WELCOME
We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you as a West Branch student. Our schools have a wide variety of instructional programs and student activities. Please take advantage of the numerous opportunities available.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
ACADEMIC PROBLEMS
ATTENDANCE
ABSENCE AND ATTENDANCE
ABSENCE POLICY
ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL AND HOME ROOM
DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL
EXCUSAL FROM SCHOOL
REASONS FOR ABSENCE
TARDINESS TO CLASS
TARDINESS TO SCHOOL
TRUANCY
VACATIONS
WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL
BUS TRANSPORTATION
CAPETERIA AND LUNCH PROCEDURES
CHEATING
CHEMICAL ABUSE
COLLEGE VISITATION
CONDUCT CODE
DISCIPLINE
DETENTION
SATURDAY SCHOOL
IN - SCHOOL SUSPENSION
SUSPENSION
EXPULSION/APPEAL
REMOVAL OF A DANGEROUS STUDENT
RESPECT FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEES
ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY
DANCES
DISPENSARY PROCEDURES
DRESS CODE
DRIVERS
EIGHTEEN YEAR OLD STATUS
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT
ELIGIBILITY - ATHLETIC AND EXTRA CURRICULAR
EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION
FIELD TRIPS
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES
HALL TRAFFIC AND PASSES
HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING
HAZING POLICY
HEALTH
HONOR ROLL
LIBRARY PROCEDURES
LOCKERS
LOST AND FOUND
MEDICATION
MESSAGES TO STUDENTS
PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION
RESTROOMS
SAFETY
SCHEDULE CHANGES
SMOKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS / USE OF TOBACCO
TECHNOLOGY
VISITORS
WEST BRANCH GRADING SCALE
WEST BRANCH START TIMES
WEST BRANCH STUDENT HANDBOOK SIGN OFF
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Teachers and staff strive to motivate and encourage students to learn and excel to their maximum potential. Intervention is implemented to support and enrich all students. Open communication is essential among all who are involved with the education of students.

ACADEMIC PROBLEMS

Classroom teachers are available to help students with problems that may arise in regard to grades. Students should request help from their teachers when they feel they are having difficulties. It is the student’s responsibility to check with his/her teachers concerning required make-up work after returning to school from a period of absence. Mid-term progress reports will be sent home with students at the middle of each grading period.

ATTENDANCE:

ABSENCE AND ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

1. Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds after they arrive at school unless the office grants permission.
2. Students who need to leave school during the day should bring to school a note addressed to the Principal and signed by a parent/guardian, stating the reason for leaving and the time the parent/guardian will pick up the child at the school office. If a child is to leave school by means other than the school bus or the parents’ automobile, the parent/guardian must grant permission. The parent/guardian picking up the child must come to the main office and sign the child out of school, except at the High School where students may sign themselves out as long as an excuse note has been presented.
3. The parent/guardian of any student that is absent is required to notify the school by phone before 10:00 am on the day of the absence. An answering machine will record your message 24 hours a day. The school will attempt to notify each parent who did not call their child off for the day. A written excuse signed by the parent/guardian of a student absent for all or part of a day must be submitted to the Office in compliance with the Missing Child Act. Failure to submit a written excuse within 48 hours of the absence will result in an unexcused absence. Please note that a written excuse does not guarantee an excused absence. See “Reasons for Absence” for acceptable reasons to be considered an excused absence. Students who are absent may not attend school activities that same night.
4. In the case of prolonged absence, the parent/guardian should contact the school office to make arrangements for picking up the child’s assignments and books.
5. After the tardy bell rings, all students must enter and exit the building through the school office.
6. Students who become ill or suffer an injury at school must report to the clinic/main office to be seen by the school nurse. If necessary, the nurse will make contact with the parent or guardian.
7. Up to eight written excuses from parents/guardians will be accepted as excused absences per school year. The ninth and subsequent written excuses from a parent/guardian will be considered unexcused. A signed doctor’s note, or other notification (vacation form, funeral, religious) will be required for any absence over eight to be considered excused.
8. For attendance purposes, the following guidelines will be in effect, a written excuse is required for all absences and tardies:

Elementary Schools:

a. Students who arrive at school after 8:55 a.m. and before 10:00 a.m. will be marked as Tardy.
b. In order for a student to accumulate a full day of attendance, he/she must be at school for a minimum of 5.5 hours. To accumulate a ½ day of attendance for the day, he/she must be at school for a minimum of 3 hours. Students who arrive to school between 8:56:9:59 a.m. will be counted tardy to school. Students who leave school between 2:20-3:20 p.m. will be counted as reverse tardy for the day. Consequences for accumulating tardies/reverse tardies are outlined on page 3.
c. Students who arrive after 12:20 p.m. will be marked as a full day absence.
d. A full day of attendance may be granted for any student who leaves school after 11:00 a.m. and returns by 1:00 p.m. A medical excuse is required upon return. Students who leave at any other time of the day and return within an hour and a half will not be counted as absent and a medical excuse is required upon return.

Middle School and High School:

a. Students who arrive at school after 8:50 a.m. will be counted as absent for the a.m.
b. A student must be present more than 1/2 of each class to be counted present for the entire class period.

State standards for Elementary and Secondary Schools establish minimum time allocations and requirements for all curricular offerings. The establishment of minimum time standards as basic requirements provides an implied measure of the hours necessary for credit or certification of completed coursework.

ABSENCE POLICY

Coursework must be made up by the student within a reasonable length of time (determined by the teacher in which case the teacher may issue credit). The student/parent is responsible for making all the necessary arrangements for make-up work.

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL AND HOME ROOM

Each student is assigned a homeroom where Attendance is taken daily. Upon arrival at school students are to go to their locker, the restroom if necessary, and then immediately to their homeroom. Students are not permitted to loiter in the halls prior to the homeroom. Note: 2nd Period at the High School is considered homeroom.
DISMISSAL - END OF SCHOOL DAY
Students should walk directly to their assigned bus by way of the sidewalks. No running is permitted in the school, near the building, or in the bus loading area. These rules are for the protection and well-being of all students.

EXCUSE FROM ELEMMARY SCHOOLS
Students who must leave school during the school day must bring a note from home signed by the parent/guardian and present it to the Classroom Teacher before 9:00 a.m. Students who are excused to a doctor or dentist must return a doctor/dentist visit certificate to the Building Secretary. No student is allowed to leave school without office approval. Written verification will be required from the doctor, dentist, or place of appointment for the time away from school to be excused. Students are discouraged from leaving the building during school hours.

EXCUSE FROM WEST BRANCH MIDDLE SCHOOL
Students who must leave school during the school day must bring a note from home signed by the parent or guardian and present it to their homeroom teacher during homeroom. Students will be issued a building pass excusing them from class at the requested time. At that time, the student should come to the office to meet the person they are leaving with and sign out. Students who are excused to a doctor or dentist must return a doctor/dentist visit certificate upon their return. If the student returns during the school day, they should report to the office to sign in and a pass will be issued to admit the student to class. No student is allowed to leave school without office approval.

EXCUSE FROM HIGH SCHOOL
Students who must leave school during the school day must bring a note from home signed by the parent or guardian and present it along with the student planner to the Attendance Office before 7:35 a.m. (even if you are 18 years old). The planner will be stamped and signed to dismiss the student at the noted time. Students who are excused to a doctor or dentist must return a doctor/dentist visit certificate to the Attendance Office. No student is allowed to leave school without office approval and must sign out. During exam days, students are required to be present the entire scheduled day. Appointments are not to be scheduled during this time.
A matter of convenience is not to be interpreted as an emergency situation. Students will not be excused from school by a phone call during the course of the day, unless it is an emergency. Written verification will be required from the doctor, dentist, or place of appointment for the time away from school to be excused. Students are discouraged from leaving the building during school hours. Excessive abuse may result in an office referral.

REASON FOR ABSENCE
Section 3321.191 of the Ohio Revised Code sets regulations governing excuses for past absence from school and they are as follows:
- personal illness
- illness in the family
- quarantine of the home
- death of a relative
- homework due to absence of parents or guardians
- observance of religious holidays
- emergency or set of circumstances which in the judgment of the school constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence from school.

All other reasons are considered unexcused absences.
Students with unexcused absences will not be permitted to make up missed work. All medical or written excuses to cover absenteeism must be turned in to the school within 48 hours of your absence.

TARDINESS TO CLASS FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
All students are expected to be in their seats when the bell sounds. Do not report to the office for a late pass to class.

TARDINESS TO SCHOOL
After 7:35 a.m. for Middle School and High School all students tardy to school must sign in at the main office upon their arrival. A written excuse will be required. Additional tardiness will result in the following:
6 tardies - 1 detention
9 tardies - Saturday School
12 tardies - In-school suspension and referral to the Absence Intervention Team

After 8:55 a.m. for Elementary School, all students tardy to school must sign in at the main office upon their arrival. A written excuse will be required. Additional tardiness will result in the following:
6 tardies - parent meeting
9 tardies - 1 morning detentions (45 minutes)
12 tardies - 2 morning detentions (45 minutes each)
15 tardies - Referral to Absence Intervention Team
TRUANCY

Truancy is an unexcused absence/tardy from school. Habitual Truancy is defined as being absent 30 or more consecutive hours in one month without a legitimate excuse; 42 or more hours in one month without a legitimate excuse; or 72 or more hours in one school year without a legitimate excuse. Excessive absence is defined as absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse; 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse.

When habitually truant, the district will select members of the absence intervention team and make three meaningful attempts to secure the guardian's participation on the absence intervention team within seven days of the triggering absence. Within 10 days of the triggering absence, the student will be assigned to the selected intervention team. Within 14 days after the assignment of the team, the district will develop the student's absence intervention plan. If the student does not make progress on the plan or continues to be excessively absent, the district will file a complaint in juvenile court after 61 days.

When a student is excessively absent from school, the district will notify the student's guardians in writing within seven days of the triggering absence, create an absence intervention plan, and the student and family may be referred to community resources.

West Branch Local Schools will hold mandatory attendance meetings. The gathering is an attempt to build awareness and reduce parent referrals to the courts. It is the responsibility of the parent to adhere to the attendance policy and attend scheduled attendance meetings. Failure to respond and attend may be viewed negatively by the courts in the event referrals are made.

VACATIONS

Vaccations will only be approved as long as the child has not met the threshold. Students will not be excused for vacation unless their parents or guardian accompany them. This rule does not change when a student becomes 18. Students must arrange with the Principal one week in advance for all excused vacations. Students must make arrangements with their teachers for all make up work. If a vacation is not properly approved, the absence will be unexcused. Vacation forms can be picked up in the main office.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

Students and/or parents must notify the office of the Principal 48 hours in advance of leaving the school district. The student must initiate such a withdrawal from school by written verification 24 hours in advance of withdrawal, from the parents or guardian. This information should be forwarded to the office of the Principal. The student will receive a withdrawal form, which will be taken to all classes for a teacher signature. This form indicates the student has turned in all books and owes no fees. This withdrawal form is then to be returned to the main office at the end of the school day. If the student moves and owes fines or fees at West Branch School, their records will not be forwarded until said obligations are fulfilled.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

School bus transportation is a privilege, not an absolute right. The school bus driver is charged with the responsibility of transporting students safely to and from school. Failure to obey the driver, acting in a fashion endangering other pupils, or distracting/harassing the driver or other students will result in loss of bus transportation. Drivers may only transport students to and from their assigned bus stop. Students will not be permitted to ride a bus other than the one to which they are assigned.

Section 3301.83.08 of the Ohio Revised Code states Pupil Management Policies that include…
a. The School bus driver's authority and/or responsibility to maintain control of the pupils
b. The pupil's right to "due process" as provided for by the policies and procedures of the educating agency.
c. Pupil management and safety instruction policies shall include the following:

1. Pupils shall arrive at the bus stop before the bus is scheduled to arrive
2. Pupils must wait in a location clear of traffic and away from the bus stops.
3. Behavior at the school bus stop must not threaten life, limb, or property of any individual
4. Pupils must go directly to an available or assigned seat so the bus may safely resume motion.
5. Pupils must remain seated keeping aisles and exits clear.
6. Pupils must observe classroom conduct and obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
7. Pupils must not use profane language.
8. Pupils must refrain from eating and drinking on the bus except as required for medical reasons.
9. Pupils must not use tobacco on the bus.
10. Pupils must not have alcohol or drugs in their possession on the bus except for prescription medication required for a student.
11. Pupils must not throw or pass objects on, from, or into the bus.
12. Pupils may carry on the bus only objects that can be held in their laps (see paragraph (J) of Rule 3301.83.20 of the Administrative Code.)
13. Pupils must leave or board the bus at locations to which they have been assigned unless they have parental and administrative authorizations to do otherwise.
14. Pupils must not put head or arms out of the bus windows.
15. Guidelines will be formulated for the use and storage of equipment and other means of assistance required by preschool and special needs children.

16. Drivers and bus aides must have access to appropriate information about the child to the degree that such information might affect safe transportation and medical well-being. This information must be available in the vehicle or readily accessible in the transportation office. All such information is strictly confidential.

d. Suspension, expulsion, or immediate removal from bus
   1. The Superintendent or superintendent designees, or principals are authorized to suspend or remove pupils from school bus riding privileges.
   2. Immediate removal of a pupil from transportation is authorized. A pupil immediately removed from transportation must be given notice as soon as practical of a hearing which must be held within seventy-two hours of the removal. The notice shall also include the reason for removal. Immediate removal is authorized when the pupil’s presence poses a danger to persons or property or a threat to the safe operation of the school bus. Length of time removed from ridership shall be in accordance with policies of the school bus owner.
   3. School bus drivers shall report in writing to the appropriate administrator all rule violations or conduct that justifies immediate removal, suspension, or expulsions.
   4. Suspension or immediate removal of preschool and special needs children may require a modification of the above procedures and shall be accomplished in accordance with the law.

Bus Routes
   Each student will be assigned one pick up location and one drop off location.

Late Bus
   Students who arrive on a late bus are to report directly to the office so that necessary corrections in the absence report can be made. If the homeroom period is not over, directions will be given by hall duty teachers or the office concerning the procedure to be followed.

CAFEeteria AND LUNCH PROCEDURES
   The school operates a cafeteria for all students to eat lunch. Students who bring their lunches must also eat in the cafeteria. Periods are designated for lunch. Students must remain in the cafeteria unless given permission to leave. Classes are in session throughout the school, thus hall traffic must be limited. No food or drink (with the exception of water) is to be carried from the cafeteria. Students are not permitted to use the pop machines during the lunch periods. Students are not permitted to leave school grounds at this time or any other time during the lunch periods. Deliveries are not permitted.

CHEATING
   Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated (test, quizzes, homework, etc.). A first offense will result in an “F” for the work in question. Parents and the administration will be notified of the incident. A second offense will result in a parent conference and failure for the nine weeks in the subject in which the offense occurred.

CHEMICAL ABUSE
   PHILOSOPHY
   All West Branch employees and Board of Education recognize that the use, and/or misuse, of drugs, alcohol, counterfeit drugs, inhalants, or other chemical substances represent a serious problem for the student, family, school, and community.

STATEMENT OF POLICY
   The possession, consumption, evidence of consumption, being under the influence of, transmission, sale, concealment, and solicitation of others in the use of alcoholic beverages, drugs of abuse, controlled substances, unauthorized drugs or substances purposed to be such, and instruments or paraphernalia for their use are prohibited.

   This rule is in effect during school, at any school sponsored events on school grounds, on a school bus or at a bus stop, in transit to or from school, at any other time when the school is being used by any school group, and off of the school grounds at any school sponsored activity, event, or function.

PROCEDURE
   A. First Offense.
      1. The Principal may suspend for a period of up to 10 days and recommend expulsion to the Superintendent.
      2. Information and/or charges may be filed with the appropriate authorities.
      3. The suspensions or expulsion may be modified upon presentation of evidence to the Superintendent or Principal that the following procedures (A, B, and C) have been followed:
         A) The student and parent/guardian agree for the student to be evaluated, at their expense, by a trained chemical dependency professional for a professional opinion concerning the degree of use/misuse/addiction. (The school will make a list of acceptable agencies and/or physicians available to the parent/guardian).
         B) The contracted agency or office will notify the Principal or his designee that the client has made contact and is willing to comply with the appropriate treatment process.
         C) The student and parent/guardian must enter into and complete a behavior contract with the Principal or his designee that will place additional behavioral demands on the student during the course of the suspension/expulsion. Note: these procedures outlined in item three do not pertain to instances of sale or distribution of drugs or alcohol.

5
4. If the requirements in #3 A, B, and C are met, the suspension/expulsion will be expunged from the student’s record at the end of the semester.

5. If at any time during the semester that the suspension/expulsion has been modified the student, in the opinion of the school, is not in compliance with the action required in #3 A, B, and C, the suspension/expulsion will be reinstated.

B. Second Offense

1. The Principal shall suspend the student for a period not to exceed ten (10) days and may recommend expulsion to the Superintendent.

2. Information and/or charges may be filed with the appropriate authorities.

3. Upon return to school the student shall participate in designated support groups.

SUPPLYING FOR SALE OF CHEMICAL (DRUGS/ALCOHOL)

A. Supplying any drug or alcohol for sale will result in a ten (10) day suspension and a recommendation for expulsion will be sent to the Superintendent.

B. Charges will be filed with the appropriate authorities.

C. First Offense Procedures, 3 A, B, and C above do not apply in cases of sale or distribution.

VOLUNTEERING INFORMATION

A. If a student is experiencing a drug/alcohol problem and seeks out the help of any staff member, or if student volunteers information, that information will not be used against him/her in any disciplinary action provided the information for assistance occurs prior to any disciplinary proceedings.

Note: Prescription Drugs

Use of a drug authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician shall not be considered in violation of the rule so long as its use is only by the person for whom the prescription was written, is dispensed in conformance with school procedures and its use as per the instructions of the prescribing doctor.

COLLEGE VISITATION

Students are urged to make college visits during the summer break or other school vacations. However, when necessary a college visitation form may be obtained from a counselor and approved before a student visits a college. Only seniors and second semester juniors may be approved. The limit for such days is three.

CONDUCT CODE:

The purpose of this code is to provide guidelines and procedures governing student conduct and discipline in the West Branch Schools. This code has been adopted in compliance with the intent and procedures mandated by Ohio H. B. 421 to insure fair and equitable handling of suspension, expulsion and removal cases. The types of misconduct for which a pupil may be suspended, expelled, or removed from school are enumerated. Students in the school system have the responsibility to act in such a way that does not interfere with the rights or the educational opportunity afforded to all students.

Not all acts of misconduct can be listed. Misconduct will result in disciplinary action that could come in the form of detention, Saturday School, suspension, expulsion, and removal from school. Areas that can be used as general guidelines for defining misconduct are:

A) Damage and/or vandalism to public or private property including buildings, grounds, buses, premises, and property.

B) Theft of public school property and/or theft of private property at curricular or extra-curricular functions or at locations unrelated to the school if a school employee is affected.

C) Assault, threats, intimidation, harassment, bullying or causing or attempting to cause physical injury or harm to any student, teacher, or any other person or disruption of the educational process. (Assaults or threats directed toward school employees, even when not occurring on school property or at a school event, are punishable under Ohio law.)

D) Possession, transmission, or use of any object or instrument that can be considered a weapon capable of inflicting bodily harm or violence, including fireworks and explosives.

E) The use of profane, indecent, obscene, or disrespectful language, verbal or written, including the use of obscene gestures, signs, pictures, or any publications toward or in description of any student, teacher, or any other person.

F) Insubordination or failure to comply promptly with the directions of teachers, student teachers, aides, bus drivers, Principals, or other school personnel in a position of authority and/or responsibility at both curricular and extra-curricular activities. Teachers are authorized to make rules that apply to their classes, study halls, and extra-curricular activities under their jurisdiction.

G) Gambling/card playing on school premises.

H) Smoking, possession, the use of tobacco in any form (snuff included), E-cigarettes, vapor products, and lighters/matches are prohibited in school buildings, on school grounds, school buses, and at any school sponsored activity.

I) Possession, consumption, transmission, sale, concealment, and solicitation of others in the use of alcoholic beverages, drugs of abuse, controlled substances, unauthorized drugs or substances purported to be such and instruments or paraphernalia for their use. Examples of drugs of abuse include, but are not limited to, narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, glue, cocaine, and other substances that could modify behavior. Unauthorized drugs are those prescription drugs which are not authorized by medical prescription from a licensed physician for the individual consuming them.

J) Loitering at any time on school grounds, in buildings, in automobiles, on school property, or adjacent properties.
K) Failure to comply with the Grooming and Dress Policy.
L) Fighting, inciting a fight, and/or complicity to a fight/physical aggression, among students while on school property, including buses or at any school-sponsored activity.
M) Falsification of signatures (parent/guardian, school officials, or any other person) on any correspondence directed to the school or within the school operation. Falsification of data, dates, grades, addresses on school forms.
N) Disruption of the school’s operation by any act or report which indicates a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of an individual student, student body or staff.
O) Failure to comply with the attendance laws of the State of Ohio and the rules of the school district.
P) Truancy and/or repeated tardiness to school and/or classes. Students are not permitted to leave the school building without following protocol as stated in the attendance policy.
Q) Persistent disobedience and repeated violations of this code and the rules of this school.-
R) Students are not permitted to allow outside access to the building.
S) Violation of the Technology Policy.

Violations of these rules will result in disciplinary action against the offender(s). The administrative staff will determine the penalty for violations of these rules. Disciplinary action can include counseling, parental conferences, assignment of additional work, rearrangement of class schedules, pre- or post-school detention, Saturday School, suspension both in and out of school (to a maximum of ten days per offense) and expulsion from school. The use of these discipline measures within the school system does not preclude the referral of offenders to the proper juvenile and adult law enforcement agencies.

DISCIPLINE
Students are expected to obey school rules and the directions of teachers and other school staff. Most discipline problems will be handled directly by the classroom teacher. However, a pupil who presents a major problem will be referred to the Principal. Discipline may take the form of detention, restriction of privileges, a parent conference, Saturday school, suspension from class or school or expulsion from school in severe cases. WBHS & WBMS implement a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports plan to help students manage their behavior.

WBMS REWARDS
Students who demonstrate excellent behavior worthy of commendation may receive a green Merit Ticket from a teacher or staff member. The student will take the Merit Ticket to the cafeteria during lunch to receive a slushy drink or Warrior Item. The P.I.E. group has purchased a slushy machine for this purpose. Reward activities will be available quarterly for those students that demonstrate positive behavior by receiving less than 2 discipline points in a grading period. The culminating grade level field trips (or other special reward day activities) at the end of the year will be based on the total number of discipline points for the year. All students with less than 6 accumulative discipline points will be eligible to attend this full day long reward activity.

WBMS Discipline Points
Students will be excluded from the quarterly reward activity for earning two or more points in a nine week grading period. Students will be excluded from the year-end reward trip/activity for earning six or more discipline points during the year.

Detention = 1 point
Saturday School = 2 points
In or Out Suspension (up to 3 days) = 3 points
In or Out Suspension (in excess of 3 days) = 6 points
Bus Suspension = 2 points

DETENTION
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Rewards and Consequences will be assigned in accordance with the district-wide Positive Behavior System—"The Warrior Way." Details of this system are distributed to students at the beginning of their year at WB.
MIDDLE SCHOOL: Students will be issued a detention for negative behavior or 3 missing Homework Assignments. A Detention Notification Form will be sent home to parents when a student receives a detention. Detentions are issued for a violation listed in the code of conduct for students. Some examples of violations are profanity, insubordination, no homework, dress code, etc. Lunch detention may be assigned for infractions.
HIGH SCHOOL: When detention is assigned, the student will be made aware of the reason for the detention as well as the date on which it is to be served. Assigned detentions are recorded. Detentions will be held in the office during the week from 6:50-7:30 a.m. and 2:45-3:25 p.m. Transportation is the responsibility of the student and arrangements must be made in advance. Students will be allowed to reschedule a detention if an emergency prevents them from serving a detention at the scheduled time. All school rules are in effect during detention.

SATURDAY SCHOOL
Sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. Students are responsible to bring their own materials and to be on task during the entire period. Failure to attend the assigned Saturday school will result in additional disciplinary action.
IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

In-school Suspension will not exceed 10 school days. Students assigned to In-school Suspension will report to homeroom for attendance purposes. After homeroom, students will report to the specified room. Students will be responsible for completing all assigned work. Students are not permitted to talk or sleep. Lunch will be eaten in the In-school Suspension room. Failure to abide by the rules will result in additional disciplinary action. Students serving In-school Suspension may practice and/or participate in extra-curricular programs during the term of the suspension.

SUSPENSION

The Superintendent or the Principal may suspend a student from school for disciplinary reasons outlined in the student code of conduct. No period of suspension will be for more than 10 days.

The Superintendent may require a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of a suspension. The Board may adopt guidelines to permit the Superintendent to impose a community service requirement beyond the end of the school year in lieu of applying the suspension into the following school year. The guidelines listed below will be followed for all suspensions, including those of in-school suspension:

1) The student will be informed in writing of the reasons for the potential suspension.
2) The student will be provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and explain their actions.
3) An attempt will be made to notify parents or guardians by telephone if a suspension is issued.
4) Within 24 hours, a letter will be sent to the parent or guardian stating the specific reasons for the suspension and including notice of their right to appeal such action.
5) Notice of this suspension will be sent to the Superintendent, the Treasurer, and the Student’s school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record).
6) If the offense is one for which a school district may seek Permanent Exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.
7) Due process procedures, outlined above, do not include “in-school” suspensions. West Branch students under out of school suspension are not permitted to be on West Branch school property or to take part in or attend curricular or extra-curricular activities.
8) Students will not be permitted to make-up assignments or assessments while under suspension.

APPEAL PROCEDURE FOR SUSPENSION

Should a student who is 18 or older or a student’s parent(s) or guardian(s) choose to appeal the suspension, he must do so within 5 days of the notice of suspension. The procedure for such will be provided in regulations approved by the Board. A verbatim record of the hearing will be kept. The hearing may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent or guardian. The procedure to pursue such appeal will be governed by board policy. During the appeal, the student will not be permitted to attend school.

EXPULSION

RECOMMENDATION FOR EXPULSION MAY BE MADE FOR ANY SERIOUS INFRACTION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT. ALSO, THOSE STUDENTS WHO ACCUMULATE FOUR SUSPENSIONS FOR ANY REASON MAY BE RECOMMENDED FOR EXPULSION.

1. Only the Superintendent (or his designee during extended absence of the Superintendent) may expel.
2. The period of expulsion cannot exceed 80 school days, except in the case of violation of the board’s dangerous weapons policy or bomb threats when a one (1) calendar year expulsion may be imposed.
3. The Superintendent or his designee must give the pupil and his/her parents written notice of the intention and reason to expel the student. The pupil and parent or representative have the opportunity to appear on request before the Superintendent or his designee to challenge the action or to otherwise explain the pupil’s actions. The administrator cannot compel such hearing in the event the pupil and parent choose not to have a hearing.
4. The notice is to state the time and place to appear which must not be less than three days, or later than five days after the notice is given.
5. If the Superintendent grants an extension of time, he will notify all parties of the time and place.
6. The Superintendent will notify the parent and the Treasurer in writing within 24 hours.

APPEAL PROCEDURE FOR EXPULSION

1. A pupil or his/her parents may appeal the expulsion by the Superintendent to the Board. Such pupil or his/her parents may be represented and shall be granted a hearing before the Board of Education.
2. A verbatim (word for word) record is required.
3. No particular procedure for the hearing to follow is required.
4. Formal action to affirm, vacate, or modify the disciplinary action on the appeal may only be taken in “public” session.
5. The decision of the Board is further appealable to the Court of Common Pleas.
REMOVAL OF A DANGEROUS STUDENT
1. If a pupil’s presence at a school sponsored event poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process or school function, the Superintendent, Principal, or Assistant Principal may remove the student from the premises.
2. A teacher may remove a student from curricular or extra-curricular activities under his/her supervision, but not from premises.
3. A due process hearing must be held within 72 hours after the removal.
   a) Written notice of the hearing and the reason for the removal and any intended disciplinary action must be given to the pupil as soon as possible prior to the hearing. The pupil must have the opportunity to appear at the informal hearing before the Principal, Assistant Principal, Superintendent, or his designee, and the right to challenge the reason(s) for the intended suspension or otherwise explain his/her actions.
   b) The person who ordered or requested the removal must be at the hearing.
   c) Within 24 hours of the decision to suspend or expel, the parent or custodian of the pupil and the Clerk of the Board will be notified in writing. The notice includes the right of the pupil OR parent to appeal to the Board of Education or designee, the right to be represented at the appeal and to request the hearing on appeal be held in executive session.
4. If the Superintendent or Principal reinstates a pupil prior to the hearing for emergency removal, the teacher may demand and shall be given written reasons for the reinstatement. The teacher cannot refuse to reinstate.
5. In an emergency removal, a pupil can be kept from class up to 24 hours or until the matter of his misconduct is disposed of either by reinstatement, suspension, or expulsion whereby due process for such will be followed.

RESPECT FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEES
The Board of Education believes strongly that students should at all times display good standards of decent behavior and respect those individuals who are employed by the Board of Education. Students should also respect the property and the rights of school employees. If a student, at any time, demonstrates a disrespect for the property or person of a school employee, the Board of Education directs the Principal, Assistant Principal, Superintendent, or the Superintendent’s designee to assign the following punishment: Suspension from school not to exceed ten days, expulsion from school for the remaining portion of the semester, or any combination of suspension and expulsion. Information concerning the offense will be given to the police for possible prosecution or rehabilitation.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY
Students are expected to conduct themselves in such a way that they respect and consider the rights of others. Students of the District must conform to school regulations and accept directions from authorized school personnel. The Board has “zero tolerance” of violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students.
A student who fails to comply with established school rules or with any reasonable request made by school personnel on school property and/or at school-related events is subject to approved student discipline regulations. The Superintendent/designee develops regulations that establish strategies ranging from prevention to intervention to address student misbehavior.
Students and parents annually receive, at the beginning of the school year or upon entering during the year, written information on the rules and regulations to which they are subject while in school or participating in any school-related activity or event. The information includes the types of conduct which are subject to suspension or expulsion from school or other forms of disciplinary action. The Board directs the administration to make all students aware of the student code of conduct and the fact that any violations of the student code of conduct are punishable.
If a student violates this policy or the code of conduct, school personnel, students or parents should report the student to the appropriate Principal. The administration cooperates in any prosecution pursuant to the criminal laws of the State of Ohio and local ordinances.
The Student Code of Conduct is available for students/parents and is posted in a central location within each building.

DANCES
High School: Dances are for West Branch High School students and their invited guests. Permission slips must be approved by a WB Administrator. The school dress code and student code of conduct are in effect. Students over the age of 20 may not attend. Freshman students cannot attend the Prom. Sophomore students may only go to Prom if invited by a Junior or Senior.
Middle School: The Middle School has many dances throughout the year. These dances are only for West Branch Middle School students--no visitors or guests. The dances will have chaperones present.

DISPENSARY PROCEDURES
The dispensary is not equipped to handle neither long-term illness nor large numbers of students. Therefore, students should use the dispensary for one period only. If a student is unable to return to class, he/she should obtain the Principal’s permission to go home. Before a student can be sent home, the parent or guardian must be contacted and consent obtained. A child will not be permitted to walk home or be taken home by another student or a brother or sister. The school is unable to provide transportation. Transportation in these cases is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Students must first obtain a pass from their classroom or study hall teacher before reporting to the dispensary for admission.
DRESS CODE

The philosophy governing the dress and grooming practices for the students in the West Branch School District is based simply upon the principles of health, personal cleanliness and hygiene, good grooming, proper attire, and parental responsibility for their child/children’s appearance. The citizens of the West Branch community take pride in the young men and women who attend their schools and are concerned about their appearance and well-being. Each parent is ultimately responsible for the action, appearance, and safety of his/her child. As new trends in fashion or dress occur, the District will review the changing standards of the community. Extremism will not be accepted and if that condition or status is reached in any aspect of the school, the action necessary to correct or alleviate that situation will be taken. Action will be taken according to the following guidelines:

1) Clothing containing pictures and slogans which are suggestive (stated or implied), provocative, obscene, negative, or contains reference to tobacco, alcohol, drugs or are questionable in nature are unacceptable.

2) Students should be clean-shaven with moustaches neatly trimmed. Sideburns may not extend past the earlobes. Beards are not permitted. Coaches may set their own guidelines concerning facial hair.

3) Hair should be clean, combed, and worn in a fashion that does not hinder sight. No unnatural hair coloring is permitted.

4) Shorts may be worn during the entire school year.

5) Low cut tops, sheer and/or fishnet clothing, tank tops, strapped undershirts and improperly fitted clothing, cut-offs, pajama attire, sanitary shorts, spandex biker shorts are not proper-school attire. No bare midriff shirts will be allowed. Shoulders must be covered. Torn or ripped clothes, or holes in the clothes are not appropriate.

6) Skirts, shorts, and pants must be of contemporary length; extremes in length (short or long) will be unacceptable. A rule of thumb signifying length is fingertip length or longer when standing with your hands to your side. Jeans, slacks, and shorts must be secured at the waist so that undergarments are covered.

7) Footwear is required at all school activities for all students.

8) Hats/hoods/bandanas/ head coverings are not to be worn in the building at any time. The only exception to this rule will be on special designated days.

9) Except for pierced ears, students may not display piercings on the face, tongue or other visible areas of the body during regular school hours. Gauges in the ears are not permitted.

10) Jackets/coats/book bags are to be put in your locker upon arrival at school. The mentioned items shall remain in your locker for the day.

11) Regulations for dress and grooming for individual classrooms or activities will be governed by the person in charge of the activities under the direction of the Principal.

12) It is within the providence of the building Principal to interpret appropriateness in all instances. The administration will be responsible for determining extremes in styles and the determination of what is in compliance with or noncompliance with the dress and grooming code.

Homecoming and Prom Dress Code:

- Clothing must be of contemporary length. Extremes in length (short or long) or exposures will be unacceptable.
- No bare midriffs.
- No completely backless dresses. Cut out designs and Vs are acceptable.
- No extremely tight or revealing clothing.
- A tuxedo/suit must be worn to the prom and dress shoes. Casual shoes are acceptable for Homecoming. Athletic shoes are not acceptable under any circumstance.
- All attire must be tasteful.
- The administration will determine what is in compliance for appropriateness. See an administrator if you have questions about the dress code and expectations before purchasing outfits.

DRIVERS

Students who choose to drive to school must be licensed and show proof of insurance in order to receive a parking permit. A fee will be charged for the permit and it must be displayed while parked on school property. Students driving and parking in school lots do so at their own risk. Cars are not to be visited or moved during the school day. Student parking is confined to the north lot. Permits may be revoked for reckless operation, illegal parking, or other acts violating the student handbook. School authorities may search the person or property, including vehicles of a student, with or without consent, upon reasonable suspicion of a violation of law or school rules.

EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OLD STATUS

Eighteen-year-olds will be treated the same as all other students and be expected to conform to all school rules and regulations including previously stated attendance procedures. Should they decide not to do so, they may exercise their option to leave school.
Failure to abide by school rules will result in counseling and signing a letter of intent. If after signing the letter of intent, the student’s behavior, grades, or attendance doesn’t improve, he may be withdrawn from school. The administration has the right under extreme circumstances to withdraw the eighteen-year-old before the signing of the letter of intent.

**ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT**
Electronic devices are allowed at a teacher’s discretion. Otherwise all devices must be placed in the student’s locker in the off position. Misuse of a device will result in disciplinary action and confiscation. To learn more, please review the Acceptable Use Policy.

**ELIGIBILITY - ATHLETIC AND EXTRA CURRICULAR**
West Branch High School and Middle School are members of the Ohio High School Athletic Association and comply with all rules and regulations established by the Association. The eligibility standards of the OHSAA have been adopted by West Branch High School and Middle School. Knowing and following these standards will protect your athletic eligibility.

**HIGH SCHOOL:**
Do not change your schedule without first consulting with the Principal, athletic director, or guidance counselor to determine what effect it may have on your eligibility.

Eligibility for each grading period is determined by grades received by the preceding nine weeks. Semester and yearly averages have no effect on eligibility. You must be currently enrolled in school and have received passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses, or the equivalent, the immediately preceding nine weeks. You must also have a grade point average for the 9 weeks of at least 1.0. Summer school grades may not be used to substitute for failing grades received the final grading period of the regular school year or for lack of enough subjects taken the preceding grading period. If you have additional questions, see your guidance counselor or athletic director.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL:**
Rule 4-4-4 is written with regards to athletic eligibility and reads as follows: A student enrolling in the seventh grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grade 7 or 8 must be currently enrolled and must have enrolled in the schools immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in 5 of the subjects carried.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**
Extra-curricular activities are extensions of the school program and are subject to the same rules and behavioral expectations as curricular/instructional activities. All school rules apply during and beyond school hours while on school grounds, buses, in buildings, and while under school sponsored and/or supervised activities. A student is not a member of a team, organization, or activity until chosen for membership, or having qualified and been selected for such.

Suspension or expulsion from a squad or organization can occur for the following reasons:
1. Failure to meet academic standards.
2. Failure to follow the directions of the coach or activity sponsor/supervisor.
3. Violation of training rules or the Athletic Code of Conduct.
4. Misconduct and repeated violations of school rules and/or organization rules.
5. Insubordination.

Suspension or expulsion from extra-curricular activities, following review by the Principal or Superintendent is final and not subject to appeal.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION**
Students must be in attendance a minimum of 3 ½ hours of the school day to be eligible to participate in an extra-curricular activity that day. This includes both practice and contests. Exceptions will be made for school-sponsored activities, college visitations and extenuating circumstances with the approval of the administration.

**FIELD TRIPS**
Students who have accumulated an excessive number of absences, have failing grades, and/or have excessive incomplete assignments, as determined by the administration, will not be permitted to attend field trips/school activities.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**
Twenty-one (21) units of credit are required for graduation. 2019 Graduates must accumulate 18 points or more on State Assessments in order to graduate. See a counselor for other options or for more information. Students must also meet the core curriculum requirements.

**GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES**
School counselors help the student in understanding himself, solving personal problems, choosing a career, and planning his education. The guidance programs result in:
1) more students continuing education after high school through colleges, business, trade and technical schools, on-the-job and apprentice training, 2) better school course planning with fewer course changes and failures, 3) growth in students’ self-understanding and self-acceptance.
How can I see my Counselor? Students will find counselor sign-up sheets in the guidance office. You may sign up, giving your name, reason, period of study halls, and room number. The student will be called by his counselor as soon as possible. Students can best be served if we follow this procedure. Only in an extreme emergency or situation should a student expect to see a counselor immediately.

HALL TRAFFIC AND PASSES
Traffic in the hallways requires certain rules and common courtesy. Students should keep to the right side of the hallway in the direction in which they are moving. No pushing or shoving in the halls. The hallway is not a place for a social conference; therefore, please keep traffic moving.

No student should be in the hallway during class time without permission. At the high school, a clipboard pass is used. Teachers will not honor passes unless the following steps are followed:
1. Must obtain a clipboard pass from a teacher.
2. Must be completely filled out including the date, name, destination and time.
3. Pass must be authorized by a teacher.
4. The clipboard pass must accompany the student.

NOTE: Students wanting a pass for another period will use their handbook pass filled out by a teacher. This is limited to two (2) times a day.

HARASSMENT, ANTI-INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
Harassment, intimidation, or bullying behavior by any student/school personnel in the West Branch Local School District is strictly prohibited, and such conduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion from school.

“Harassment, intimidation, or bullying”, in accordance with Ohio law, means any intentional written, verbal, graphic or physical acts including electronically transmitted acts i.e. Internet, cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), or wireless hand held devices, either overt or covert, by a student or group of students toward one or more students/school personnel with the intent to harass, intimidate, injure, threaten, ridicule or humiliate. Such behaviors are prohibited on or immediately adjacent to school grounds, at any school sponsored activity, on school provided transportation or at any official school bus stop that a reasonable person under the circumstances should know will have the effect of:
- Causing mental or physical harm to the other student/school personnel including placing an individual in reasonable fear of physical harm and/or damaging of students’ personal property; and
- Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student/school personnel.

Anyone who witnesses or suspects that a student or adult is being harassed, intimidated or bullied in any way should report it immediately to the building principal.

HAZING
It is the policy of the West Branch Board of Education and School District that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. No administrator, faculty member, or other employee of the school district shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing.

Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim to do any act of initiation onto any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

Administrators, faculty members, and all other employees of the school district shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events that might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, involved students shall be informed by the discovering school employee of the prohibition contained in this policy and shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent.

Administrators, faculty members, students, and all other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with Ohio Law.

HEALTH
Children attending public schools or nonpublic schools that meet state educational requirements must be immunized against Chicken Pox, Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, Rubella, Meningitis and Hepatitis B. Unless exempted from the immunization requirements, a child cannot be permitted to remain in school for more than 14 days unless the child presents written evidence satisfactory to the school of having received the required immunizations or being in the process of receiving the required immunizations. (R.C. 3313.671(A).)

All students entering Kindergarten will be required to have 2 Varicella (Chicken Pox) shots.

For most students their last Tetanus and Diphtheria shot was when they went to Kindergarten, they will be required to have this booster Tdap and Meningitis before entering Grade 7.

One dose of the Meningitis Vaccine is required before entering Grade 7 with a second dose required before entering Grade 12. However, if the first dose was not given prior to the 16th birthday, then only one dose is needed.

*For a complete listing of immunization requirements, visit the Ohio Department of Health website www.odh.ohio.gov

Vision and Hearing Screening: Throughout the year, vision and/or hearing screening will be done for students as recommended by the Ohio Department of Health.

Body Mass Index: Students in grades K, 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate in a BMI assessment.
HONOR ROLL FOR ELEMENTARY

Each nine weeks students who receive two A’s and nothing less than a B will be on the honor roll. All subjects are included. Students must have an O, S, or I in Art, Music, and Physical Education.

HONOR ROLL FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

Honor Roll will be determined by nine-week point averages. The following groups of students will be identified and communicated to the media for publication:

1. Students with a 4.00 (All-A’s) 2. Students with 3.75-3.99 (Honor) 3. Students with a 3.5-3.74 (Merit)

LIBRARY PROCEDURES FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

The capacity of the library is limited. Teachers reserve the right to use the library for classroom purposes. High School students in Study Hall wishing to use the library should report to study hall first. The study hall teacher may permit students to sign out to go to the library. Students needing to use the library for a specific class must have a pass from that teacher in their planner.

LOCKERS

All students at West Branch High School and Middle School will be assigned a locker in which you are expected to keep all books, coats, and book bags. Lockers are assigned to each student without charge and remain the property of the West Branch Board of Education. For your protection, it is best to keep your locker secured at all times. If you have any problems with your locker, fill out a locker concern form and return it to the office. Misuse or abuse of lockers may result in a fine being assessed or require you to clean the locker. Lockers and students themselves are liable to search if, in the opinion of the administration, such search is necessary for the protection of the students and for maintenance of an orderly school environment. Students in physical education classes at the high school will need to use locker room lockers. Students must bring their own lock from home to secure their gym locker. Do not bring large sums of money or articles of great value to school. NEVER leave money or valuables in the locker room lockers.

LOST AND FOUND

Any items found in the school will be placed in the lost and found location. After a reasonable period of time, unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

MEDICATION

Students may take medication only when it is properly distributed to them from office personnel. A school supplied medication form that has been signed by a physician and a parent must be on file. Other school personnel, such as teachers, will not distribute medication.

MESSAGES TO STUDENTS

Because it is very disruptive to the school environment and the educational process, phone messages will not be delivered to students during the course of the school day except in the case of extreme emergency. The delivery of flowers, balloons, or other non-school related items will not be done during school hours.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION

The public display of affection during school or at extra-curricular activities is not appropriate or acceptable. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

RESTROOMS

Students are to use the restroom in the morning, between classes, and at lunchtime. Students are advised to proceed to their next class to receive a written pass from their teacher so they will not be counted late for class.

SAFETY

Emergency drills are held throughout the school year. Emergency information sheets are posted in each room in the school so they can be easily referred to by teachers, students and visitors.

When the fire alarm rings, all students and staff must leave the building quickly and quietly. Classroom lights should be turned off, windows closed and the door closed by the last person leaving the room. Each class is to walk in a single line to its designated spot outside of the building (for fire drills) or to assume the “safe” position in a designated area of the building (for other drills). Once there, each class waits without talking until attendance is taken by the classroom teacher and the all-clear sign is given.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

After a student has made a decision about his course selection for each semester and year, with approval of all concerned, there shall be no change except for the following conditions:

1. Technical error beyond the student’s responsibility.
2. Major change in student program.
3. Teacher recommends in writing, after consulting with student, parent, and counselor.
4. Counselor recommends in writing, after consulting with teacher, student, and parent.
   After 8 days of school, any student dropping a class will receive an F for that course and no credit unless one of the above rules applies.

   When permission for a change is granted, the student will take a change form signed by the guidance counselor to the teacher whose class is being dropped for a signature. All materials issued (textbooks) must be returned at this time. The student will then take the change form to the added class or study hall and have the teacher in charge sign it. Then, the student should return the form to the guidance office. No schedule changes will be made to accommodate job schedules or other non-educational activities.

SMOKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS/USE OF TOBACCO
O.R.C. 3313.751 prohibits the use or possession of tobacco (in any form) by pupils in any area under the control of a school district or any activity supervised by any school district.

The use or possession of any type of electronic cigarette, or vapor device, or any substance associated with vaping, is prohibited on school property.

1st offense: Out of school suspension of 3 days and mandatory attendance at educational seminar.
2nd offense: Out of school suspension of 5 days and mandatory attendance at an educational seminar.
3rd offense: Out of school suspension not to exceed 10 days with recommendation of expulsion, and notification to the appropriate authorities.

TECHNOLOGY
The unauthorized use of technology is prohibited. Any inappropriate use of equipment or technology (software or hardware) will result in loss of privilege and disciplinary action. An Internet usage agreement form must be signed by the student and parents and be on file with the school before the student is authorized to access the Internet.

VISITORS
Parents are encouraged to visit the school at any time. No student visitors are permitted unless through an approved activity program. All visitors must provide a valid driver’s license and obtain a visitor’s pass from the office before going to any other area in the school building.

***FERPA Guidelines for Parents can be viewed at www.ed.gov or the school website www.westbranch.k12.oh.us

West Branch Local Schools Grading Scale

Kindergarten students receive an S (Satisfactory), D (Developing), I (Improvement Needed), and NA (Not yet Assessed) instead of letter grades, based on the Ohio Content Standards.

1st Grade uses the following scale:

- **O** Outstanding
- **S** Satisfactory
- **I** Improvement Needed
- **U** Unsatisfactory

Students in grades 2-12 receive letter grades on their report cards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Superior Work</td>
<td>100-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>92-85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>84-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Below Average</td>
<td>74-65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory</td>
<td>64-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AP GRADING SCALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Superior Work</td>
<td>100-88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>87-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>74-67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Below Average</td>
<td>66-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory</td>
<td>59-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Students at the High School must have passing grades in three of the six grading marks and meet the current grading scale requirements to receive credit in a yearlong course. For semester credit, students must receive passing marks that equal at least a 0.5 average or above.*
SCHOOL DAY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
The school day for WBMS and WBHS are from 7:35 – 2:40 p.m. Regular and two-hour delay schedules are listed below for the High School. Please visit the district or school web site for other special schedules.

SCHOOL DAY FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS
The school day at West Branch for elementary students is 9:00 – 3:30 p.m. Supervision of students is not available until 8:45 am when they may enter the building. Parents must call the school office no later than 2:30pm if they plan to pick-up their child.

### HIGH SCHOOL – REGULAR SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PER</th>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>PER</th>
<th>TIMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warning Bell @ 7:32</td>
<td>5b</td>
<td>11:13-11:43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INVEST</td>
<td>7:35 - 8:05</td>
<td>5c</td>
<td>11:46-12:16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR/2</td>
<td>8:12-9:01</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12:19-1:04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9:04-9:49</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1:07-1:52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9:52-10:37</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1:55-2:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5a</td>
<td>10:40-11:10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HIGH SCHOOL - 2 HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PER</th>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>PER</th>
<th>TIMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warning Bell @ 9:32</td>
<td>5b</td>
<td>11:34-12:24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INVEST</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>5c</td>
<td>12:27-12:57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR/2</td>
<td>9:35-10:10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1:00-1:31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10:13-10:44</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1:34-2:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10:47-11:18</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1:55-2:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5a</td>
<td>11:21-11:51</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**STUDENT HANDBOOK SIGN OFF SHEET**

*Please sign and return this form to your homeroom teacher by the second week of school. A $10 fee will be charged to replace a lost, stolen or damaged handbook.*

By signing below, we certify that we have received, read, and understand the West Branch Student Handbook. We also understand that students must have an Internet use form on file at the school before they are authorized to use the Internet.

Parent Signature ___________________________ Date __________

Student Signature ___________________________ Date __________