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# NORTHSHORE RECOVERY HIGH SCHOOL

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## Student Handbook

School year: 2020-2021



NORTHSHORE  
EDUCATION  
CONSORTIUM

## Welcome Letter – 2020-2021

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Northshore Recovery High School, a program of the Northshore Education Consortium (NEC). We are very excited to begin your student's school year at NSRHS, and look forward to providing your child with an exhilarating, challenging, and satisfying learning experience while addressing his/her substance use needs.

The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint our students and their parents/guardians with important policies and procedures. These policies and procedures were created to assist the Northshore Recovery High School (NRHS) in developing and maintaining a safe and therapeutic learning environment. Northshore Recovery High School strives to provide a respectful, safe and compassionate climate of learning where academic, social and emotional development can take place free of bullying, ridicule and violence.

As a parent/guardian with an enrolled student, it is important that you review this information. Doing so will help you understand and support the learning environment in which your child will spend his/her valuable time.

If you are a student at NSRHS, welcome or welcome back! Please take time to review this newly updated handbook. Your understanding of the Northshore Recovery High School Mission, our School Rules and Expectations, and the Support Services available to you will help you to have a successful and enjoyable year.

This handbook contains excerpts from many of the NEC's most critical policies. The complete NEC policy manual is available on our website [www.nsedu.org](http://www.nsedu.org). A printed copy can be mailed to you by requesting one from Ana Lanzilli – [alanzilli@nsedu.org](mailto:alanzilli@nsedu.org). After reviewing the handbook, please sign and return the last page stating that both student and parent/guardian have read the handbook and accept the policies and procedures.

In closing, please keep in mind that the single greatest factor determining the success or failure of a student at NRHS is the cooperation, collaboration and consistency of the adults in the student's life. The school, parent/guardians, and community workers must work and speak as one cohesive team to optimize the chance for student success. I strongly encourage you to be an active member of this team. We look forward to a successful year.

Sincerely,  
Michelle D. Muffett-Lipinski, M Ed  
*Principal, Northshore Recovery High School*

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## Northshore Recovery High School Staff Contacts

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Main Number: (978)-922-3305

Office Fax: (978) 922-0078

Principal

Michelle Muffett- Lipinski

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Interns

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Savi Hewa

[shewa@nsedu.org](mailto:shewa@nsedu.org)

## Referrals and Admission Procedures

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The Northshore Recovery High School has educational and recovery-focused opportunities available for students in grades 9 through 12.

### STEP 1: Initial Contact

Please contact our Intake Coordinator, Ana Lanzilli, to obtain our application and to schedule a tour.

Phone: 978-922-3305 ext. 1600

Email: [alanzilli@nsedu.org](mailto:alanzilli@nsedu.org)

<https://www.nsedu.org/schools/northshore-recovery-high-school/>

### STEP 2: Tour and Information Session

Tours are scheduled on Thursday mornings between 9:00 am and noon. Tours typically take about 15 minutes. This visit needs to be scheduled in advance through our Intake Coordinator, Ana Lanzilli (see contact information in Step 1). Please note: you do not need to complete the Student Information Packet or bring any other documentation to the tour unless you also want to be interviewed at this time.

### STEP 3: Application and Required Documentation

Student Information Packet must be returned with all required documentation as listed on the form. Please send completed forms to us via fax, email or mail:

Fax: 978-922-0078

Email: [alanzilli@nsedu.org](mailto:alanzilli@nsedu.org)

Mail: Ana Lanzilli, Northshore Recovery High School, 112 Sohier Rd, Beverly, MA 01915

### STEP 3: Interview

Parents/guardians must accompany prospective students to the Interview. These meetings are generally 45 minutes and are scheduled on Thursday mornings between 9:00 am and noon. A review of the Student Information Packet along with the additional documentation will be conducted at this time. Students will be expected to talk about their commitment to recovery and their commitment to academics. Please note: tours and interviews can be scheduled for the same day provided we have a completed Student Information Packet and all required documentation.

#### Documentation Needed at Intake:

1. Most recent psycho-social assessment (clinical evaluation)
2. All high school academic transcripts
3. Special education plan (e.g. IEP, 504 plan) if applicable
4. MCAS scores/SAT scores if applicable
5. Health insurance card (front & back)
6. Immunization records
7. Most recent physical (within the last 12 months)

#### **STEP 4: Enrollment Decisions**

The Enrollment Review Team will meet to discuss the potential student, after all documents have been received.

- If the student is eligible for enrollment and NRHS believes they can help the student meet their educational and recovery goals, we will contact their parent/guardian with a start date.
- If the student is not eligible for enrollment, the principal or her designee will meet with the parents/guardian and the student and discuss appropriate alternatives.

### **Program Description**

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#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Working to create and maintain a safe and respectful recovery community through academic achievement, community service and personal responsibility-

The NRHS contains the following components:

- An underlying philosophy that emphasizes building positive and meaningful relationships between all students and staff.
- Serve students ages 14-21 with substance use disorder diagnosis
- Create individualized recovery plans
- Provide strong support for families and opportunities for parent involvement
- Small, structured classrooms with a low student to staff ratio
- Follow comprehensive academic curriculum consistent with MA Frameworks
- Individualized attention and programming within the context of the student's known and evolving academic, social, and emotional needs.
- Student support services aimed at promoting academic success and personal development.
- Structured and unstructured opportunities for social and emotional development.
- Clear and constructive school rules and expectations, with ongoing modeling by, and feedback from, caring, dedicated, trained professional staff.
- A team approach to student success, which includes input from students, families, community collaterals as well as NRHS staff.
- The Northshore Recovery High School recognizes that learning, as well as personal growth and development, occur not only in the classroom, but during social experiences as well. Students at NRHS often need adult support and guidance when certain psychosocial stressors are encountered and learn valuable social and life-skills in our therapeutic milieu.

## General Policies

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### Attendance

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 76, Sec 1, mandates a student's daily attendance at school.

- Regular school attendance is a critical component in every student's academic success. If your child is going to be absent or late, please call our absentee line (see below) and leave a detailed message regarding the reason for the absence. If we do not receive a call, we will attempt to reach you to verify your child's absence by 10:30 am.
- Students can expect absences and tardiness to directly impact their progress as well as potentially jeopardize credits/grades.
- Any absence or tardy without a parent/guardian communication or a note will be considered an unexcused absence and may lead to disciplinary action. School counselors will reach out to parents/guardians to obtain information about absences and offer support if needed.
- Please inform the school and transportation company of any planned absence via email (ABSENTEE HOTLINE/EMAIL). This will eliminate any unnecessary telephone calls, and will help your child work with his/her teachers to stay up to date with class work and/or homework. Please note our school does not condone or encourage family vacations or trips during designated school time. If such a trip is arranged, all work missed during the time will be completed at the discretion of and according to the schedule arranged by the classroom teacher.
- Extended absences and habitual tardiness is reported to the Principal of NRHS as well as to the student's sending district and, as needed, to other community collaterals. If the number of absences exceeds TWELVE per quarter, the student will receive an administrative failure in that class.
- Excessive absences may lead to Juvenile Court intervention through the CRA (Child Requiring Assistance) process.

**Absent Line: 978-922-3305 x1600**



## **Classroom Attendance Policy/Administrative Failure**

- A student cannot receive a passing grade in a class in which he/she has missed more than twelve days in a quarter.
- Once a student has missed eight (8) days in a quarter, the teacher will submit a form with the student's name and current classroom grade. This form will be given to either the Guidance Department or the Principal. A call will be made home to inform the parent/guardian that their son/daughter has missed eight days and is danger of failing the class. Within 24 hours after receiving the form, staff will conference with the student, family and classroom teacher to develop strategies to keep the student in the classroom and "on-track."
- It is expected that the student will follow the guidelines set for him/her and will maintain their ability to pass the class with a grade that accurately reflects his/her ability. If the student continues to miss/skip the class, the student will not be able to pass the class once he/she has missed 13 classes. The highest grade the student can earn once he/she has missed 13 or more absences is a 59.9% regardless of their efforts.
- This grade will be averaged with the other quarter grades and does NOT mean the student will fail for the year if he/she acquires a passing grade for the other quarters.

## **Arrival**

- Students are expected to arrive to school between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. Any student dropped off or arriving at school before 8:30 a.m. is likely to be unsupervised, thus creating a potentially unsafe situation.
- Students are considered in school the moment they arrive on campus (by bus, foot, car or bicycle). All school rules apply from the moment a student arrives on campus in the morning until they leave campus at the end of the day.
- Upon arrival students are expected to move to areas specified by their schedule.
- Our first class begins at 8:45 and students arriving after 8:45 a.m. are tardy if they arrive after 8:45am and before 10:25am.
- A student signing in after 10:25 will need to see a member of the administrative team to have their absence correctly marked for the day.
- Phone calls will be made by 10:30 by the administrative assistant. If your student is not present and we have not received a call informing us of your child's whereabouts.

- Students who arrive tardy to school without a note are expected to make up missed class time and assignments. Make-up time and work are coordinated through the teacher

### **Transportation: Arrival and Departure Procedures**

For most students, a transportation company that is hired through the special education department of the city or town where the family resides provides transportation to Northshore Recovery High School. Other students are transported to and from school by their parents.

The Northshore Recovery High School has no direct responsibility or control over the vehicles or drivers who transport our students. Questions about individual transportation schedules and routes should be directed to the transportation coordinator or special education liaison from your school district. Transportation companies receive their direction from the school districts that have hired them, so any problems with transportation must be presented to your school district for resolution.

If there is any change in your child's transportation plan on a given day (i.e., if your child will be out sick or if you will be dropping off or picking up your child when they usually ride the bus) please notify your bus driver/transportation company and the Northshore Recovery High School. If your child will be out of school for an extended period, please remember to contact your transportation company in advance of the time you would like your child's transportation to resume.

**The following guidelines for driving and parking on the Sohler Road site were designed to provide a common understanding for everyone in the Kevin O'Grady and Northshore Recovery High School community, including staff, families, transportation companies and visitors.**

- Cars, vans and buses will be permitted on the site beginning at 8:15 a.m. each day. Staff members will not be available before 8:30 a.m. to direct traffic or supervise students.
- Cars, vans and buses will return to collect students beginning at 2:45 pm.
- Northshore Recovery High School personnel assisting with transportation at arrival and dismissal times are focused on the safety of the students. Please do not direct classroom questions or concerns to them during arrival or dismissal.
- Parents driving their children to school in the morning are asked to follow the traffic flow. You should park in the visitor or handicapped spots and walk your child to a staff member. When picking up your student, wait for him or her at the building door. A staff person will meet you there with the student.
- Once students are on the bus they cannot be returned back to the school for any reason, medical or behavioral. There may not be adequate supervision at the school at that time. The bus company and district should be contacted with any questions or concerns.

## Student Driven Automobiles

A student vehicle approval form must be filled out and approved before a student brings a car to school. In addition, students must present a valid driver's license and registration. Failure to do so will result in the loss of permission to drive to school. These forms are available in the main office. Students who fail to demonstrate safe operating procedures may lose their privilege to drive to school. Additionally, student drivers may not transport any other student to or from school unless there is parental permission at any age. All student vehicles must be parked in designated student parking. All student vehicles are subject to the same search and seizure policy found in the handbook

## Dismissal

- Students will be **dismissed at 3:05 p.m.** NRHS Staff will supervise all students at dismissal to make certain that all students take their previously scheduled form of transportation.
- Students who drive to and from school follow these same dismissal policies. A student who drives to and from school may NOT drive his/her friends from school at dismissal without permission.
- Students, regardless of their age, are not permitted to "Sign Out" of school during the school day without permission. Early dismissals or temporary changes to their previously scheduled form of transportation must be communicated to school personnel in advance, and may be confirmed with a follow up call or other means, by school personnel. Attempts to alter transportation plans near or at dismissal times will not be facilitated.

## Early Dismissal Procedures

- Please report any changes in your child's dismissal (i.e. early dismissal for an appointment or a change in transportation) to the school as soon as possible, via a written communication (EMAIL) stating the reason and time of early dismissal and preferably with 24-hour notice. If you are unable to send a written message for your child, it is best to call the school and confirm that staff is aware of the change so that there is minimal confusion. If you are unable to reach the main office, please leave the information with the guidance department, the adjustment counselor or the Principal and it will be directed toward the appropriate staff.
- We ask that if your student is to be dismissed early please enter the main office, and the student will be called for dismissal and appropriately sign out of school.
- If someone other than the parent or guardian is picking up the student, please indicate this on your communication. Identification will be required if office personnel do not know or recognize the person picking up your student. Please note that all individuals who pick up students of the Northshore Recovery High School must be 18 years of age or older.

- If a student walks out of school and/or off school property prior to dismissal and/or without the appropriate permission to do so, this will likely be addressed via disciplinary action, which would result in a call to parent/guardian.

## **Inclement Weather / School Closings**

School delays or closings due to inclement weather follow the Beverly Public School cancellations.

- If the city or town in which you live has cancelled school and Northshore Recovery High School has not, parents / guardians are responsible for transportation on that day if they so choose.
- Northshore Education Consortium utilizes a phone alert system that will call and/or email families that are registered in the system. If you find that you have not received a cancellation call, please contact your school counselor.
- Announcements can be heard on the following radio stations: WBZ 1230, WEEI 850. They can also be viewed on the following television stations: WBZ Channel 4, WCVB Channel 5 and WHDH Channel 7.

**Websites often offer the most up to date information. Some sites include:**

<http://www.thebostonchannel.com/closings>

<http://www3.whdh.com/stormforce>

<http://www.wcvb.com/weather/closings>

<http://www.myfoxboston.com/link/576471/massachusetts-school-closings>

<http://boston.cbslocal.com/closings/>

**TIP: Many websites also allow you to sign up for a text message if your school district cancels school.**

## **School Safety Policies**

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### **General Safety**

After students have arrived at school, all school exterior doors are locked. Entrance to the school will require use of the buzzer and intercom system located at the side door. Notification prior to any visitation is recommended.

### **Visitors to the Building**

All visitors, including parents and relatives, must report to the main office upon arrival to the building. Every visitor needs to sign in and the identified person with whom they will be meeting will come to greet you at the office. Parents are not to go directly to their child's classroom without approval from the office.

## **Fire Drills**

Fire drills are routinely held as a safety measure and to keep everyone alert to proper procedures. Fire drills are to be taken seriously. When the alarm is sounded, students and staff, remaining together in the class in which they are in, will exit the building quietly and in an orderly manner, according to fire drill procedures posted in each room of the school. Teachers will take attendance once all students have exited the building to ensure all students are accounted for. Returning to the building will commence upon notification by the Principal or his designee.

## **Lockdown and “Stay in Place” Drills**

The NRHS has partnered with the Beverly Police Department to develop crisis response drills to help prepare students and staff for emergency situations.

## **Drug and Alcohol Policy**

The use, possession or distribution or sale of drugs or alcohol on school property may result in suspension, expulsion and police notification.

Students should not be under the influence, use, possess, distribute and/or receive any drugs, alcohol or other related paraphernalia on school property. If a student is suspected of the above, he/she will be removed from the milieu for further assessment by the appropriate staff. As soon as possible, guardians will be notified of the situation and dismissal may be planned. If deemed necessary, the student will be sent for medical evaluation and /or treatment at the local hospital. The Principal or her designee will respond to the situation and begin a student search if warranted. Depending upon the situation, the Principal may also inform local authorities. In addition, termination proceedings may be initiated at the discretion of the Principal. Due to the seriousness of such an incident, an emergency parent/guardian meeting may be arranged prior to the student’s return to school.

## **Drug Testing and Relapse Procedures**

### ***How often?***

Students will be tested on a random basis this year, approximately 4-8 times/month. If the student is in active relapse, and per request of student/guardian this may be modified. The drug tests are unsupervised. This means that the students take the urine cup into the bathroom and are not supervised by Northshore Recovery High staff.

### ***What type of tests are used?***

The urine cups are quick read cups. This is new this year. It enables us to determine whether a student is positive for several drugs within 5-10 minutes. The following drugs are detected from the new cups: amphetamines, benzodiazepines, methamphetamines, cocaine, THC, and opiates. We also have dips for K2/Spice and Heroin. These new cups will not give the levels of

the drug in the student's system however. Therefore, a student that has THC in his or her system will continue to be positive for up to 30 days after last use.

***What if my child has a positive test?***

Some students will test positive because they are prescribed certain medications. It is important to us to have an up to date account of the current medications prescribed. For positive tests from drugs not prescribed we do several things. We will meet with the student to assess what is going on with their use and come up with a plan with the goal of abstinence from all substances. A discussion of treatment options ranging from community supports, outpatient counseling, SOAP, IOP, PHP, and inpatient are discussed. These recommendations are discussed with a parent/guardian as well via phone or in-person.

***How do I find out about drug test results?***

We expect the student to inform parents/guardians within 24 hours of a positive test for THC. Other tests that are positive will result in speaking to the student to assess the need for immediate evaluation at the Emergency Room due to concerns for withdrawal. Parents/guardians will be called to report test results and to discuss plans resulting from drug tests.

***What do we do if we suspect something or know that our child has been using?***

Parents and guardians are critical in helping students with sobriety. It is important to hear from you if you have knowledge of your child's drug and alcohol use. The Northshore Recovery High School staff will speak to you about your concerns and come up with a plan with you and your child.

***What do I do if my child will not go to treatment?***

At NRHS we work with students to be honest about their use and their struggles to remain sober. While abstinence is the goal for all students, each is on their own path and it takes time to reach and sustain sobriety. Individualized plans are developed with students to help them improve their health and wellness and be successful in school. Developing a mutually acceptable plan for treatment if sobriety is not reached involves the student, parents/guardians, current treatment providers, probation officers, DCF workers, insurance companies, and the staff at NRHS.

***Can the tests at NRHS replace the tests for probation officers and treatment providers?***

No, we will work with probation officers and treatment providers but students should continue to test for them in addition to the tests at NRHS.

***What if the student refuses a drug test?***

Your student's case manager will contact you regarding a refusal to provide a screen. This will be done by end of the day of the refusal. If a student continues to refuse to drug test, the case manager will request a meeting with the family and any other collaterals.

## **Tobacco/Smoking Policy**

In accordance with M.G.L C 71, Section 2A, no student is allowed to use tobacco products of any kind on school grounds during normal school hours. However, with parental permission, students may earn a supervised break in the morning, off of school grounds.

## **Weapons**

The Northshore Recovery High School aims to provide a safe environment for students and staff at all times. Weapons such as guns, knives, martial arts equipment, chemical sprays, or any item that can be used to hurt, threaten and/or intimidate others are not permitted in our school community. Any student discovered or suspected of bringing a weapon to school, or concealing a weapon at school will immediately be referred to the Principal. Any/all weapons will be confiscated by staff and will not be returned to the student. Students suspected of being in possession of a weapon will be subject to a search, which will include any bags or personal items that students may have. If a student refuses to cooperate, he/she may be suspended and police may be called for a safety assessment.

Students who bring a weapon to school may be terminated at the discretion of the Principal. The Northshore Recovery High School reserves the right to report the incident to the local authorities, including the specifics of the offense and the name of the offender.

## **Violence and Aggressive Behaviors**

Any student who is presenting with threatening or intimidating behaviors, or who is assaultive in any way will be subject to school discipline. Police and other appropriate providers may be notified.

## **Destruction of Property and Vandalism**

Additionally, the Northshore Recovery High School expects all students to refrain from destructive behaviors. If any school or personal properties are destroyed as a result of student actions, the student will be subject to school discipline, and police and other appropriate providers may be notified.

## **Discrimination/Harassment Policy**

Northshore Education Consortium does not discriminate on the basis race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, religion, limited English speaking ability, sexual orientation or homelessness. This applies to student admission, access to services or treatment, and employment in all NEC services and programs.

Any concerns, complaints, or grievances related to discrimination or harrassment should be brought to the attention of your School Principal, Program Director, the NEC Executive Director, or NEC Compliance Coordinator for Title IX, Title II, and Section 504 Nancy Macedo at

nmacedo@nsedu; 112 Sohier Road Beverly, MA 01915; 978-232-9755 ext. 1255. Grievances will be addressed in a prompt and equitable manner.

Northshore Recovery High School will not tolerate any behavior (speech or action) which results in the harassment or discrimination of any student or staff based upon gender, race, color, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, disability, style of dress, speech, emotional issues or physical characteristics as in size, weight, shape, smell or personal expression.

All students at Northshore Recovery High School are expected to conduct themselves respectfully at all times so as to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment.

**Harassment and unsafe/disrespectful conduct include:**

- Unwelcomed sexual advances
- Requests for sexual favors
- Sexually motivated physical conduct
- Use of sexually explicit or sexually suggestive language or gestures
- Use of negative or offensive slurs or epithets
- Glorifying or glamorizing the use of drugs or alcohol
- Name calling, teasing, jokes or other dehumanizing remarks
- Unwelcoming physical contact in sexual or suggestive manner
- Any act of physical intimidation or bullying
- Use of symbols, notes, cartoons, graffiti, pictures, drawings or computer generated messages, or clothing intended to offend.
- Suggestive or intimidating looks, leering or gestures.
- Retaliation with the intention to do harm to an individual for opposing acts of discrimination or participating in an investigation.

**Reporting and Investigation of Discrimination and Harassment**

Any student or staff member who believes that he/she has been subjected to or that some other person has been subjected to any conduct prohibited by this policy, should, as soon as possible, report the conduct to the Principal, school counselor or a teacher.

**Discipline**

Any student who is found to be in violation of this harassment policy is subject to appropriate disciplinary action up to and including suspension. An incident report to the Juvenile Police Officer of the Beverly Police Department may be filed and if appropriate contact with the student's Probation office may be made. Disciplinary action will be consistent with the requirement of applicable Massachusetts and Federal Laws.

**Bullying and Cyber Bullying Policy**

The Northshore Recovery High School is invested in providing an educational environment that is safe from harassment and bullying. All acts of bullying as defined by Massachusetts's law are prohibited as described below. **Acts of bullying, cyber bullying, and retaliation are prohibited:**



- on school grounds, property immediately adjacent to school grounds, at a school sponsored or school-related activity, function or program whether on or off school grounds, at a school bus stop, on a school bus or other vehicle owned, leased or used by a school district or school, or through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, leased or used by a school district or school and
- at a location, activity, function or program that is not school -related, or through the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased or used by a school district or school, if the bullying creates a hostile environment at school for the target, infringes on their rights at school or materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school. Nothing contained herein shall require schools to staff any non-school related activities, functions, or programs.

**Bullying and cyber-bullying are defined by Massachusetts law Section 370. (a) to include the following:**

- "Bullying", the repeated use by one or more students or by a member of a school staff including, but not limited to, an educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional of a written, verbal or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a victim that: (i) causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim's property; (ii) places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to himself or of damage to his property; (iii) creates a hostile environment at school for the victim; (iv) infringes on the rights of the victim at school; or (v) materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.
- "Perpetrator", a student or a member of a school staff including, but not limited to, an educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional who engages in bullying or retaliation.
- "Cyber-bullying", bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic or photo optical system, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, internet communications, instant messages or facsimile communications. Cyber-bullying shall also include (i) the creation of a web page or blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or (ii) the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages, if the creation or impersonation creates any of the conditions enumerated in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, of the definition of bullying. Cyber-bullying shall also include the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons, if the distribution or posting creates any of the conditions enumerated in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, of the definition of bullying.

- “Hostile environment”, a situation in which bullying causes the school environment to be permeated with intimidation, ridicule or insult that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions of the student’s education.

**All forms of harassment, in person and in cyberspace, are unacceptable.**

If NRHS staff become aware that any type of bullying or cyber bullying has taken place, whether in school or out of school, between or amongst any Northshore Recovery High School students, NRHS will take appropriate and necessary action which can include, but is not limited to, disciplinary action, police notification, parent/guardian meetings and expulsion. All reports of bullying and cyberbullying will be investigated fully before such determinations are made.

## **Hazing Policy**

**The Northshore Recovery High School policy on hazing uses the following state regulation:**

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall file, at least annually, a report with the board of higher education and in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled by it of the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen and also certifying that said institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court, assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

**Chapter 269 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following sections:**

**Section 17:** Whoever is a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing as defined herein shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

The term “hazing” as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

**Section 18:** Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in section seventeen and is at the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.

Section 19. Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post-secondary education shall issue to every student group, student team or student organization which is part of such institution or is recognized by the institution or permitted by the institution to use its name or facilities or is known by the institution to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen; provided, however, that an institution's compliance with this section's requirements that an institution issue copies of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations shall not constitute evidence of the institution's recognition or endorsement of said unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations.

Each such group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applicants has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen, and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post-secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each person who enrolls as a full time student in such institution a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

The board of higher education and, in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate regulations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution which fails to make such report.

### **Student Search Policy**

Search procedures are established to ensure that each student has a reasonable right to privacy during school hours. This policy ensures a safe learning environment that is free of all contraband, including but not limited to drugs, alcohol, weapons and stolen property.

Any student who is suspected of having a weapon, illegal substance, alcohol, stolen objects or other contraband will be subject to a search. Students who threaten a staff person or student may be subject to a search upon the discretion of the Principal. The student will be brought to an office or other private area with his/her belongings. The student will be asked to empty out

all pockets and all personal items will be given to a staff person for inspection. Bags, coats, pockets, etc. will be inspected with the student present.

Any student who refuses a search may be suspended. The student and a parent/guardian may be required to attend a meeting to discuss the search policy. A student may be asked to sign an agreement indicating his/her understanding of the search policy and waiving the right to refuse searches in the future. In order to protect our school, we reserve the right to involve the local authorities in such situations.

### **Restraint Policy**

Staff at the Northshore Recovery High School are not trained in the use of physical restraint. Staff has been trained in de-escalation procedures to maintain safety of all students and staff without use of physical restraint.

Physical intervention is not used at Northshore Recovery High School. If student behavior escalates to the level of dangerousness, Beverly Police will be notified.

### **Medical Policies**

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**A Registered Nurse is on duty at Northshore Recovery High School each day school is in session.**

#### **Medications**

We are obligated to adhere to the policy of the Massachusetts Department of Education, and Department of Public Health, which states that no prescription medication is to be administered unless accompanied by written authorization from the student's physician and parents. These medication orders are renewed at the start of each school year. Forms are available from the school nurse.

***NRHS adheres to all policies as outlined in detail in the Northshore Education Consortium Health Care Manual. The complete Policy Manual is available on the [www.nsedu.org](http://www.nsedu.org)***

Required information includes the name of the medication, route, and dosage of the medication, frequency and time to be administered, date of the order and discontinuation date (expires after one year), specific directions for administration, as well as the name, signature and phone number of the licensed prescriber. Medications administered at school must be in a prescription bottle (you can request a duplicate or extra bottle for school from the pharmacy) or if

not a prescription medication, in the original container. No medications will be accepted in plastic bags or plastic containers (Tupperware).

Non-prescription (over the counter) medications need to be accompanied by written authorization from the student's parent or legal guardian and given to the school nurse. The medication must be in the original container. Only the over-the-counter (OTC) medications on the NEC Permission to Treat release may be given to student without prior medical authorization. All other OTC non-prescription medications require a medical order from a MD, NP or PA.

The school nurse will develop a Medication Administration Plan as outlined in the Northshore Education Consortium Health Care Manual.

Medications must be brought to the school by a parent/guardian and given to the school nurse.

**\*Please do not send medication to school with your child\***

Please contact the school nurse if you need to make other arrangements in order to get necessary medications to school.

The medication will be counted and locked in the medication cabinet.

A student, regardless of age or prescription, should not be in possession of medication while on campus. Exceptions to this policy is for an Inhaler or Epipen, and when appropriate this will be approved by the school nurse.

Students found in possession of any type of medication, prescription or non-prescription will be subject to the Drugs and Alcohol Policy. Bringing medication to school can lead to very serious consequences.

All staff have been trained on how to administer Naloxone and it is readily available, if needed.

It is critical that NRHS nurse and appropriate staff be informed about ALL medications that our students are taking, not just the ones given at school. Please be sure to fill out the medication form in the intake packet, and call the

school nurse and/or your school counselor with ANY and ALL changes in medications.

### **Inhalers**

In the case of inhaled medications for Asthma, with required documentation (letter from physician), a student may be allowed to self-administer prescribed inhaled medication with adult staff supervision. Student must show competency in self-administration.

### **Allergies & Epi-Pens**

If your child has a known allergy, please identify this allergy to NRHS staff prior to admission so that safety measures can be planned and communicated to all staff. If an Epi-Pen is prescribed by your child's physician, please provide one to the school nurse for use in case of an allergic reaction. Unlicensed school personnel may administer epinephrine in a life-threatening situation when the nurse is not immediately available. Staff are authorized by the nurse after being trained in Epi-pen administration.

NRHS discourages students and staff from sharing their food or beverages with one another during meal or snack times, given concerns about allergies and other restrictions on some student's diets. The Northshore Recovery High School will continue to be an Allergy Aware School.

### **Immunization Required by State Law**

The law states that medical exemption for Massachusetts immunization regulations specify minimum immunization requirements for enrollment in school (105 CMR 220.000). The Law and regulations provide for exclusion of students from school if immunizations are not up to date, but permit exemptions for medical and religious reasons.

All students entering collaborative programs are required to have up-to-date immunization records and will not be admitted without appropriate documentation unless exempt for sincere religious or medical reasons. Massachusetts DPH immunization schedules will be followed.

Medical Exemption is allowed if a physician submits documentation that an immunization is medically contraindicated. A new physician's letter must be submitted every school year.

Religious Exemption is allowed if a parent or guardian submits a written statement stating that immunizations conflict with their sincere religious beliefs. A new letter must be submitted each school year.

In situations when one or more cases of disease are present in a school, all susceptibles, including those with medical or religious exemptions, are subject to exclusions as described in the Reportable Diseases and Isolation and Quarantine Requirements (105 CMR 300.000).

### **Current Physical Exam Required by State Law**

School nurses will ensure that the results of annual health screenings are maintained and documented in accordance with the MA DPH guidelines.

All new students are required to have a recent physical exam dated within the past 12 months on file before entering the school building. Physical exams need to be updated every three years.

### **Illness and Exclusion from School Guidelines**

The school nurse or program administrator may exclude a student from school for health reasons if the student presents with the following:

- **Fever:** Temperature of 100.4 or higher. Student must be fever free for a full 24 hours before return to school.
- **Respiratory:** A congested cough or are coughing up thick mucus.
- **Eye/Nose Drainage:** Any that is not normal for your child.
- **Skin Problems:** Rashes, infected sores, sores with drainage that are undiagnosed or contagious. Diarrhea: Increased loose stools within a 24 hour periods, without a defined underlying cause. Must be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Vomiting:** Two or more episodes of vomiting within a 24-hour period, without a defined underlying cause. Must be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.

#### **Other considerations for exclusion:**

- The student has a condition which requires immediate intervention or requires ongoing supervision, which cannot be adequately provided in a school setting.
- The student is very sleepy or experiencing excessive bleeding after a dental procedure.

Please call the school if your student will be absent due to illness.

Should a student become ill while in school, the nurse shall determine if the student is able to remain in school for the day. When a student is deemed too ill to remain in school, the parents or those delegated by the parents/guardian will be notified and asked to pick the student up. If that is not possible, parents or the school, after discussion, may call transportation to have the student transported home. In no case shall the student be released without proper delegate notification.

Students who are seen by the nurse and do not have an elevated temperature or obvious signs of illness will be returned to class at the discretion of the nursing staff.

## **Communicable Disease /Contagious Illness**

If a student has symptoms of an illness known to be contagious such as strep throat, the flu, the student is not to attend school and must be evaluated by a physician or nurse practitioner.

Sending a contagious student to school compromises the health and safety of all students and staff.

Please notify the school nurse or staff if your child has been diagnosed with a contagious disease.

The school nurse or staff will inform parents/guardians and the staff if a contagious illness has been introduced to school.

Contagious Illness Guidelines for returning to school, as determined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

If your child has been diagnosed by a physician/nurse practitioner with one of the following illnesses, please adhere to these rules before the child returns to school:

- 1) Chickenpox/varicella, whooping cough/pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella- a physician's note is required
- 2) Bacterial infections such as strep throat and scarlet fever- documentation that the child has been on antibiotic therapy for over 24 hours is required
- 3) Influenza – student must be afebrile (without a fever) for 24 hours without medications such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- 4) Conjunctivitis –is not an emergency, so students or staff who are identified as having conjunctivitis do not need to be sent home from school on the day they are identified. If treatment was indicated, infected students or staff may return the day after any indicated treatment has begun for bacterial conjunctivitis. Individuals with viral conjunctivitis should be presumed contagious until symptoms have subsided. Transmission can be contained by using proper sanitation.

## **Injuries and Emergency First Aid**

If a student is injured at school, the school nurse will complete an assessment of him/her. Every attempt will be made to contact the parent or guardian when a student obtains a serious injury. If the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, the listed emergency contacts will be tried.

In all cases, a designated person will remain with the student whether at school, in an ambulance, at a hospital, or at an emergency evacuation site. A staff person will remain with the student until the parent/guardian or other emergency contact arrives. It is our expectation that the parent/guardian will make every effort to arrive and meet their child as soon as



possible. In the event that a significant period of time passes without notification, the end of the school day has arrived and/or the student is in jeopardy of not being able to join his family during the evening hours, the program Principal or designee will determine whether DCF should be notified in accordance with the procedures for reporting abuse and neglect.

Emergency First aid and emergency medical treatment is administered to students who have written authorization from a parent, which is updated annually. It should be noted that school staff that provide first aid in good faith to a student in an emergency are protected from civil liberty by the following provision of the M.G.L. c. 71 s 55A.

### **Psychiatric Emergencies**

If a student is assessed by our clinical team to be in psychiatric distress requiring an emergency response, we will immediately attempt to notify the parent or guardian to discuss the appropriate options given the student's level of risk and current support network. If there is imminent risk with regard to safety concerns, police and ambulance services will be requested. Access to a mobile crisis team is also an option. If a student needs to be taken by ambulance to the hospital emergency department for further assessment, a staff person will accompany the student to the hospital and wait with the student until the parent/guardian arrives. It is our expectation that the parent/guardian will make every effort to arrive and meet their child as soon as possible.

Under certain circumstances, which will be make known to the parent/guardian, a student will not be able to return to school until a psychiatric evaluation has taken place.

### **Wellness Policy**

All students enrolled at Northshore Recovery High School are expected to participate in daily groups. Each student will be assigned to a group as they receive their initial schedule. Group curriculum adheres to the Massachusetts and Federal wellness standards.

### **Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect**

Per Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 199, Section 51A 51G, NRHS school staff are mandated reporters. If a school staff has reasonable cause to believe that a child under the age of 18 is suffering serious physical or emotional injury resulting from abuse from a caretaker, including sexual abuse, or neglect, including malnutrition, must immediately report such conditions to the Department of Children and Families.

Suspected abuse of a disabled person over the age of 18 must be reported to the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (MGL c. 19c.)

If it is suspected that a student has been a victim of child abuse or neglect, a staff member will make the determination if immediate medical attention is needed. All staff members at the

Northshore Recovery High School are mandated reporters and all suspected cases of abuse or neglect must, by law, be reported to the Department of Child and Family Services. Staff members are expected to report any suspected abuse or neglect immediately to the social worker, nurse and Director. Our practice is to contact the parent/guardian to gather more information that a report will be file with a District and the appropriate state agency.

## **Academics: Courses, Credits, Grading, Reporting**

### **Course Offerings**

All courses are designed and aligned to the Massachusetts Frameworks. Challenging academics are the top program priority. A core belief is that, as a school, the primary way to positively impact a student's self-esteem is through the experience of academic success. Appropriate accommodations and specialized instruction are utilized to address disabilities, learning styles, and emotional issues that may interfere with student learning.

All students are expected to participate in a variety of psycho-educational classes and activities that are developmentally targeted to foster emotional, social and life-skill development. Northshore Recovery High School supports student's creativity by encouraging students to engage in the arts curriculum offered at the school and in the community. Academic credits earned are directly transferred to a sending district transcript. Students receive a diploma from their sending district.

### **Credits**

Students receive credit/grades on a quarterly basis for any subject for which a grade of 65% or above is achieved. If the student's final grade at the end of the year is 65% or above, the student will receive credit or a passing grade for the full year. The amount of credit earned is calculated by a "Time on Learning" formula.

*Examples:*

*45 minute class 1 x per week = .25 credits per quarter*

*45 minute class 2x per week = .5 credits*

*45 minute class 5 x per week = 1.25 credits per quarter*

Additional credit earning opportunities are occasionally available via Mentoring, Independent Studies, Volunteering, and Work-Study (See Below). These opportunities are discussed with the NRHS team, to determine their value in supporting a student's academic and personal goals.

### **Work Study Credits**

Many school districts allow students to participate in a work-study program to earn from 8 to 10 credits toward graduation. To qualify for work-study, students must be in their junior or senior year (grade 11 or 12) and be passing all academic subjects. Work-study opportunities are considered on a case-by-case basis by NRHS staff and the sending school district.

To earn work-study credits a student must work at least 15 hours per week and have the approval of their sending district. The sending district will credit the student on their official transcript if work hours and length of employment are satisfactory.

## **Dual Enrollment**

When deemed academically appropriate, and relevant to a student's transition goals, Dual Enrollment at a local college may be explored and facilitated. If this option is appropriate, the student and family are responsible for all tuition and fees.

## **Grades**

Each teacher has a method of grading students that takes into account attendance, class participation, assessments, applicable project grades, completion of class assignments, and conduct.

### **How attendance affects grades:**

Missed class time means missed learning opportunities and missed assignments. Students who miss excessive days or classes during a quarter can expect lower grades. If a student is absent 8 or more times from a class in a quarter, he/she must meet with each teacher in order to develop a contract to obtain missed information, materials and make-up work to ultimately earn a passing grade and credit. Once a student is absent for 13 days, although a numerical grade will be assigned for determining final grades, a passing quarterly grade cannot be earned without an independent academic review.

## **Breaks**

The daily schedule includes a mid-morning break and a lunch break to allow NRHS students the opportunity to relax and re-energize. Students may choose from numerous supervised social and recreational activities in a variety of settings including our music lab, art room, cafeteria, or designated outdoor area when weather permits.

## **Field Trips**

Students take occasional field trips by bus for recreational and learning purposes. All field trips should be considered a school "class" occurring off campus, and all school rules and expectations will remain in place. Staff will review any changes in expectations with the students and, as needed, with parents/guardians, before the trip. Permission slips for such field trips will be distributed as needed and must be signed and returned in order for a student to attend the field trip. A permission slip for walking field trips is enclosed in the Student Information Packet. This will provide permission for all walking field trips for the school year. Attendance in any field trip is at the discretion of Northshore Recovery High School staff. If a decision occurs that does not allow a student to attend the field trip, both the student and their guardian will be notified as soon as staff is able to do so.

## **Homework/Independent Study**

Students may need additional independent work to meet their full potential as learners. NRHS Teachers may have individualized homework expectations. Please communicate with teachers directly to clarify expectations or discuss concerns. Students may use GradPoint to access additional credits, if necessary.

## **Progress Reports**

An academic Progress Report is sent home at the mid-quarter mark in an effort to inform you about your student's school performance. Parent follow-up with teachers regarding any concerns will greatly help student success. IEP progress reports are also sent home on a quarterly basis and arrive separately from classroom Progress Reports.

## **Report Cards**

Report cards are sent home and to the sending district at the close of each quarter. Grade equivalents, credits, and attendance data are outlined on the report cards.

## **School Records**

Student record regulations ensure parents and students the right to confidentiality, inspection, amendment and destruction of student records.

## **MCAS**

**The following information can be found on the Department of Education Website.**

*The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) is designed to meet the requirements of the Education Reform Law of 1993. This law specifies that the testing program must:*

- Test all public school students in Massachusetts, including students with disabilities and English Language Learner students;
- Measure performance based on the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework learning standards;
- Report on the performance of individual students, schools, and districts.
- As required by the Education Reform Law, students must pass the grade 10 tests in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and one of the four high school Science and Technology Engineering tests as one condition of eligibility for a high school diploma (in addition to fulfilling local requirements).

In addition, the MCAS program is used to hold schools and districts accountable, on a yearly basis, for the progress they have made toward the objective of the No Child Left Behind Law that all students be proficient in Reading and Mathematics by 2014.

## **Graduation**

For a student to be eligible to receive a diploma, they must meet the graduation requirements of their sending school district. Northshore Recovery High School will compile information for the student's transcript and this will be sent to the sending school district. School counselors

work closely with students, families, and districts to assure that students are meeting necessary requirements. Students who complete sending school graduation requirements earn their diploma from the sending district, as well as from NRHS.

### **Transcripts**

Official transcripts, necessary for college and other post high-school opportunities, are available through the guidance department of your sending school district. Your school counselor can help your district compile a final transcript.

## **Meals, Food and Drink Policies**

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### **Breakfast**

The Northshore Recovery High School offers a breakfast each morning. The breakfast program runs from 8:30-8:45 am. Students determined to be eligible may receive a free or reduced price breakfast.

### **Lunch**

Free and reduced lunch programs are available. Applications for these programs must be filled out yearly, regardless of the fact that you may have filled them out at the student's previous school.

- NRHS provides lunches to students who either purchase lunch or are eligible for the reduced price or free lunch program.
- The school lunch menu will be available at the beginning of each month and distributed to students by their homeroom teacher.
- Refrigerators are available for students who choose to bring a lunch.
- Microwaves are available to heat items as needed.

## **Personal Property Policies**

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### **ALL Electronic Devices**

Students who choose to bring personal electronic devices to school do so at their own risk. Many of these devices are quite expensive. NRHS takes NO RESPONSIBILITY for lost, stolen, damaged, broken, or other problems that occur with electronic devices UNLESS the item has been confiscated by a staff.

### **Other Valuables**

Students are discouraged from bringing valuable items to school. This includes jewelry, large amounts of money, as well as the aforementioned cell phones, MP3 Players, Game Boys, etc. Students should not bring items to school to sell, trade or buy. In addition, we strongly

discourage lending or borrowing of valuables. Students who bring valuables to school do so at their own risk.

## Miscellaneous Information

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### School Telephone Usage and Student Messages

- A student who needs to make a phone call during school time is expected to see a school counselor to discuss the purpose of the call. The student will be given access to a school phone, if necessary, to complete calls deemed necessary.
- If a parent/guardian needs to reach their student during the school day, please call the main number and speak to the main office staff. Your call will be directed to the staff most able to help you with your call.
- Calls to student cell phones during school hours are expected to go unanswered given the expectation that all phones are not being used during class time. Please help your student follow school cell phone rules by neither arranging to call nor text them during school hours.
- Urgent messages for students can be left with the main office, guidance counselor or adjustment counselor. If you are unsure of their extension, the main office will direct your call.
- Phone calls to teachers will not be answered during instructional time, as this is disruptive to class. Please leave a message and it will be returned as soon as possible.
- Please try to avoid calls to the school immediately before and during dismissal time.

### Change of Address

Please notify the school as soon as possible with any change in home/program address or telephone number. For student safety it is critical that we have accurate information regarding contact names and numbers in case of emergency.

### Title IX

Northshore Education Consortium policy is not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, color or national origin in any of its programs or activities.

### Release of Student's Name

The Northshore Education Consortium does not issue the names, addresses and personal information about students to any outside agencies without the consent of the student and parents in accordance with Massachusetts Law 603 CMR 230.07 (4).

## Support Services

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### School Counselors/Case Managers

- Every student is assigned a case manager. The case manager will meet regularly with the student to establish and make progress on goals aimed at helping students develop effective skills for academic, social, and emotional competence.
- Case managers strive to work closely with students, families, and any community collaterals in an effort to support student success both at school as well as at home and in the community.
- Case Managers function as members of the student's treatment team which includes academic, counseling, and support staff. This team, with the input of the student and his/her parents or guardian, works together to achieve identified academic and social/emotional goals.
- Information viewed to be relevant and important to the student's overall functioning may be shared among the team.
- Although school counselors work closely with the students, they do not function as a student's primary individual therapist.
- Case Managers will work closely with the school counselors to facilitate a referral for individual therapy or additional treatment as appropriate and if requested.

### Psychosocial Education

- Northshore Recovery High School is an academic school with a strong therapeutic component. All students are encouraged to work on their social/emotional issues by properly accessing our abundant therapeutic resources. These may include:
- Small group counseling sessions
- School events and activities
- Psycho-educational classes such as;
  - Anger Management
  - Addictive Behaviors
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Life Skills
- Break time activities
- Recovery Counseling
- Individualized Recovery Planning
- Community meetings
- Individual counselor check-ins

- Peer Support
- Trauma-informed curriculum
- Healthy Relationships

## Student Code of Conduct

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The following are the expectations for student behavior and presentation while at school:

In order to maintain a positive and supportive school community, all students are expected to act in a respectful manner towards peers and staff. Understanding that this can be challenging during times of distress, there are many support services available that can assist the student in learning and using appropriate coping and self-management skills.

- Demonstrate respect at all times
- Use Respectful Language (See section below)
- Be considerate of other people
- Treat people with civility, courtesy, and dignity.
- Never intentionally ridicule, embarrass, bully or hurt other people.
- Accept personal differences and choices.
- Solve problems without violence.
- Comply with reasonable requests

### Northshore Recovery High School Discipline System

Depending upon the level of behavior and the disruption and/or impact upon the school and other students, various levels of disciplinary response will be utilized. This can start at very low-level responses that include verbal redirection or dismissal from class for short periods of time. Additionally, loss of breaks, in school detentions and suspensions can be implemented.

#### Dismissal from Class

A student may be dismissed from class if his/her behaviors are disruptive and hinder other students from learning. If a teacher dismisses a student from a class, they may be asked to take a break, or to check in with school counselor. If a pattern of behaviors leading to repeated class dismissal is evident, the student will also meet with a school counselor.

#### Suspension

- Suspension from school is a serious behavioral consequence used at the discretion of the Principal or Principal designee for extreme misbehaviors, such as violations of our safety rules and/or continuous disruptive behavior.
- Every effort will be made to notify parents/guardians and/or appropriate D.C.F. or D.Y.S. or court appointed care workers on the day of suspension.
- Written notice regarding the incident, the date of the incident, and the suspension will be sent to parents within 24 hours.



- A re-entry meeting with parent/guardian may be required the following day.
- When the accumulated suspensions approach a total of 7 or more days, a TEAM meeting may need to be called to review the I.E.P. and possibly the appropriateness of the placement. If the NRHS team has significant concerns about the student's ability to be successful following any suspension, a TEAM meeting may be called to address the continued issues and concerns.
- Unless determined eligible for an in-school suspension, students who are suspended out of school are prohibited from being on or near school property before, during or after school hours.

**The following actions may result in suspension**

- Violating any of our school's safety policies
- Not going to the Principal's office/adjustment counselor's office when directed
- Leaving school grounds without permission
- Refusal to cooperate with search due to suspicion of weapons, drugs, alcohol, contraband or threatening a student or staff person.
- Destruction of Property
- Pulling a false fire alarm
- Behavior requiring Physical restraint
- Bullying another student
- Dangerous behaviors especially if they result in injury to another person or destruction of property
- Demonstrating continuous disrespect for school rules and authority figures, and has not responded to other interventions.

## **Behavioral Procedural/Policies**

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**Individualized Behavior Support Plans/Recovery Plans:**

If the team determines that a more individualized and specific plan will best help a student meet academic and recovery expectations, an Individualized Behavior Support Plan/Recovery Plan will be written and reviewed with the student and family/guardian.

**Supervision of Students**

It is the expectation that staff supervises students at all times. There are very few exceptions to this expectation. Below are two related issues that will lead to disciplinary action:

**1. Off Campus without Permission**

Students not accompanied by a staff, who leave the Northshore Recovery High School property, are considered Off Campus without Permission.

Students who leave the school without permission and exhibit unsafe and/or noncompliant behavior will be considered a "runaway student"

**2. If a student runs away**

- Staff will make every attempt to keep the student within eye-sight and communicate student's status via use of a walkie-talkie or cell phone.

- Staff will not chase the student unless the student is in imminent danger of hurting him/herself.

### **3. If the student is unsafe or out of eyesight:**

- Police may be notified
- Parents/Guardian will be notified.
- Notify the district and DESE as required.

#### **Use School Property Responsibly**

Students are expected to treat all school materials and property with care and respect. Any student who willfully damages the school or personal property or steals school or personal property will be held responsible for repairing and/or paying for the damages or returning the stolen item(s). When damage or theft has occurred the following may happen:

- Parental notification
- Suspension
- Police notification
- Community service to repair or contribute to property maintenance

#### **Follow Classroom Behavior Expectations**

Northshore Recovery High School teachers have the freedom to determine the behavior expectations of their own classrooms within the guidelines of the school mission. Students failing to meet the stated expectations will receive consequences as determined by the teacher and the school discipline system.

#### **Comply with Break Area Expectations**

Students are expected to behave in a respectful and responsible manner during breaks. Students may be asked by staff to leave a break area and go to another break area. Failure to respond to this request will result in further disciplinary actions.

#### **Dress Code:**

We ask everyone to dress in a manner appropriate to a school environment. Students should dress in clothing that is clean and safe. Clothing that is provocative and/or detracts from the learning environment will not be permitted. **The following are prohibited:**

- Clothing that depicts illegal activities, drugs, alcohol, obscenities or violent themes, or with statements or graphics with profane or otherwise distasteful language or content.
- Wearing hoods, bandanas, do-rags, sunglasses, or other items covering a student's head and/or face.
- Clothing/accessories that is known to represent gang affiliations.
- Clothing that creates a disruption to the milieu or learning environment. This is at the Principal or his designee's discretion.

Students are allowed to wear baseball hats and knit hats as long as they are school appropriate. While we understand that numerous clothing stores promote trendy clothing and styles, many of them are not suitable for school as they disrupt the learning environment. Please you're your son/daughter make clothing choices that comply with the above dress code.

Any attire deemed inappropriate by staff will be discretely addressed and, if the concern cannot be addressed at school, the student may be required to return home to change or have appropriate clothing brought to school. When possible, students will be offered clothing that has been donated to the school.

### **Parent/Guardian Participation**

Parents/Guardians are valuable members of our team at the Northshore Recovery High School. Some means of communication with parents/guardians may include continual check-ins, written progress reports, report cards, parent meetings, phone calls, home visits and yearly team meetings (if applicable). We encourage parents to contact us with any pertinent information regarding their child. This may include medication changes, changes in family dynamics or other school/home issues.

Parents/guardians are also encouraged to be in contact with their student's team to get updates, address concerns or simply discuss their progress. We believe ongoing communication is vital to the success of NRHS students.

We have parent/guardian nights throughout the year with the entire staff in attendance. They are typically organized after the release of grade reports. We encourage all parents/guardians to attend to receive updated progress being made by your student. Notices are sent home in the weeks prior to the planned events. Additional parent programs may be held, including Open-Mic Nights, Art Shows, Talent Shows, dances and other events. All students are encouraged to attend as long as they are not under the influence of any mind altering substance.

### **Complaints**

In the event that a student or a parent has a complaint about some aspect of our school program, the first procedure would be to discuss the issue with the student's teacher or counselor and attempt to reach a resolution. If the problem has not been resolved satisfactorily, the Program Principal or Clinical Director should be contacted to assist in finding a solution. In the event that the issue is not resolved in a satisfactory manner through communications and/or meetings with NRHS staff and the Program Principal, a meeting may be requested with the Executive Director of NEC.

### **Internet Use Policies**

Connecting to the Internet expands our students' access to resources, information, collaboration and innovation. We hope to utilize these resources to assist students in achieving curriculum goals and outcomes.

It is important to note that the Internet is an open system that contains offensive material and may only be used under faculty supervision. However, as faculty members are not able to monitor student use at every moment, we expect students to become responsible users.

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. Students are expected to follow the user guidelines, as well as those given orally by the staff and to demonstrate ethical behavior that is of the highest order in using the Internet.

For students to use the Internet, they must obtain parental permission through the use of the form found in our parent permission packet.

## **USER GUIDELINES**

1. Students' use of the Internet must be in support of education and research consistent with the objectives of the Northshore Recovery High School/STAR Program.
2. Students may not post personal information such as their home address, telephone number or the name and location of their school without teacher permission.
3. Students are prohibited from making prejudicial, harassing, threatening, obscene or hateful remarks and other anti-social behavior.
4. Students are prohibited from using the Internet to access or process pornographic material, inappropriate text files, information that advocates illegal acts or information that lacks any educational value.
5. Students should immediately tell a teacher or other school employee about any material that you feel is not appropriate or that makes you feel uncomfortable.
6. Students should be aware that no communications are guaranteed to be private. Internet use is monitored. Illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
7. Students should note that plagiarism is the taking of material created by others and presenting it as if it were one's own. It will not be acceptable to plagiarize material from the Internet.
8. Students should note that all communications and information accessible via the Internet should be assumed to be private property.
9. Students may not use the Internet for commercial purposes, product advertisement or political lobbying. Products or services may not be purchased or offered. The students and his/her parents will be responsible for any liabilities stemming from such unauthorized uses of the Internet.
10. Students may not use the Internet for illegal purposes or for the support of illegal activities.
11. Cyber bullying is prohibited, especially with the use of computers or electronic devices that are school property. Please see policies with regard to cyber bullying for more information.
12. Student use of the Internet must not serve to disrupt its use by other individuals or connecting networks.
13. Students' passwords are confidential. All passwords shall be protected by the user and not shared or displayed. Individual users shall, at all times, be responsible for the proper use of accounts issued in their name.
14. Students who violate district policy or administrative procedures will be subject to suspension or termination of system/network privileges and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and/or prosecution.

## Student Handbook Signature Page

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I have read and understand all the information provided to me in the Northshore Recovery High School Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Parent/Guardian:**

*I have read the Northshore Recovery High School Handbook with my student and intend to enforce it, to the best of my ability.*

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student:**

*I have read the Northshore Recovery High School Handbook and intend to follow it on a daily basis.*

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

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