for Academic Excellence will receive their award during the 8th Grade Celebration. Recipients will have earned an accumulated grade point average of 3.50 through middle school (6-8 grades) as well as a current achievement score on the NWEA M.A.P.S. test at the 85th percentile or better in reading and/or math.

Testing

APS Board Policy #610

The following tests may be given to students during the school year.

1. DIBELS – Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (5th and 6th)
2. NWEA M.A.P. S. – Northwest Evaluation Association/Measure of Academic Progress (Reading and Math)
3. Nebraska Standards Assessments (NeSA-Reading, NeSA-Math, and NeSA-Science)

DISCIPLINE POLICY

APS Board Policy #505

All supervisory adults (teachers, Para professionals, bus drivers, office staff, lunchroom staff, custodial staff, and administrators) of Alliance Middle School will be expected to file an Alliance middle School Discipline Report when giving a detention to a student. Copies of the Alliance Middle School Discipline Report should be provided to the school administration, offending student, and mailed to the parent/guardian. The teacher should keep one copy for their files.

Re-entry Plan

If a student has been removed from the classroom, or disciplined on any other part of school grounds, or during a school sponsored activity that results in two or more detentions during the period of time the student is with the teacher, the student is required to fill out the Alliance Middle School Re-Entry Plan. The teacher must approve the Re-Entry Plan before the student can be allowed back in the classroom. If necessary, the administration may place a student in the ISS area until they have completed the Re-Entry Plan. One copy of the Re-Entry Plan must be provided to the school administration and one copy is to be kept by the teacher who disciplined the student.

AREAS of PROHIBITED STUDENT CONTENT

Level 1 Classroom Conduct – Alliance Middle School

The common goal of students, parents, faculty, and administration of Alliance Middle School is to maintain a school atmosphere that is conducive to learning. Students have an opportunity to learn by sharing some of the responsibility for creating a good learning environment. To help maintain a quality instructional environment for all students attending Alliance Middle School, all students are expected to refrain from the following conduct:

1. Come to Class Prepared: Students will bring assignments, classroom supplies, materials, or equipment appropriate to that class.
2. Cheating/Plagiarism/Forgery are not allowed: Examples of cheating, plagiarism, and forgery include sharing work, taking another student's work, obtaining a copy of a copyrighted material, passing someone else's work or your own, tampering with report

- cards, passes, or any other school record, including forging parents or a school official's signature.
3. Defiance/Disrespect/Non-Compliance will not be tolerated: Defiance, disrespect, and insubordination including gesture(s), eye rolling, talking back, not following directions, not asking permission, or any type of refusal to cooperate with school personnel. Students will use the proper name of all faculty members: Mr. Ms. Mrs.
 4. Destruction of Property: Student deliberately impairs the usefulness of school/personal property, which includes graffiti/defacing property.
 5. Dress Code Violation:
 - Attire will not have vulgar or detracting language or pictures. No alcohol, drug, or tobacco advertising will be allowed.
 - All shirts, tops and dresses must have sleeves. Tank tops, tube tops, halter-tops, spaghetti strap tops/ dresses must be worn in combination with a shirt or top that has sleeves.
 - Bare midriffs are not appropriate.
 - Short shorts, bicycling shorts, boxer shorts, and pajama pants as are not to be worn in school.
 - Head wear will not be worn in the school building: bandannas, stocking caps, hats, scarves, visors, ear muffs, hair nets, hoods, etc.
 - Clothing that is symbolic of gang memberships is not to be worn on school property or to school functions.
 - Shoes are required at all times. No slippers will be worn in school.
 - Chains hanging from the pants or worn as a belt are prohibited in school.
 - Pants must fit around the waist for both boys and girls. A belt of appropriate length may be worn to ensure the pants stay around the waist. Sagging pants and shorts must be pulled up to the waistline and a belt or multi-purpose ties may be provided by the administration to help the student keep their pants and shorts in the proper place. If the student is asked to lift his/shirt to show the position of the pants, the under garments must not show above the waistband or the pants or shorts and the pants must be positioned at the waistline.
 - Any clothing or attire that creates a disturbance to the educational environment will be changed or removed.

Students who choose to wear inappropriate attire will be required to change. Students may be required to wear a belt, tuck their shirt into their pants, cover up the area that is inappropriately exposed, or sent home to change. The time out of school for this purpose will be made up before or after school.

6. Fighting/Physical Aggression: Actions involving serious physical contact where injury may occur (e.g., hitting, punching, hitting with an object, kicking, hair pulling, spitting, pushing, choking, biting, slapping, scratching, pinching, etc.).
7. Food/Drinks: Pop, juice, sports drinks, candy, all food items are not allowed in the school building or classrooms, except for special occasions as determined by the teacher. Gum chewing will be allowed at the discretion of the teacher.
8. Harassing/Bullying: Alliance Middle School will not tolerate any form of bullying and/or harassment. Bullying and harassment is a violation of student conduct rules and appropriate disciplinary measures, up to expulsion, will be enforced. When bullying harassment is done on the basis of gender, disability, race, or other protected status, it is considered a very serious offense for which expulsion may be a likely consequence depending on the severity of the conduct.

Bullying: Behavior where one person or group engages in harmful action towards another person or group acting on a real or perceived imbalance of power or view of superiority. The behavior typically includes verbal (e.g. teasing or name-calling) and physical aggression (e.g., hitting, pushing), threatening, excluding or ignoring, spreading rumors, or talking, defacing or destroying the others' property.

Harassment: Including the same actions, though not necessarily from a standpoint of perceived power.

Step One - The first time school personnel are notified of a possible bullying/harassment situation, the accused student will be informed that such a complaint has been filed. At that time a warning will be given regarding the behavior. The consequences for the behavior will be clearly outlined for the student. If, in the school's opinion, the first occurrence of harassment behavior is severe enough, the school may move immediately to any of the four steps in the policy.

Step Two - The second time school personnel are notified of a bullying incident, the student's parent/guardian will be notified. A conference will be requested. If it is determined that the student is bullying other students, consequences will be assigned to the student. A student may stay on the second step as long as school authorities feel the consequences are effectively correcting the harassment behaviors. If it is determined there is no basis for the harassment accusation, no consequences will be assigned. If the school determines a student is intentionally making a false accusation against another student, appropriate consequences will be assigned.

Step Three - If the school determines a student is not willing to stop bullying/harassing other students, the school may assign the students to one of the Harassment Program levels.

Step Four - If the student fails to respond positively to the corrective measures of the Harassment Program, they will be suspended from school for a minimum of five school days, up to expulsion. School authorities will determine the action necessary to insure a safe learning environment for all students.

Level I - The student will be assigned to the program for a minimum of two weeks.

1. The student will report to the office no later than 7:45 a.m. each morning.
2. The student will eat lunch at an assigned table.
3. The student will report to the office at the end of the day, and will remain until 3:30 p.m.

Level II - The student will be assigned to the program for a minimum of two weeks.

1. The student will report to the office no later than 7:45 a.m. each morning.
2. The student will eat lunch at an assigned table.
3. The student will report to the office at the end of the day, and will remain until 3:30 p.m.
4. The student will remain in class the end of each period. The student will be under direct teacher supervision during passing time. The teacher will dismiss the student at the end of the passing period. The student will then have three minutes to get to his/her next class.

Level III - This is a long-term assignment.

1. All items listed in Level II will be used.
2. The length of the assignment will be no less than six weeks, and may remain in effect until the end of the school year.

9. Inappropriate behavior will not be permitted. Inappropriate behavior includes but is not limited to: Causing an interruption in a class or activity, sustained loud talk, yelling, screaming, noise with materials, horseplay or roughhousing, sustained out-of-seat behavior, obscene material, tipping of chair or desk, sitting on desks, or tables, poor sitting posture, head down on the desk, running in the halls, obnoxious bodily noises, unsafe movement between classes, not being where classroom pass indicates, not going directly to where the pass indicates.
10. Inappropriate Language: Use of inappropriate language or any disrespectful gestures written or verbal is not allowed. This includes all profanity and slang derivations of profanity, racial or homosexual comments.

11. Computer and Internet Policy Violation: The use of equipment, computers, network resources, and the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Any inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges.
12. Not showing up for a detention.
13. Nuisance Items: Anything not requested as a supply item by the teacher may be considered as a nuisance item. This list includes but is not limited to cell phones/pagers, video games, laser pointers, headsets, Walkman, MP3 or iPods, and any other electronic devices. Also included are playing cards, trading cards, toys of any kind, rubber bands, whiteout, markers, etc. in the building during school hours.
14. Students will not leave their seat without permission: Teachers may provide general instructions for lab/study halls situations that may alter this responsibility.
15. No talking without permission.
16. Tardy/Skipping Class: Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on or before the tardy bell. Students will not leave class/school without permission.
17. Theft: Students is in possession of, has passed on, or is responsible for removing school or someone else's property.

Discipline Report

Supervisory adults (teachers, para professionals, bus drivers, office staff, lunch room staff, custodial staff, and administrators) will provide appropriate warnings for misbehavior and then proceed to consequences if misbehavior continues. Consequences include: loss of privileges, time-out, office referral, parent conferences, detention, in-school suspension, out of school suspension, and eventually expulsion.

If time-out is given as a consequence, the student will satisfactorily complete the re-entry process before returning to the room or activity. The re-entry process involves answering questions designed to have the student focus on what went wrong and what should be done different next time. If a detention is assigned, the detention will be 30 minutes in length to be served either before or after school. The classroom teacher will schedule the day and time the detention is to be served. The principal or assistant principal will schedule the day and time the detention is to be served when multiple detentions are received in the same day, and when detentions are assigned by supervisory adults other than classroom teachers.

Detentions will be scheduled to be no sooner than next day unless the teacher, principal, or assistant principal makes other arrangements with the parent. The student will sign the detention and take a copy home to the parent the same day. The parent will be responsible for the student's transportation home after the detention is served for after-school detentions, or to school for before-school detentions. The parent will need to contact the school if the student is not able to serve the detention because of an appointment or other commitment. Ball practice, Scouts, 4-H, Awanas, etc. will not be considered as an appointment or commitment to keep the student from serving the detention.

Consequences for Numerous Detentions

Students will serve in-school suspension for having received numerous detentions in accordance with the following chart:

- 2 detentions from one teacher during a single day = removal from the classroom
- 3 total detentions in one day = 1 day
- 6 total detentions in one week = 1 day
- 10 total detentions in one week = 2 days
- 11 or more detentions in one week = 3 days
- More than 20 in one week at the principal or assistant principal's discretion.

In-School Suspension

In-School Suspension is intended to provide an alternative, isolated setting for students who exhibit chronic or serious behavior problems. Students assigned to in-school suspension will experience no interaction with their peers during their suspension. ISS students will be provided with instructional

materials, class assignments, and/or tests by their regular classroom teachers on a daily basis. Students are expected to do their assigned class work each day. All written work will be completed and returned to the teacher and credit will be given as appropriate. The final grade may be affected incidentally, depending on the nature and type of the work missed. A student is considered present for the day(s) during ISS. Students can be assigned to ISS by the principal or the assistant principal. Students will be assigned ISS if their presence in the classroom is considered disruptive to the educational process. Additionally, a student who might normally receive an out-of-school suspension can be assigned to ISS if the administration does not believe that the student's presence at school would pose a threat to any student or cause a disruption of the educational process.

Students will not be allowed on school grounds before 7:45 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m. unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

The following guidelines will be followed:

1. The administration will notify the parent by phone or mail that the student has been assigned to ISS.
2. The student will report to the area assigned by the administration at 7:45 a.m. The student may leave ISS at 3:30 p.m. The student must leave the campus and not wait for friends or family after school. Students are expected to have all class materials with them.
3. Students will not be permitted to leave the assigned area during passing periods.
4. Students will be allowed bathroom breaks when other students are not in the halls.
5. The student's lunch will be brought to the assigned area by a supervisor. As soon as the student finishes eating lunch, he/she will commence studying.
6. Students are not to communicate with any other student during the school day.
7. Students are to complete all work assigned by teachers and/or supervisors by the end of school day or within a timely manner as stated by the supervisor. The work must be turned into the supervisor upon completion or as indicated by the supervisor or teacher. Failure to follow the above guidelines may result in an immediate out-of-school suspension.

Office Referrals

Students are referred to the office after the classroom teacher has implemented strategies and communicated with a parent in order to help the student change his/her behavior. Certain situations may arise that a teacher may refer a student to the office for immediate attention.

Continued referrals may lead to long-term suspension or possible expulsion as a last result.

Rule violations are unique in nature and appropriate steps must be taken. The Student Discipline Act developed by the Nebraska Legislature and adopted by Alliance Public Schools will be used as the guideline in making decisions.

Level II Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment

- A. When behavior occurs on school grounds or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or in a school owned or utilized vehicle being used for school purposes or at a school sponsored activity or athletic event.
 1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect of those in authority.
 2. Use of violence, force coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
 3. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person.
 4. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property.
 5. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee to a school volunteer, or to any student.

6. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student.
 7. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon.
 8. Engaging in the unlawful selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, inhalant or being under the influence of any of the above; or possession of drug paraphernalia.
 9. Engaging in the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance.
 10. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities.
 11. Tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
 12. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion.
 13. Public indecency.
 14. Repeated violation of any of the rules adopted by the school district or the school.
 15. Engaging in any unlawful activity as determined by the United States or the State of Nebraska.
 16. Dressing in a manner wherein such dress is dangerous to the student's health and safety or to the health and safety of others or is distracting or indecent to the extent that it interfere with the learning and educational process.
- B. In addition, a student may be suspended (short-term or long-term), or expelled for sexual assault or attempted sexual assault of any person regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- C. In addition, a student who engages in the following conduct on school grounds or during an educational function or event off school grounds:
1. The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
 2. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a firearm or other dangerous weapon, shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.
- D. In addition, if the student is determined to have brought a firearm to school, or to have possessed a firearm at school, the student shall be expelled from school for a period of not less than one year. The Superintendent may modify such one-year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Short-Term Suspension

The principal or assistant principal from school or any school function may exclude students for a period of up to five school days on the following grounds:

1. Conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth; or
2. Other violations of rules standards of behavior adopted by the Alliance Board of Education or the administrative staff or staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a connection between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspension:

1. The principal or the assistant principal shall make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. In addition, such short-term suspension shall be made only after a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student shall be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student shall be advised of what the student is accused of having done, and the basis of the accusation, and an explanation of the evidence the authorities have.
3. The student shall be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts to the person affecting the short-term suspension.
4. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the principal or administrator shall send a written statement to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken. An opportunity shall be afforded to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with regard to the matter with the principal or assistant principal ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The principal or assistant principal shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian shall attend the conference.

Long-Term Suspension

The principal or the assistant principal from school or any school function may exclude students for a period of five school days but less than twenty school days on the conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth. The process for long-term suspension is hereinafter set forth.

Expulsion

Expulsion shall mean exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds, and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in paragraph (d) of section entitled Areas of Prohibited Student Conduct: Level II, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

APS Board Policy 506

Extra-curricular activities enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. It is possible for students to request a new activity if enough students are interested, a faculty sponsor is available and if space and facilities can be provided.

The Alliance Public Schools will adhere to the rules and regulations set forth in Title IX guidelines on sex discrimination.

Public Law 94-142 may exempt student with identified handicapping conditions from the effects of this policy.

Participation in Activities

Academics

Students remain eligible if they are not failing more than one class. Students failing more than one class may participate in practice, but are not eligible to participate in the contests, performances, trips, or other culminating privileges.

Duration of ineligibility: Students may not participate for a one-week period. The one-week period will be determined on Wednesday for the following week's activities.

Attendance

Students must attend school **ALL DAY** the day of any scheduled school activity in order to participate, this includes **sports contests, practice and dances**. Failure to attend on that day will result in a student being withheld from participation. Students may be absent no more than four (4) periods if they have a family emergency, funeral, medical or court appointment.

Students must attend a full day of school the day after any scheduled school activity in order to participate in the next scheduled event.

Relief from the Policy

Relief from the effects of the established rules and regulations can be sought through appeal to the principal, superintendent and board of education. *Rules and Regulations Adopted: 6-3-86 Alliance Public Schools.*

The principal retains the right to grant participation should exceptional circumstances prevail.

Student Physicals for Athletics

All boys and girls that participate in any athletics or practices must have a physical examination signed by a physician. The results of the examination and the physician's signature must appear on all local state forms where it is required. All such examination results must be on file in the school where the student is to participate in athletics. In all cases, parents and the physician should sign these forms. Only proper forms are to be used in all cases.

Concussion Awareness

APS Board Policy #508

The district will provide information on concussions and brain injuries to athletes and their parents prior to the beginning of practice or competition including at least:

1. The signs and symptoms of concussions;
2. The risks poses by sustaining a concussion; and
3. The actions a student should take in response to sustaining a concussion including the notification of coaches.

A student participating on a school athletic team shall be removed from a practice or game when reasonably suspected of having sustained a concussion or brain injury in that activity after observation by a coach or a licensed health care professional that is professionally affiliated with or contracted by the school.

The injured student shall not be permitted to participate in any school supervised team athletic activities involving physical exertion, including, but not limited to, practices or games, until the student;

1. Has been evaluated by a licensed health care professional;
2. Has received written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities from the licensed health care professional;
3. Has submitted the written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities to the school accompanied by written permission to resume participation from the student's parent.

School Dance Attendance

Students who have had an expulsion, out of school suspension and/or in-school suspension since the last dance and/or the start of the school year, will not be allowed to attend an up-coming AMS school sponsored dance.

The Alliance Middle School dress code policy will apply for dances. Inappropriate dancing will not be tolerated.

Student Council

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To represent students in the exchange of ideas with the school principals.
2. To promote cooperation between students, faculty, and community.
3. To promote high standards of citizenship, leadership, honesty, courtesy, and scholarship.
4. To work to improve the school and school programs.
5. To improve the school spirit by stimulating participation in school activities.

Officers of the Student Council are elected by school-wide ballot. An officer must petition to become a candidate for election to the Student Council body. Petition means accumulating no more than 45 student signatures and no less than five staff signatures.

Representatives from 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade will also be members of Student Council.

Math Counts

Math Counts is offered to any student who desires to take part and practice the skills for competition with other area schools. It is a team effort and has state and national levels.

Quiz Bowl

Alliance Middle School students participate each year in the Quiz Bowl competition with area schools. The sponsors will organize teams and practice with students to prepare in all academic areas.

Spelling Contest

Alliance Middle School students have an opportunity to participate in the Box Butte County Spelling Contest. Teachers administer a written test to all students. From the results of the test, finalists will be selected to compete in a countywide contest.

Organization Funds

All organization and activity funds are to be given to the secretary. They will be credited to the proper accounts and receipts given.

An organization wishing to make a purchase, donation or contract with any agency for service or merchandise must have approval of its sponsor. The sponsor, in turn, must verify that funds are available in the account, and acquire approval. Please avoid buying at several places for one activity and do not pay in cash. Individual class organization treasurers are responsible for keeping accurate records of all deposits and purchases. Please check with your sponsor to see that your balance corresponds with the official balance.

Fund Raising

Fund raising events must be of a service nature to the community such as car washes, etc. If items are to be sold, these items should be a consumable nature such as food, pencils, light bulbs, etc.

Admission to Activities

General admission to middle school, high school varsity and reserve events will be charged. Refer to the Student-Parent Handbook for prices on A-Cards.

Activity Calendar

Activity Calendars will be available at the first of the school year. It will contain the various activities of the high school and middle school. The activity calendar is sold to students at a minimal cost.

Activity Travel

Team members travel to and from out-of-town events as a unit. Any exceptions to the rule must be approved by both the parent and the coach/sponsor and should be done in writing prior to the departure to the event. The note should be given to the principal to be kept on file. Only those people involved with the activity will be allowed to travel in the school vehicle.

When the coach/sponsor takes the team out during school hours, it is the coach's/sponsor's responsibility to give a list of the students participating to each teacher on the staff as well as the office and attendance secretary.

Student Dress

Dress of the team members or individuals should be clean, neat and in good taste on all trips and activities.

Non-School Vehicle Policy

Adult (over 21) employees or non-employees of the district who volunteer to use personal vehicles for transporting school students shall be required to furnish a certificate of insurance providing a minimum of \$250,000.00 bodily injury liability, \$100,000.00 property damage and \$5,000.00 medical coverage or \$500,000.00 combined coverage with \$5,000.00 medical coverage. This certificate must be on file in the principal's office before the vehicle can be used.

Student Transportation for Extracurricular Activities

APS Board Policy #801

The board in its discretion may provide school district transportation for extracurricular activities including, but not limited to, transporting student participants and other students to and from extracurricular events.

Students participating in extracurricular events, other than those held at the school district facilities may be transported to the extracurricular event by school district transportation vehicles or by another means approved by the superintendent. Students attending extracurricular events, other than those held at the school district facilities may be transported to the extracurricular event by school district transportation vehicles.

Students, who are provided transportation in school district transportation vehicles for extracurricular events, shall ride both to and from the event in the school vehicle unless arrangements have been made with the building principal prior to the event. A student's parent may personally appear and request to transport the student home from a school-sponsored event in which the student traveled to the event on a school district transportation vehicle.

Regulations

The Alliance Public Schools activities are before the public eye throughout the school year. The activity programs function on an extra-class basis and therefore, participation is completely voluntary on the part of the student. **Students should consider participation in an activity as a privilege not a right.**

Citizens of the community are quick to judge the school and the school district as a whole; by the way participants conduct themselves. It is imperative high standards of conduct; grooming, dress, training, and eligibility are established as a part of the activity program. Failure to adhere to these expectations, as set forth, will result in action according to the School Board Policy 6145, handbook for rules and procedures concerning participation in extra class activities, and Nebraska Statutes #79-4, 172 and C – average policies.

Activity and Classroom Awards

Achievement awards in activities and classrooms will be at the discretion of coaches, sponsors, and teachers. Awards will be presented at a time designated by the appropriate staff members.

<u>FIFTH GRADE</u>				
Classroom Awards	Honor Roll		Field Trip	
Teammates	Student Council Representative			
<u>SIXTH GRADE</u>				
Classroom Awards	Honor Roll		Outdoor Learning	
Box Butte County Spelling Contest	Teammates		Student Council Representative	
<u>SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE</u>				
Classroom Awards	Honor Roll	Quiz Bowl	Math Counts	Performing Arts
Student Council	Box Butte County Spelling Contest			Teammates
Football	Basketball	Volleyball	Wrestling	Track

Procedures for operating extra class activities

1. The coach/sponsor will provide the principal with a list of all participants at the beginning of the activity.
2. The coach/sponsor will establish the rules, regulations, by-laws, or constitution and deliver a copy to all student participants and their parents/guardians and to the principal.

Restricting Participation

Criteria will be as follows:

1. Violation of any of the rules and regulations of the Alliance Middle School handbook including rules of use or possession of drugs/alcohol/tobacco,
2. The coach/sponsor will establish the rules, regulations, constitution or requests concerning actions, appearance or general conduct as a student participant.

It is intended that all staff and coaches and sponsors work together with the student participants to avoid restriction or revocation of participation.

The length of restriction or revocation of participation will be as decided by the coach/sponsor or principal as the violation warrants carrying out the intent of the School Board Policy 6145. Repeated violations or major violations will result in revocation of participation for the remainder of the year or extend into the next year.

Procedures Revoking or Restricting Extra Class Activities

Staff members responsible for disciplinary action shall:

1. Review the situation thoroughly,
2. Meet with the student to review the situation which may lead to restriction or revocation of extra class activity privileges,
3. Listen to the student's side or version of the information,
4. Following the student conference, make responsible effort to notify the parents of the decision that will be made, and make a reasonable effort to have a conference,
5. The staff person authorized to take action restricting or revoking a student's extra activity shall file a written report of the action and reasons for the action with their immediate supervisor,
6. Make restrictive measures effective upon receipt of verbal notice to the student.

Appeal Process

1. Students and parents may appeal the revocation or restriction of a student's extracurricular class activity privileges through the regular channels of school authority (sponsor, supervisor, principal, superintendent, and to the Board of Education).
2. No appeal shall be unnecessarily delayed but will be handled as expeditiously as possible.

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE ACT
PARENT/GUARDIAN AND STUDENT HANDBOOK CONTRACT**

I, _____ am a student at Alliance Middle School. I have read the rules, policies, and regulations of the school as stated in the Student Handbook. I have had these explained to me and had the opportunity to ask questions about them. I agree to abide by them.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Student Signature

My child, _____, and I have read and discussed the rules, policies, and regulations of the school as stated in the Alliance Middle School Student Handbook.

I agree to encourage my child to follow these rules and policies and undertake to become personally involved in my child's education.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____
(if different)

Email Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____