



2020-2021

Parent/Student Handbook

SPRINGER MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS

PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK

SPRINGER, NEW MEXICO

PREFACE

Welcome to SMS for the 2020-2021 School Year!

We are excited to have each and every student be part of our school system. We value every child and know that parent concerns and involvement is essential for student and school success. Parents and teachers are encouraged to communicate on a regular basis to monitor student progress. We encourage you to consider joining your school site's Parent Advisor Committee (PAC), as well as volunteer or serve as a resource person in your child's classroom. Together parents/guardians and staff can guarantee a successful, happy, and enriching experience for students during their K-12 school years.

It is your responsibility to know the policies, rules and procedures at Springer Municipal Schools included in our handbook. Please take the time to read this document and familiarize yourself with its contents. It has been prepared to provide parents/guardians and students with essential information; however, we cannot anticipate every question. Please feel free to call or visit school any time.

Open communication protects our freedom, our democratic ideas, and our way of life. In the Springer Schools, your opportunities for free expression and exchange are carefully protected. Your participation in this communication process provides an excellent opportunity to help make Springer the best educational experience possible. The faculty and Administration request your opinions regarding student policy and solicit your ideas for changes or revisions of this handbook. Learning together, we can build a successful future.

These policies were developed to provide guidance and support during your school year. We trust that Springer students will carefully read this handbook and adopt these rules for school behavior. As you gain broader knowledge and develop stronger values, your school will support and guide you. However, the decision to become a responsible member of our society belongs to you alone.

Springer Municipal School Board of Education
Springer Municipal School Administration
Springer Municipal School Faculty

OUR MISSION: The Springer Municipal School District is committed to working cooperatively to ensure every child is provided an opportunity for a quality education.

SCHOOL COLORS: Red and Black

SCHOOL MASCOT: Red Devils

**SPRINGER MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS
PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK 2020-2021**

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Admission of New Students	4
Advisement & Registration	4
Arrival	4
Changes in Schedules	4
Course Load	4
Dual Credit Classes	4
Dues, Fees, and Fines	4
Eligibility Policy	4-5
Grading and Report Cards	5
High School Class Credits	5
HS Graduation Requirements	5-6
Honors, Awards & Scholarship	6
Honor Roll	6
Out of District Students	6
Progress Reports	6-7
Promotion/Retention Policy	7
Special Education Students	7
Student Aide Requirements	7
Student Classification	7

SCHOOL ACTIVITY POLICIES

After School Activities	8
Athletics	8
Cheerleaders	8
Class and Club Purchasing	8
FFA	8
National Honor Society	8
Penalties for Misconduct on Trips	8
School Sponsored Trips	8-9
Graduating Senior Sponsored Trips	9
Social Programs	9
Student Council	9-10

GENERAL POLICIES

Academic Dishonesty	10
After/Before School Detention	10
Alcohol, Tobacco & Drug Abuse	10-11
Attendance	11
COVID/Remote Learning	11-12
Bicycle Safety	12
Bullying/Student Harassment /Cyberbullying Prevention	12-13
Bus Service	13
Cafeteria	14

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices	14-15
Leaving Campus During School Hours	15
Computer Use and Care	15
Discipline Matrix	15-17
Dress Code	18-19
Emergency Drills	19-20
Food & Drink in the Classrooms	20
Hall Passes	20
Internet Safety Tips for Parents	20-21
Instructional Materials	21
Leaving School	21
Library Rules	21-22
Locks/Lockers	22
Lost Items	22
Lunch Detention	22-23
Medicine	23
Phone Use by Students	23
Proper Care of Books	24
Public Concerns or Complaints	24
Sex Offender Notification	24
Sexual Harassment	24-25
Student Code of Behavior	25
Student Concerns, Complaints, & & Grievances	25-26
Students in Faculty Lounge	26
Student Parking	26
Visitors	26
Volunteers	26-27
Weapons in School	27
Withdrawal	27
Notice of Non-Discrimination/ Title IX	27-28
FERPA	29
Emergency Plan	30

DISCLAIMER: It is impossible to create a handbook to cover all possible situations; this handbook is a guide for the use of teachers, students, parents and administrators. Incidents or circumstances not covered in this handbook will be settled at the discretions of administration. Sections of this handbook may be changed at any time by the administration or Board of Education. Addendums to this handbook will be provided to students and will be effective immediately or at a time specified by the addendum.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

ADMISSION OF NEW STUDENTS

Students enrolling in the Springer Schools for the first time must provide a current health record, birth certificate (for elementary students) and complete an enrollment card. A parent or guardian may need to sign a Release of Records form to obtain official transcripts from the student's previous school.

ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION

A student advisement and pre-registration period is scheduled before the beginning of each academic year. High School students are: (1) classified as freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior, (2) advised on graduation status, including credits completed and credits remaining for graduation, (3) presented with a list of courses offered, (4) advised by counselor, and (5) registered for the school year.

ARRIVAL

Students should not arrive before 7:45 a.m. unless prior arrangements have been made with school site administration. In the event of school cancellation due to weather or other emergency situations, the following notifications will occur:

92.5 FM KCRT & 93.9 FM KRTN

SMS Facebook Page

KOAT, KRQE, & KOB TELEVISION STATIONS

A School Messenger call will be sent to the number specified as the primary contact on your child's enrollment sheet.

CHANGES IN SCHEDULES

Students may change their program of studies within the first week of the semester if the change is approved by the counselor, principal, and teachers involved. Students may not drop courses during the semester unless severe problems are experienced. Approval to drop a course(s) must be secured from the counselor, principal, and the teacher. If a course is dropped before the end of a grading period, no credit will be given for that class.

COURSE LOAD

Students are expected to enroll for a full course load each semester. Exceptions to this policy require written parental or guardian permission and administrative approval.

DUAL CREDIT CLASSES

Dual Credit enrollment classes at Springer High School are offered for both high school and college credit.

1. Only students with a cumulative 3.2 GPA who have scored the minimum pre-enrollment score on any required assessments are eligible to enroll in these classes. Other students may request a waiver from the principal.
2. All rules outlined by the sending institutions contract will continue to be in effect.
3. Any removal from these classes for disciplinary or conduct reasons will result in a loss of credit for the semester.
4. A lack of effort on the part of the student resulting in a failing grade or any circumstance that requires withdrawal from class at the Springer site will result in the loss of credit for the semester.
5. A student who withdraws from or fails a dual credit class will not be eligible for Honor Roll.
6. A student who withdraws from Springer School may elect to stay in the ITV class at another location.
7. Books for Dual Credit classes are the property of the school.

DUES, FEES, AND FINES

Financial obligations to the school should be met as soon after school starts as possible. Report cards may be held until all fines and fees are paid. (See guidelines for money-making activities).

ELIGIBILITY POLICY-NMAA GUIDELINES

- ✓ **Use of Semester Grades:** Scholastic eligibility will be determined by semester grades. Eligibility checks for those deemed unable to participate at semester will undergo checks each 9 week marking period. If they are passing at the end of the 9 week marking period, they are eligible for immediate participation that semester.
- ✓ **No F's:** A student must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 and No F's in order to be eligible to participate in activities/athletics.
- ✓ **Summer Courses:** Beginning in the summer 2018, students may make up multiple courses to attempt to gain eligibility. Any class eligible for replacement based on local district policy can be taken and have the grade replaced to gain eligibility. **The replacement classes are required to be the exact course that was listed on the official transcript (i.e. AP English must be replaced with AP English, etc.)**

- ✓ **Cumulative Provision:** The cumulative provision may only be used at the beginning of the semester and must include all semester grades beginning with the 9th grade year. Cumulative provision can only be used one time during a student's high school career and can be used after the sophomore year. **This provision may be used if the student has no more than one grade of F at the semester.**
- ✓ **SMS Eligibility Checks**
- ✓ At Springer Municipal Schools 6 - 12 deficiency reports will go out the Tuesday after the 3rd week of each nine week grading period and become effective the following Wednesday. If a student has a GPA below 2.0 and/or a grade below 60, he/she will not participate in any extra-curricular activity until the next deficiency notices are posted and their grade/s meet the eligibility requirements.
- ✓ Eligibility for extracurricular activities will be checked weekly.
- ✓ Students participating in ITV classes will be held to the same standard.
- ✓ Incompletes not rectified within two weeks of the end of the grading period will become an "F" and result in ineligibility.
- ✓ Coaches/sponsors are responsible to check the eligibility of their students. The use of an ineligible student is a violation of NMAA rules and could result in disciplinary action.
- ✓ NMAA Rule will supersede weekly deficiencies at semester.

GRADING AND REPORT CARDS

Course work is formally evaluated every nine weeks. This evaluation is reported to the Administration. Report cards are completed at this time. It is the policy of the Springer Municipal School to give the semester examinations to students in grades 7 through 12 for every class. The Springer Municipal School grading system is as follows:

Regular Grading System	Dual Credit Grading
A 90-100 (4.0)	A (5.0) 90-100
B 80- 89 (3.0)	B (4.0) 80- 89
C 70- 79 (2.0)	C (3.0) 70- 79
D 60- 69 (1.0)	D (2.0) 60- 69
F 59 or below (0.0)	F (0.0) Below 60

HIGH SCHOOL CLASS CREDITS

Full credit classes meet for one period per day for the entire school year. Students may receive one-half (1/2) credit per semester in full credit classes. Classes meeting on a semester basis count for 1/2 credit per semester. Students will earn one credit for Dual Credit classes. Credit for correspondence work may be approved by the Administration.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

At the end of the eighth grade, each student shall prepare a Next-Step Plan for grades nine (9) through twelve (12), with the help of the counselor. A student's parent(s) or guardian(s) shall sign this Next-Step Plan.

For students entering ninth grade in 2009-2010 or later, a minimum of twenty-four (24) credits shall be required for graduation from Springer Schools. At least one of these units (1) must be earned in an advanced placement, honors program, a dual credit course or distance learning course.

These units are as follows:

- 1) Eight (8) semesters in English
 - 2) Four (4) units in Mathematics, **one (1) equal to Algebra II or higher;**
 - 3) Three (3) units in Science, **two (2) of which shall have a laboratory component;**
 - 4) Three and one-half (3 1/2) units in Social Sciences, which shall include United States History/Geography, World History/Geography, and Government and Economics and **one half (1/2) New Mexico History**
 - 5) One unit in physical fitness
 - 7) **One Unit, career cluster course, workplace readiness or foreign language;**
 - 8) Seven and one-half (7 1/2) elective units (including .5 unit of health education* if not completed in middle school)
- All graduating seniors must have all classroom work and on-line courses completed at least one (1) week prior to graduation in order to walk with his/her class unless otherwise approved by administration or designee.
 - Commencement speaker shall be the Valedictorian of the senior graduating class. Commencement speeches shall be approved by administration or designee prior to commencement.

- Valedictorian and Salutatorian - The selection of a Springer High School Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be made utilizing the following criteria:
 - ✓ In order to qualify for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must attend Springer High School the student's junior and senior years, and earn a minimum of twenty-four (24) credits, none of which may be work experience credits.
 - ✓ If a transfer student enters Springer High School with a grade point average higher than or equal to any other student's grade point average in the class, the student must qualify on the basis of the grade point average achieved in the designated courses taken at Springer High School.
 - ✓ If a transfer student enters Springer High School with a grade point average which is not the highest in the class, the student must qualify on the basis of grade point average in the designated courses taken during all four (4) years.
 - ✓ The valedictorian must have the highest accumulated solid grade point average, subject to the above restrictions on transfer students.
 - ✓ The salutatorian must have the second highest accumulated solid grade point average, subject to the above restrictions on transfer students.
 - ✓ In the event that more than one (1) student attains the same highest accumulated solid grade point average and meets all of the aforementioned criteria as Valedictorian of the graduating class, the student with the higher overall GPA will be selected as Valedictorian, and the student with the lower overall GPA shall be selected as the Salutatorian.
 - ✓ In the event that two or more students competing for Valedictorian have the same solid and overall GPA the school shall declare two or more Valedictorians. Upon designation of the Valedictorian(s), the person(s) with the next highest GPA based on the criteria above shall be designated Salutatorian.
 - Solid – the accumulated average of all math, science, English and social studies units of credits aligned with the state academic performance standards.

No student shall receive a High School diploma who has not passed a State Competency Examination in the subject areas of Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Science. If a student exits from the Springer Municipal Schools at the end of grade twelve without having passed a State Competency examination, he/she shall receive an appropriate State Certificate indicating the number of credits earned and the grade completed. (Public School Code 22-13-1.1M).

HONORS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Each nine weeks will end with academic awards presented to students who have maintained high levels of achievement. The Springer Municipal School faculty shall recommend commendations and recognition. The Administration and staff will determine the awards given, based on guidelines for determination of achievement. Community organizations and individuals may also present student awards that are based on approved guidelines and awarded without discrimination.

HONOR ROLL

A published Honor Roll listing will be posted at the end of each nine-week grading period.

- ✓ **Highest Honor Roll of Merit – Grade point average of 4.0 in academic subjects**
- ✓ **B Honor Roll of Merit - Grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9 in academic subjects**
- ✓ **The semester exam will not count for more than 20% of the semester grade.**
- ✓ **Students are ineligible when any grade falls below 60.**

OUT OF DISTRICT STUDENTS

Admission of non-district students is a privilege, not a right, and shall not be construed as a right for continued attendance. Students enrolling in Springer Municipal School who reside in another district must conform to the following conditions:

1. Must be accompanied by one or both parents or guardians when enrolling,
2. Must provide necessary transcripts, health records, and testing information when enrolling,
3. Must have a 2.5 GPA and maintain a 2.5 GPA while enrolled,
4. Must not be enrolling as a result of disciplinary action in another district, or must not be eluding law enforcement.
5. Must prove reasonable attendance at previous schools,
6. Enrollment will be contingent on existing class size and subject to final administrative approval,
7. Out of District students are enrolled on a probationary status for nine (9) weeks and are subject to review at least twice yearly.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be issued for all students in every class at the third (3rd) and sixth (6th) week of each nine-week grading period. In addition, teachers will also notify parents/guardians as soon as it becomes apparent that a student is not performing at his/her ability level.

Progress reports may be provided weekly for those students. Students and parents are encouraged to request additional assistance from teachers before or after school or by appointment.

PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY

Grades One Through Eight

At the end of grade one (1) through seven (7), three options are available, dependent on a student's academic proficiency:

- The student is academically proficient and shall enter the next higher grade;
- The student is not academically proficient and shall participate in the required level of remediation. Upon certification by the school district that the student is academically proficient, he/she shall enter the next higher grade; or
- The student is not academically proficient after completion of the prescribed remediation program and upon the recommendation of the teacher and school Principal shall either be:
 - Retained in the same grade for no more than one (1) school year with an academic improvement plan developed by the student assistance team in order to become academically proficient, at which time the student shall enter the next higher grade; or
 - Promoted to the next grade if the parent refuses to allow the child to be retained. In this case, the parent shall sign a waiver indicating a desire that the student be promoted to the next higher grade with an academic improvement plan designed to address specific academic deficiencies. The academic improvement plan shall be developed by the student assistance team outlining timelines and monitoring activities to ensure progress toward overcoming those academic deficiencies. Students failing to become academically proficient at the end of that year as measured by grades, performance on school district assessments and other measures identified by the school district shall then be retained in the same grade for no more than one (1) year in order to have additional time to achieve academic proficiency.

At the end of the eighth (8th) grade, a student who is not academically proficient shall be retained in the eighth (8th) grade for no more than one (1) school year to become academically proficient or if the student assistance team determines that retention of the student in the eighth (8th) grade will not assist the student to become academically proficient, the team shall design a high school graduation plan to meet the student's needs for entry into the workforce or a post-secondary educational institution. If a student is retained in the eighth (8th) grade, the student assistance team shall develop a specific academic improvement plan that clearly delineates the student's academic deficiencies and prescribes a specific remediation plan to address those academic deficiencies.

A student who does not demonstrate academic proficiency for two (2) successive school years shall be referred to the student assistance team for placement in an alternative program designed by the School District. Alternative program plans shall be filed with the department.

Grades Nine through Twelve

The cost of summer and extended day remediation programs and academic improvement programs offered in grades nine through twelve shall be borne by the parent; however, where parents are determined to be indigent according to guidelines established by the department, the school district shall bear those costs.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

Special Education services are provided to students found eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Each Special Education student will have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) which will be implemented as designed.

STUDENT AIDE REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility for a teacher aide position requires that the student be classified as a Senior (non-negotiable) and that the student has maintained a "B" average the preceding semester. The Principal must approve any exceptions to the grade requirement.

STUDENT CLASSIFICATION

The number of senior high school units completed and the number of years enrolled in a high school program determine a student's official classification. At the beginning of each school year, students will be classified according to the following schedule:

Freshman	0-6 Units of Credit	Sophomore	7-12 Units of Credit
Junior	13-18 Units of Credit	Senior	19 or more Units of Credit

Reclassification may occur at the end of the first semester.

SCHOOL ACTIVITY POLICIES

The following organizations of Springer Municipal Schools are designed to help students pursue additional interests, experience new activities, and promote cooperative, creative, and productive pursuits. Students are encouraged to join these organizations, to benefit from the experiences available through constructive participation. Activities and organizations sponsored through Springer Municipal Schools have been approved by the Springer Board of Education, and have met appropriate requirements of quality and value as determined by the Board of Education.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

A faculty member or sponsor must supervise students remaining in the building after school hours. Evening activities will also be supervised, including dances, athletic events, concerts, etc. Additionally, elementary students are not allowed to attend extra-curricular school activities unless accompanied by a parent(s), guardian(s), or designated adult.

ATHLETICS

The Springer High School sponsors a variety of team sports. Currently football, volleyball, basketball, track, and cheer are offered. The development of fair sportsmanship, strong character, good health, and positive attitudes are supported in these activities. Student athletes are required to sign the Athletic Code of Conduct before being allowed to participate.

CHEERLEADERS - SJHS and SHS

Cheerleaders foster school spirit, encourage good sportsmanship, and provide moral support to the school teams. Tryouts will be held in the spring and a squad will be selected.

CLASS AND CLUB PURCHASING

Sponsors for classes and clubs are permitted to make purchases for their organizations. No student purchases are allowed. Principals, sponsors, and students will work together in purchasing decisions. Purchase requisitions shall be signed by the sponsor. Minutes from the class or organizations meeting must be attached to the requisition to support the issuance of a purchase order.

FFA

FFA develops agricultural leadership, cooperation, and citizenship. The motto of the organization is "learning to do, doing to learn, learning to live, living to serve". The Springer Chapter is governed by the official national organization, which has more than one-third of a million members nationwide. Membership requirements include: enrollment in vocational agriculture, majority approval of other members, and completion of the first degree, the Green Hand Degree. Other degrees include the Chapter Farmer, the State Farmer, and the American Farmer.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Honor Society membership is both an award and a responsibility. Honor society is governed by the official national organization. Elected members are charged with promoting leadership, creating enthusiasm for scholarship, rendering service, and developing character. Junior and Senior students are eligible for NHS and must have an overall cumulative average of 85 and a cumulative average of 90 in the four core courses (Math, Science, English & History). Membership is a privilege, not a right.

PENALTIES FOR MISCONDUCT ON TRIPS

Students who are engaged in activities under the sponsorship of the school away from the school are responsible for their conduct the same as if they were at school. The appropriate disciplinary action will be followed as if the "misconduct" occurred at the school.

Sponsors are responsible for disciplinary decisions while on trips. Students who misbehave may be excluded from further participation while on the trip. Student misconduct may also become a parent/guardian's expense if laws are broken, property destroyed, or rules and regulations are not followed. Lack of cooperation can also result in being sent home. The Springer School Administration may impose additional penalties. Misconduct on one trip may disqualify a student from participation in future trips during the school year.

SCHOOL SPONSORED TRIPS

Travel is a valuable part of the educational experience at Springer School. Trips, whether curriculum based or extracurricular, must be approved by the administration and sponsored by at least one (1) school employee.

High standards of conduct are required on all school-sponsored trips, whether curriculum based or extracurricular. The following regulations provide guidelines for student conduct:

1. Students must secure written parental approval and must be academically eligible prior to departure.
2. Students must read and sign all specific rules established for the trip.
3. Sponsors and adult participants have complete authority during school-sponsored trips. Students will abide by school guidelines.
4. Trip itineraries, including departure and arrival times, will be provided to parents and students participating. Adjustments in the itinerary must have the approval of the sponsor(s).
5. Students are required to stay with their group, unless they have received specific approval to leave such group and sponsor.
6. Established curfews will be observed.
7. Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, and/or drugs is prohibited. Firearms, firecrackers, flammable materials, and similar illegal and hazardous objects are prohibited.
8. Personal and public property must be respected. Persons responsible for damaged or stolen property are liable for legal action.
9. Excessive noise is prohibited, especially in cars or buses.
10. Students are not permitted to drive while on school trips.
11. School dress codes will apply during school sponsored trips.
12. Visitors on trips must have sponsor and administrative approval.
13. Sunday trips will be allowed with administrative approval only.

GRADUATING SENIOR SPONSORED TRIPS

Seniors will be permitted to take one trip during the last week of the senior year, provided that:

1. No school district funds are required.
2. The Senior Trip will take place during their Senior year subject to annual approval by the Board.
3. The trip must be presented to the School Board at least two (2) months prior to the trip, and a complete itinerary must be approved by the administration.
4. All Senior Trip money is to be earned and collected by the end of March of the students' senior year, and deposited into an appropriately designated student activity account for this purpose.
5. The Senior Trip itinerary and detailed cost breakdown must be presented to and approved by the Board by the March Board meeting of the senior year.
6. Senior Class sponsors and other adults will be approved by the Board for the Senior Trip.
7. Sponsors approved by the Administration shall accompany the students on all Senior Trip activities.
8. Sponsors are to participate with the students in fundraising activities.
9. Parents will be provided rules, procedures and an itinerary in advance of the trip.
10. Parents/guardians of the senior students going on the Senior Trip will present a notarized authorization granting permission for their son/daughter to go on the senior trip. This authorization will include a statement that should their son/daughter break the rules or get in trouble with the law, the student will be picked up by their parent/guardian at their expense. This shall include a statement releasing Springer Municipal Schools, its employees and agents from any liability.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

1. Springer Jr. High and/or Springer High School will sponsor programs of social interest. Regulations are provided for arranging and conducting these events. Social events will be regularly scheduled on the school activity calendar located in the Principal's office. The time, place, and nature of each event will be stated. Social programs and events must be administratively approved.
2. Social events will generally be held in or on school property. Social events must be approved by school site administration 10 days in advance of the event. Rules of conduct will be strictly enforced during social events. Students not honoring high standards of conduct may be excluded from future participation in school sponsored social events. Students must remain inside the building during any scheduled event. When students leave the premises, they may not return to the event.
3. Faculty sponsors and students may participate in school sponsored social events. Other individuals and guests wishing to participate must complete an application form provided by the Principal's office. Approval may be granted by the Administration. Signing the application form affirms responsibility for proper conduct and observance of regulations by the visitor.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council of Springer Municipal School represents the entire student body. As the voice of the student body, the Council represents the ideas and goals of each individual enrolled at Springer Schools. Skills to govern in a responsive, knowledgeable, and articulate manner are taught in this organization. Council success depends on the student participation and support, as well as on administrative and faculty guidance and understanding. Student Council President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Reporter are elected each school year, along with two (2) Representatives from each class (grades 7-12).

Requirements for Student Council/Class Officers are as follows:

- All student council and class officers must maintain a 2.5 GPA for the semester preceding their nomination.

- Students are ineligible for office positions in case of misconduct, such as insubordination; truancy; stealing; drinking alcoholic beverages on school property, during school hours or at school activities; cheating on school work; or similar behaviors. Misconduct of this nature may also constitute grounds for removal from office.

GENERAL POLICIES

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students who are academically dishonest (cheating on a test/assignment, turning in work that is not their own, assisting others in cheating) will be given the following consequences:

1. First offense: No credit for the assignment or test
2. Second offense: No credit for the assignment or test and discipline referral
3. Third offense: No credit for the assignment or test, discipline referral and possible loss of credit for the course

AFTER or BEFORE SCHOOL DETENTION (AD)

All campuses may utilize After/Before-School Detention (AD) in an effort to promote student self-responsibility and compliance with district and campus policies and procedures.

WHEN: Immediately after/before school for up to an hour (or an hour and fifteen minutes if tardy).

WHERE: School site designated room with staff supervision.

The following guidelines apply:

- Students will bring sufficient materials to remain engaged in learning throughout the detention period and will not be warned more than once to remain engaged in learning.
- Students will be dismissed for failure to remain engaged or not bringing materials on which to work.
- Students may be assigned into A/BD for any disciplinary violation at the discretion of the campus administration according to district and campus Code of Conduct.
- Site administration will inform parents/guardians of assignment to A/BD.
- In case of severe weather, an administrative decision will be made prior to the end of the school day regarding A/BD.
- Transportation is the responsibility of the student/parent/guardian.
- Food and drink will not be allowed during A/BD.

Non-attendance or removal may result in further disciplinary action, which may include but is not limited to:

- Reassignment with added days
- Community Service
- Suspension
- Other discipline as assigned

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND DRUG ABUSE

Alcohol and drug dependency is an illness and a hazard that can interfere with a student's ability to learn and function responsibly in the school setting. When it becomes apparent that a student is using alcohol or illicit drugs, the school has the responsibility to:

1. Document the data that indicates the student's performance, attendance or behavior is inappropriate.
2. Share that information with the student and parents.
3. Outline school and community resources available to the student and parents for diagnosis and treatment of the illness.

Since the possession/distribution of illegal substances (including tobacco) is a criminal act, school officials must report the violation to the parents, to the police, and work with the courts and community agencies to ensure that a student who commits such a violation is afforded rehabilitative services.

To safeguard the health, character, citizenship and personality development of students in the school, Springer Municipal Schools will:

1. Provide curriculum addressing the effects of controlled substances.
2. Establish and maintain procedures for dealing with the use of controlled substances within the school system that adhere to the requirement of the law.

3. Provide rehabilitative assistance to students who use controlled substances through school counselors and through cooperation with governmental and private agencies that offer aid to such students.
4. Provide a continuing in-service education program for all teachers with specific emphasis in the recognition of behavior brought on by drug use and the immediate steps that should be taken to bring problems to the attention of school authorities.
5. The schools shall endeavor to educate and counsel students and employees concerning abuse of alcohol, illegal drugs, and/or controlled substances. Every reasonable effort shall be made to provide for students and employees an environment that is free of alcohol, illegal drugs, and/or controlled substances.

ATTENDANCE : NOTE: Authorized school trips are NOT absences.

New Mexico State law provides that all students must attend school as long as school remains in session. It is important that parents/guardians and students be aware of the New Mexico "Compulsory Attendance Law." Relevant portions follow: "A person subject to the provisions of the Compulsory School Attendance Law (22-12-1 to 22-12-7, NMSA, 1978) shall attend school for at least the length of time of the school year that is established in the school district in which the person is a resident. Any parent, guardian or person having custody and control of a person subject to provisions of the Compulsory Attendance Law is responsible for the attendance of that person." Unavoidable circumstances may result in absences due to illness or injury and these situations will be dealt with on a case by case basis. However, as these circumstances are unpredictable it is imperative that students are at school on a regular basis.

ATTENDANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Students cannot learn the presented curriculum if they are not in school, and make-up work is a poor substitute for the verbal information and explanation they miss when they are not in class.

There is a direct relationship between regular attendance and good grades, so a student should attend school regularly each day unless prevented from doing so by illness or other emergencies.

Personal business and medical/dental appointments should be scheduled on Fridays when there is no school. You are at school approximately 143 days during the year, so it is important to schedule all other activities on non-school days.

The Springer Municipal Board of Education believes that regular attendance is necessary for optimal learning. In accordance with that philosophy, the following attendance guidelines are established:

1. Students will be allowed to accumulate 8 excused/unexcused absences per semester per class. Any student, who has more than eight (8) absences **per class, MAY** lose credit for that class;
2. Parents will be notified **by the office** after the **4th absence** (per student's respective class) that the student is in danger of losing credit for that particular class. A copy of notification will be sent to the parent, teacher, and a copy for the student's file. After the student has obtained **6 absences**, a certified letter will be mailed to parents requiring a mandatory parent conference;
3. The principal or his/her designee of each campus will establish an Appeals Committee to listen to appeals from parents when their son/daughter has lost credit in class;
4. When the student reaches eight (8) absences, a certified letter will be mailed to parent/guardian. Appeals by parent and/or student must be done **in** person within five working days from receipt of letter to the Appeals Committee, which will consist of: Principal, Counselor, and two teachers. Decision of the committee is **FINAL**. Absences will be reviewed and the committee may consider the following in order to allow credit.

EXCUSED ABSENCES (FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING UP COURSE WORK)

1. Illness of student, doctor's appointment (must be verified with an official excuse from the doctor), or death in the family.
2. Personal Business, as pre-approved by administration.
3. Extended Illness (three (3) days or more)—If you are sick or injured and under a doctor's care, you will be allowed to make up your class work provided the doctor sends a note verifying treatment.
4. Any school-sponsored activity will not count as part of the eight (8) absences.

COVID & Remote Learning

During remote learning, attendance will be taken by being present in Virtual Class Meetings. The district will take into account that internet access issues occur. In that case, please reach out to your teacher(s) as soon as possible to set up a time to meet with the teacher(s) via Google Meet to get assignments. Attendance and participation will be required, whether in face-to-face or online instruction. Students will

be expected to meet with their teacher(s) at scheduled times and do the required work. Students will be marked absent if they are not logging into class and doing the work.

MAKE-UP WORK

1. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to obtain from teachers all class work missed because of an absence, and it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to properly complete all work and turn in at a time mutually agreed upon by you and your teacher.
2. Failure to turn in make-up work will affect your grade in class.

Students must bring a written note to the school office when returning from any absence. The note must be signed and dated by the parent/guardian and must explain the reason for the absence. Notes from parents not stating a reason will not be considered excused. An admit slip must be obtained from the office before the student will be allowed to re-enter class. There is ample time to obtain an admit slip before school, between classes, and during lunch.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES/TRUANCY

Students who choose to skip school or miss a class without an excuse will receive a "0" for any work missed and will be subject to disciplinary measures. Springer High School expects its students to attend class regularly. Failure to check out of school properly through the High School Office will be considered truancy. A student's unauthorized absences in excess of ten (10) days will be referred to the Social Services Division of the Children, Youth and Families Department. Parents will be notified when their son/daughter has an unexcused absence or truancy.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER AN ABSENCE

You must bring a written note to the school office before the first period of the day following the absence. It must be signed and dated by your parent/guardian, and must explain the reason for the absence. Students who do not bring their note to the office will be considered truant and will receive no credit for the absent day.

ABSENCE DUE TO TRAVEL CONDITIONS

Springer Municipal School District resides within a very broad area making it difficult for safe travel decisions to be made for all areas. If ever you are concerned about the safety of travel conditions please keep your child home. Your child will not be penalized for your decision regarding safe travel. Please make your child's sponsor/teacher/administrator aware of your decision ahead of time if possible.

BICYCLE SAFETY

Students riding a bicycle to school must park the bicycle in the bike rack until the end of the school day. Bicycles must follow the flow of traffic and may not be ridden on district sidewalks. A bicycle is not a toy. It is a vehicle! Head injuries are the most serious injury type and the most common cause of death among bicyclists. More than half of all bicyclist deaths occur among school age youth (ages 5-17). *(extracted from: Prevent Bicycle Accidents flyer produced by the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration):*

- ✓ All students riding bicycles should wear an approved bike helmet. An approved helmet has a sticker inside, certifying that the helmet meets standards of the Snell Memorial Foundation and/or the American National Standards Institute.
- ✓ To help ensure that the helmet is worn every time the student rides, let the student help pick out the helmet. If the parent is a rider, s/he should also wear a helmet to set a good example. Parents should also encourage their child's friends to wear helmets.
- ✓ Make certain that the bike is the right size for the student, is safely maintained, and has reflectors.
- ✓ Students under age nine should not ride their bikes in the street. They are not able to identify and adjust to the many dangerous traffic situations. When available, ride in designated bicycle lanes.
- ✓ Teach students always to stop and look left, right, and left again, before entering the road. This is a good pedestrian safety practice, too, for crossing the street.
- ✓ If a bicyclist rides in the road, the cyclist must obey traffic laws that apply to motor vehicle operators. Instruct students on the bicycle rules of the road. Bicyclists should ride single file on the right side and signal their intentions to other road users.
- ✓ Never allow students to ride at night or with audio headphones. Stress the need to ride alert since many drivers do not see or acknowledge riders.

BULLYING/STUDENT HARASSMENT/ CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION

Cyberbullying, as defined below, is prohibited when such bullying creates or is certain to create a hostile environment on the school campus that is so severe or pervasive as to substantially interfere with the targeted student's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance.

Bullying and harassment is prohibited in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at school activities or sanctioned events. Anti-bullying shall be included as a part of the health education curriculum as set forth in 6.29.6.8 NMAC.

- "Harassment" means knowingly pursuing a pattern of conduct that is intended to annoy, alarm or terrorize another person.
- "Bullying" by another student means any repeated and pervasive written, verbal or electronic expression, physical act or gesture, or a pattern thereof, that is intended to cause distress upon one (1) or more students in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at school activities or sanctioned events. Bullying includes, but is not limited to, hazing, harassment, intimidation or menacing acts of a student which may, but need not be based on the student's race, color, sex, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, age or sexual orientation.
- "Cyberbullying" means electronic communication that:
 - ✓ targets a specific student;
 - ✓ is published with the intention that the communication be seen by or disclosed to the targeted student;
 - ✓ is in fact seen by or disclosed to the targeted student; and
 - ✓ creates or is certain to create a hostile environment on the school campus that is so severe or pervasive as to substantially interfere with the targeted student's educational benefits, opportunities or performance.

Licensed school employees shall complete training on how to recognize signs that a person is being harassed, bullied or cyberbullied and shall be responsible for reading and understanding this policy.

A licensed school employee who has information about or a reasonable suspicion that a person is being harassed, bullied or cyberbullied shall report immediately to the school principal.

Any school administrator who receives a report of harassment, bullying, or cyberbullying shall take immediate steps to ensure a prompt investigation of the report and shall take prompt disciplinary action in response to these acts upon confirmation of the occurrence through such investigation. Such action may include the least restrictive means necessary to address a hostile environment on the school campus resulting from confirmed harassment, bullying or cyberbullying that include;

*counseling,

*mediation,

*discipline up to expulsion, in addition to other civil and criminal prosecution. These punishments may be in addition to any customary discipline that the District presently dispenses.

Where disciplinary action is necessary, District policies and regulations pertaining to permissible penalties and procedures shall be followed as in policy.

A complaint form for harassment, cyberbullying and bullying are available in each school site's office and must be completed and filed with the Principal or Superintendent. See Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances.

BUS SERVICE

The following guidelines govern the use of bus transportation:

- 1) Students must board the bus at assigned stops and at the prescribed times, unless written parental permission has been provided.
- 2) Bus drivers have the same authority and responsibility that teachers have. Students who do not obey bus regulations may lose the privilege of riding the bus.
- 3) Students will get on and off their bus at the designated stop unless parental permission to change this schedule has been given.
- 4) Students will remain in their seats while the bus is in motion. Students will enter and leave the bus through the front door.
- 5) All parts of a student's body are to remain inside the bus while riding.
- 6) Objects are not to be thrown inside or outside the bus while riding.
- 7) Tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and profanity are not allowed on the bus.
- 8) There are to be no types of glass or breakable containers on the bus.
- 9) Bus drivers must assign seats.
- 10) Students crossing the highway must cross in front of the bus when signaled by the driver that traffic has stopped.
- 11) While waiting for a bus, students will be orderly and quiet, and will respect surrounding property.
- 12) Shoving and pushing are not allowed. Students should stand approximately six (6) feet from the curb or line of the bus stop until the bus completely stops and the bus door has been opened.
- 13) Students not regularly enrolled on a bus route must secure parental and/or bus driver permission to ride the bus.
- 14) School buses will load in the designated loading area only.
- 15) Bus drivers are responsible for student safety. Bus regulations have been developed to provide protection for Springer Schools students.
- 16) Violations of rules will be handled according to the Discipline Policy.

- 17) If your child needs to ride a different bus, parent(s) must send a signed note. This note must be initialed by the site secretary and given to the bus driver when the student boards the bus. If prior arrangements have not been made, you must clear it with the transportation director before 2:00 p.m. This practice needs to be kept to a minimum because of overloaded conditions on some routes.

CAFETERIA

- **Breakfast and lunch are served each day for students.**
- Students must observe rules of conduct such that the cafeteria remains reasonably clean and pleasant with a noise level at a minimum.
- Students who bring sack lunches must eat in the cafeteria.
- Students will remain in the cafeteria until dismissed (weather and behavior permitting) by the person on duty.

The following procedure conforms to the United States Department of Agriculture and New Mexico state regulations governing cafeteria operation.

A. All students will be provided with a Free and Reduced lunch Application. All families are encouraged to complete this form regardless of financial standing. School sites will have applications available throughout the school year.

B. Parents/legal guardians shall be responsible for the purchase of meals until meal applications are received and processed by the Food and Nutrition Services Office. Food and nutrition services shall have ten (10) business days to process applications from the time they are received by district staff.

C. The sale of full-pay and reduced rate meals may take place at any non-meal service time during normal school hours. Parents/legal guardians shall be notified of pre-payment options and charging procedures at the beginning of each year through a memo released to the media and sent to individual schools for distribution. **Prepayment of all meals is highly encouraged to avoid a balance on student account.**

D. Daily cash sale of full-pay and reduced rate meals is acceptable but not accepted during meal service as this will slow the line and may create delays in educational times.

E. Springer Municipal Schools shall allow charges up to \$50.00 at the elementary, middle school, and high school level per student. Once the student has reached the charge limit, the parent/guardian will be contacted to collect payment twice a month until the balance is paid.

F. Once the student has reached the charge limit and regardless of the student's inability to pay, they shall be provided with a reimbursable meal that is available at the school on the day of meal service.

G. After the reimbursable meals exceed the \$50.00 limit the school shall:

- Check the state's direct certification list to determine if the student is categorically eligible for free school meals;
- Make at least two attempts to reach the student's parent or guardian to have the parent or guardian complete a school meal's application. (Note: including the school meal application or instructions in the school enrollment application does not constitute a parent or guardian contact); and
- Require a principal to contact the parent or guardian to offer assistance with a meal application.

H. Twice a year - November 30th and April 15th - all debts that exceed the allotted charges, shall be sent a letter that legal action may occur if debt is not paid within thirty (30) days. After the thirty (30) days legal action to collect debt may occur.

I. Returned checks and insufficient funds will be sought out for payment by the school district.

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students need a safe, positive and productive learning environment free from disruptions, distractions and threats. Personal Electronic Devices are personally owned cellular telephones, personal digital assistants, personal media devices, electronic games, digital cameras, or any other electronic device with communications functions and/or the capability to capture, record, transmit and/or play back voice or image information. Personal electronic devices can create disruptions to the learning environment and distract students from the primary purpose of education. Accordingly it is SMS policy to request all personal electronic devices including cell phones be stored, powered off, and unused. There is no use of any electronic device in the bathroom, locker room or other dressing room at any time. While being transported in authorized district vehicles during the school day, the same rules apply unless explicitly permitted by the transportation provider, driver of the vehicle, and/or supervising coaches/chaperones. **Failure to give the phone or other electronic device to a teacher or school administrator when asked will result in an automatic three (3) day out-of-school suspension for defiance of**

authority. Loss of and/or Damage to Personal Electronic Devices: The District shall not be liable or responsible for the loss or damage to any Personal Electronic Device at school or at school-sponsored activities.

When Personal Electronic Devices May Be Used: (per board policy)

1. Emergencies – students may turn on and use cellular phones to place an emergency call to 911 if there is a situation that jeopardizes the safety of students or staff members. In addition, there may be emergency situations where school staff members direct students to use available cellular phones for other types of specific communication. In these situations students must follow the direction of staff members, understanding there are certain circumstances when they will be directed to keep cellular devices powered off for safety reasons.
2. Special Situations – A student or parent/guardian may request in writing permission in advance from the principal or his/her designee for a student to possess and use a specified personal electronic device for a medical, educational, or other legitimate purpose that the principal or designee determines is necessary for the student's education.
3. Educational Purpose – After obtaining permission and direction of a teacher, a student may turn on and use personal electronic devices while under the immediate supervision of the teacher for legitimate educational purposes. Such permission shall not extend to any area out of the immediate supervision of the teacher who grants such permission.
4. Personal Media Players – During lunch periods (non-instructional time), students have permission to use personal media players as long as they do not become disruptive, interfere with their learning, or the learning environment of others
5. Bullying, Cyberbullying, Hazing – any use of a personal electronic device is subject to the policies prohibiting sexual harassment.
6. Quite often students/athletes need to contact parents or guardians after bus trips are concluded to communicate for many reasons. Personal devices are allowed to be used under this consideration at all times in order for that student/athlete to be picked up upon arrival from their trip.
7. Any student who possesses or uses a personal electronic device and/or associated equipment in a manner that violates this policy or any other policy or school rule shall be subject to consequences including disciplinary action, required surrender of the personal electronic device, and have his/her right to possess a personal electronic device at school further restricted by school personnel.

LEAVING CAMPUS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

The school has responsibility for students from the time they get to campus until school is dismissed, and also when they are involved in school sponsored extracurricular activities outside regular school hours. Students are expected to check out of school in the office when they need to leave the campus for appointments or other legitimate reasons. Telephone calls to parents/guardians to check out of school will not be allowed except in the rare case of an emergency or otherwise approved by administration.

Students will not be allowed to leave without verification or at the discretion of the administration. Students who leave campus without permission will be considered **truant** and will be subject to disciplinary action.

COMPUTER USE AND CARE

Major resources have gone into providing computer and internet access to students at Springer Schools. It is essential for students to be responsible users of this equipment. Students who use computers for activities or courses must limit their use to the course objectives and the directions of the instructor. Students and parents are required to sign the Technology User Agreement before the student is allowed to use Springer Municipal School technology.

DISCIPLINE MATRIX

The following HS / JH school code of conduct has been adopted to protect and foster respect for the rights of SHS students and staff. Infractions of this Code of Conduct are grouped into three levels based on the severity of the infraction, and each violation of the code may have from one to three levels of consequences.

These represent the recommended guidelines in the disposition of discipline situations for the Junior High / High School. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the behavior or education status of the student, responses may vary from situation to situation.

In all cases administrative discretion will be exercised.

Level 1			
Behavior	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
Dress Code Violation	Parent Notification and Warning Options: Change into other clothing they may have Clothing provided by school Be sent home	Parent Notification and Warning Same as 1st offense 1 Day ISS	Parent Notification 2 Days ISS Same as 1st Offense 4th Offense could result in OSS
General Disruptive Conduct (profanity, rudeness, dishonesty, etc.)	Teacher Interventions Parent Notification	Teacher Interventions Parent Notification Possible Lunch Detention	1 Day ISS Teacher Interventions Parent Notification Possible Lunch Detention
Gossip, Passing Rumors, Instigating	Teacher Intervention Parent Notification	Teacher Notification Parent Notification	1 Day ISS Parent Notification
Public Display of Affection	Verbal Warning	Parent Notification Detention or 1 Day ISS	Detention or 1 Day ISS
Tardy	Verbal warning	Written warning mailed or sent home	parent notification and a week (4 days) of lunch detention

Level 2			
Behavior	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
Bullying/Threats/Harassment	1 Day ISS Parent Notification	3 Days ISS Parent Notification	3 Days OSS Parent Conference Behavior Contract
Aggressive/Hostile Behavior	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	3 Days ISS Parent Notification	1 Day OSS Parent Conference Behavior Contract
Cheating or Plagiarism	Loss of Assignment Credit Parent Notification Friday school	Loss of semester credit in class	
Chronic Disruptive Conduct	1 Day ISS Parent Notification	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	3 Days ISS Behavior Contract Parent Notification
Disrupting a School Activity	Removal from Event Parent Notification	Removal from Event 1 Day ISS Parent Notification	Removal from Event Loss of Privileges for the Remainder of the Year 2 Day ISS Parent Notification
Ditching (out of class without permission)	1 Day ISS Teacher Interventions Parent Notification Possible ASD	2 Days ISS Teacher Interventions Parent Notification Possible ASD	3 Days ISS Parent Notification Teacher Interventions Behavior Contract
Electronic Devices	Device returned at end of the day	parent/guardian must pick up the device from a school administrator	parent/guardian must pick up the device from an administrator and a contract must be signed
Truancy	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	4 Days ISS Parent Notification	2 Days OSS Parent Notification Behavior Contract
Failure to Comply with Disciplinary Consequences (including skipped detention)	Twice the Previous Consequences	Administrative Referral	Administrative Referral
Falsifying or Misuse of any Official Document or Communication (including passes, ID, progress report, call to excuse absence, parent signature, etc.)	Teacher Interventions and/or 1 Day ISS	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	1 Day OSS Parent Notification Behavior Contract
Rough Housing	1 Day ISS Parent Notification	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	3 Days ISS Parent Notification Behavior Contract
Fighting (including instigating, pushing, physical contact)	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	4 Days ISS Parent Notification	See Level III Assault/Bullying
Inappropriate Use/ Possession of Technology – unauthorized access to District software, telephones, accounts/files, unauthorized access or use of video recording via electronic device, posting of inappropriate material on websites including video taping of activities violating school policy such as fights, bullying, hazing or other misconduct.)	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	3 Days ISS, Loss of computer privileges for remainder of the school year and restitution Parent Notification	Level III Harassment/Bullying
Insubordination, Defiance of Authority or Showing Disrespect; Failure to Report	1 Day ISS Parent Notification	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	1 Day OSS Parent Notification Behavior Contract
Possession of Inappropriate Material	1 Day ISS Parent Notification	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	1 Day OSS Parent Notification

Possession/Use of Tobacco, Rolling Papers, or Incendiary Devices at School or School Sponsored Event	1 Day ISS Parent Notification	2 Days ISS Parent Notification	1 Day OSS Parent Notification Behavior Contract
--	-------------------------------	--------------------------------	---

Level 3 - SPD referral may be filed on all Level III Infractions	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
Behavior			
Arson	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing		
Assault/Battery (Physical) of a Staff Member	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing		
Assault (Verbal) of a Staff Member (including intimidating or threatening remarks and/or directed profanity)	3 Days OSS Behavior Contract	5 Days OSS	10 Days OSS Possible Hearing
False Alarm	1-3 Days OSS	1-3 Days OSS	
Bomb Threats/Explosives/ or (possession of)	10 days OSS Pending Hearing		
Assault/Battery (physical) of a student or students by one or more students	3 Days OSS Mediation	5 Days OSS Mediation Behavior Contract	10 Days OSS Possible Hearing
Fighting (including instigating, pushing, physical contact)	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing
Gang Related Activity	2 Days OSS, Behavior Contract	5 Days OSS Pending Hearing	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing
Habitually Disruptive Conduct	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS Pending Hearing	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing
Harassment / Bullying (Physical, racial, verbal, disability, electronic, intimidation toward another student-bullying)	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS Pending Hearing	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing
Inappropriate Use or Possession of Technology (tampering/damage to computers/network)	5 Days OSS, Loss of Computer Privileges for the Remainder of the Year and Restitution, Behavior Contract	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing	
Making a False 911 Call	5-10 Days OSS, Possible Hearing		
Personal Substance Abuse (consuming, solicitation, in possession, or under the influence of; alcohol, drugs, look-a-likes or other controlled substances, e-cigarettes and/or paraphernalia including OTC drugs and prescription drugs)	5 Days OSS and Behavior Contract	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing	
Selling or Distributing Alcohol, Drugs, Look-a-likes, or Other Controlled Substances Including OTC Drugs or Prescription Drugs	5-10 Days OSS Pending Hearing		
Sexual Harassment/Misconduct	3 Days OSS Pending Investigation, Behavior Contract	5 Days OSS Pending Investigation and Continued Behavior Contract	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing
Theft/Extortion	3-5 Days OSS, Behavior Contract, Possible Restitution	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing, Possible Restitution	
Using Incendiary Devices	5 Days OSS, Counseling and Possible Restitution	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing and Possible Restitution	
Vandalism (involved in altering, defacing or destroying school or private property, including technology)	5 Days OSS, Loss of Privileges, and Possible Restitution	10 Days OSS Pending Hearing, Possible Restitution, Loss of Privileges	
Possession of Weapons	5 -10 Days OSS Pending Hearing SPD may be contacted		

DISTRIBUTION OF THIS POLICY & ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT

A copy of this form will be issued to each student during registration and the acknowledgement form signed and returned within the first week.

STUDENT DRESS

A student's appearance will be governed by standards that are comparable with decency, cleanliness, safety, and an atmosphere of learning. Dress which disrupts the educational process will not be allowed. The school has the right and responsibility to intervene anytime it feels that the appearance of a student does not meet these standards. Students violating these standards will be sent home to change clothes. This absence will not be excused.

Red Devil Days--Red and Black—On Thursday's students, staff, faculty and the community are highly encouraged to exhibit their red and black attire in support of our Red Devil athletes. Go Red Devils!

STUDENT DRESS CODE

In the interest of encouraging positive school spirit, disciplined and focused educational environment, and promoting student safety, Springer Municipal Schools established the following Dress Code and Standard of Decency governing student dress at school and while participating in school-sponsored activities. Administrators shall have the discretion to determine the appropriateness of attire and grooming, and may make special exceptions for students in certain grades/subjects, such as vocational courses, physical education, for medical necessities.

Enforcement of this policy shall be in accordance with District disciplinary procedures for students. Enforcement of this policy shall not infringe on any individual's religious beliefs or protected free speech.

Dress Code and Standard of Decency

Students are expected to demonstrate personal grooming standards of cleanliness and to wear appropriate clothing while on campus, on field trips, and during off-campus events at which students represent Springer Municipal Schools for athletics or activities. Any personal grooming or clothing that disrupts the educational process or is provocative in nature is in violation of the dress code and standard of decency.

Not allowed:

- Insignias can be no larger than 3 inches x 3 inches. **[No graphics, pictures, or writing on clothing shall be permitted except as part of an insignia.]**
- Revealing or see-through clothing
- Exposed underwear including boxers, sports bras, and bras
- Saggy pants revealing underwear or any portion of the body below the naval.
- Dresses, skirts, shorts, and skirts, including slits, shorter three (3) inches above the bend of the knee.
- Sleeveless tops: all tops (male and female) are to have a sleeve
- Pajamas (tops or bottoms), unless it is a sanctioned school function, i.e., pajama day
- Ripped or torn clothing
- Bandanas, 'do-rags', shower caps, and hairnets
- Spiked jewelry and jewelry that is obscene, disruptive to the educational process or that could endanger students
- Belt loop chains, wallet chains, and extended belts
- Trench coats
- Heelys
- Flip-flops (elementary school)
- Clothing and/or articles worn or carried by the student (includes face painting) displaying words or symbols or colors of gangs, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, racism, inappropriate language or images, or symbols of a sexual/sexist nature
- Clothing and/or articles in violation of Policy 346, Gang Activity, which states that students shall not "wear . . . any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other items that evidences or reflects membership in or affiliation with any gang"
- Visible cleavage, navels, and/or midriffs. No skin should be shown between the bottom of the shirt / blouse and the top of the pants/skirt when arms are stretched upward
- Tube tops, spaghetti strap tops, halter tops, translucent blouses, midriff shirts/blouses
- Footwear that is safe and appropriate for weather and other conditions must be worn at all times on campus and in buildings

- Hair shall be groomed so that it is clean and safe for participation in any school activity
- Hats and sunglasses may not be worn inside buildings, but are allowed outside
- Spandex, yoga pants, leggings, skinny jeans are only allowed under approved shirts, shorts, skirts, and dresses
- Approved school spirit wear for all SMS schools, Scout uniforms, and JROTC uniforms are permitted
- Approved special event day dress is permitted
- Mid-School and high school students' school-issued ID badges must be available or presented at request at all times and may not be defaced in any way.

Consequences for Violation of the Student Dress Code/Standard of Decency

First offense: Students who violate the Dress Code will be issued a Dress Code referral and will be required to:

- 1) change into other clothing they may have with them if it conforms to this policy, or
- 2) change into clothing provided by the school, or
- 3) be sent home

The time missed from class will be considered "unexcused." Clothing that is "borrowed" must be returned clean to the main office on the day following the incident.

Second and subsequent offenses: Students will face disciplinary consequences as defined in the Student Code of Conduct and outlined in the Student Handbook, which may include penalties up to out-of-school suspension.

Waivers

Waivers may be granted by the principal or site administrator subject to the following criteria:

1. Religious Freedom: Families whose religious beliefs require wearing attire that does not conform to the dress code and whose membership or affiliation with that denomination or sect can be verified
2. Health or Physical Disability: A health or disability issue documented by a medical professional or through an IEP which would preclude the student from being able to wear regular clothes to school for a specified period of time
3. Financial Hardship: Families who for a period of time meet one of the following criteria and who can document this situation:
 - a. homelessness;
 - b. head of family is unemployed or on disability;
 - c. families with children who receive general public assistance or some other form of documented financial aid

The portions of the Dress Code and Standard of Decency pertaining to insignia size, the prohibition of pictures or writing on clothing, the display of words or symbols or colors of gangs, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, racism, inappropriate language or images, or symbols of a sexual/sexist nature, and to violations of Policy 346 are not subject to waiver. All students will be expected to comply with these provisions of the standard of decency.

Except as described in the previous paragraph, no student shall be denied attendance at school, penalized or otherwise subject to compliance measures for failing to obey the dress code if a waiver of this policy has been obtained.

Application process for waivers

Parents of students who qualify for a waiver must fill out a waiver request form at the student's school site during the two weeks prior to the opening of school. Parents of students new to the district must apply for a waiver within two weeks of the date of the student's enrollment. During the two-week period students must meet the district's dress code expectations.

Parents requesting temporary waivers for health reasons must apply for a waiver at the student's school site prior to the student's return to school.

Appeal of denial of waiver

The decision of the principal or school site administrator may be appealed to the Superintendent or designee whose decision shall be final. Any parent requesting review by the Superintendent must submit a request in writing to the Office of the Superintendent within three (3) working days of the principal or administrators' denial. The Superintendent shall issue a final determination within three (3) working days of receipt of the request for review.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

As per state law, Springer Municipal Schools will have a minimum of one emergency drill per week during the first four weeks of the school year and one every month thereafter. Of these 9 must be fire drills; 2 must be shelter-in-place drills; and one must be an evacuation drill. A

shelter-in-place drill, for the purpose of active shooter training will include parent/guardian notification. In addition, Springer Schools will have one tornado drill and a lockdown drill during the course of the year.

FOOD AND DRINK IN THE BUILDING

Food and drink (except water) are not allowed in classrooms or lockers unless specifically approved by the Principal. Sunflower seeds or any other type of seeds are not allowed in the school building, in school vehicles, or buses.

HALL PASSES

Hall passes must be carried by students leaving a classroom after the class has started. Students must return the pass to the issuing teacher before attending another class. Students are not to go to student parking areas to retrieve personal items without supervision. Students will not be allowed to leave class during the first or last ten minutes of class unless requested by the office or another teacher.

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS – ELEMENTARY

The internet offers a world of resources with the click of a mouse, but there is a dark side to the Internet that poses a variety of dangers for our youth. Viruses that could harm your computer; pedophiles that are trying to meet your child; and disclosure of personal information that could lead to identity theft are all risks inherent in using the internet. Every parent must recognize these dangers in order to help their children learn to protect themselves online. The following are some safety tips for parents of elementary students who use the internet.

- Place the computer in a common area. We strongly suggest that your child not have a computer in his or her room, or at least no internet access on the computer in his or her room.
- Learn to use the internet. Experience cyberspace with your child and learn how to check the computer's "History" to see what websites your child is visiting.

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN THE FOLLOWING RULES

1. Never accept files or downloads from unknown sources; this includes familiar sources if you were not expecting them.
2. Choose an email address/ screen name that DOES NOT contain any part of your name, age, gender, interests or favorite activities.
3. Do not fill out a profile without parental review and approval.
4. Never give out real name, telephone or cell phone number(s), mailing address, or passwords.
5. Do not enter chat rooms.
6. Do not post photographs in publicly accessible sites.
7. The settings for ANY social networking profiles* should be PRIVATE, and new friends are accepted only if they are known to the child AND parent.

*Social networking sites include: MySpace, FaceBook, Bebo, etc.

- ✓ **Talk to your child about dangers online.** Your child should know that:
- ✓ Accepting files or downloads from unknown sources can include a virus that could harm the computer. Giving away personal information can lead to identity theft or worse.
- ✓ People may not be who they say they are online -- predators roam cyberspace.
- ✓ Open communication with your child is vital. Your child needs to feel s/he can come to you if s/he encounters frightening communications or images without fear of losing Internet privileges.
- ✓ **If you have a webcam, your child should use it ONLY if you are present.** Posting pictures online or sending images can have dangerous consequences. Parents *must* control such activity.
- ✓ **Note to Parents:** There are many organizations and activities in which your child may be involved that post information online in public locations. It is extremely important for you to pre-approve any information about your child that will be posted for the world to see. Remember, cyber predators are looking, too.

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS - MIDDLE SCHOOL

1. **If you have a profile on a social networking site*:**
 - Set up a profile to Private or Friends Only – otherwise you are giving cyber predators permission to view it.
 - Only add people to your friends list that you already know.
 - Protect your personal information as well as personal information about your friends.
 - If you are too young to be on a site, don't lie about your age to join.
 - Delete mean or embarrassing comments.
 - Beware of invitations through comments or bulletins to view videos or click on links; they may be attempts to capture your password and introduce a virus.
2. **Remember that anyone can lie online. A stranger could be a cyber-predator if:**
 - The stranger asks for your picture.

- The stranger invites you to view his/her webcam.
 - The stranger asks if you are alone.
 - The stranger talks about sexual matters.
 - The stranger wants to meet you in person.
3. **If you are thinking about posting your pictures on a public site, think about this:**
- Once you have placed your picture on a public Internet site, it's out there forever and there is no taking it back.
 - Software manipulation of photographs makes it possible for that photo to be altered and put back on the Internet or traded among child pornographers.
 - Be anonymous: Don't provide personal information in your user name or screen name.
 - Don't use passwords that are easy to guess (i.e., the name of your pet).

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS – SECONDARY

1. **Tempted to meet someone face-to-face that you know only from online chats?**
 - Remember anyone can pretend to be someone else online. A skilled predator will pretend to be exactly the type of person you are looking for; otherwise you wouldn't be interested in getting together, would you? If you think you cannot come into contact with a predator, think again. Predators go anywhere you go on the Internet. MySpace found 30,000 sex offenders with profiles, and these are just the ones who used their real names to register.
2. **Sharing too much information about yourself?**
 - Giving out personal information could lead a predator to your door. Set all online profiles of yourself to PRIVATE or FRIENDS ONLY. You, your friends, and your athletic teams are putting information about you onto the web. If the world can see that information, so can a predator or a stalker. Guard your personal information and ask others to be careful with it as well.
 - There is another potential problem that you might not consider – identity theft. This is a crime in which someone establishes credit in your name. Unfortunately for you, the credit history that is established will not be a good one, and it will take a lot of time and effort to clean up the mess. Giving out personal information should be your decision. Just because an interesting website asks for your personal information doesn't mean you should give it out.
 - Be careful about posting photos of yourself on the web. Photos placed on public sites can be manipulated and placed back onto public sites. Such photos of you might prove to be embarrassing or worse – not the kind of photo you would want a college admissions committee or potential employer to see.
3. **What do you know about intellectual properties?**
 - Do you know that intellectual properties are protected by copyright law? And using another person's intellectual properties without permission is illegal.
 - Many owners of intellectual properties view piracy and plagiarism as stealing. Illegal downloading of movies and music can have serious legal and monetary consequences. The music industry has taken legal action against some offenders, typically costing the person thousands of dollars to resolve.

Plagiarizing can seriously damage your academic record, which could adversely affect your college admission or ability to get a job.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Textbooks and electronic devices, which are issued by title and number, are provided for students. Each student is responsible for seeing that each book and/or device checked out to him/her is well cared for. If your books/devices show excessive damage when you check them in, you will be charged accordingly. Due to greatly increased instructional material costs, it is absolutely necessary students pay for the lost books/devices before new books/devices are issued.

LEAVING SCHOOL

If it is necessary to leave school during regular school hours, a student must have written permission from the parent(s) or guardian(s). Before a student leaves the school property he/she must sign out in the office. If a student does not sign out, he/she will be classified as truant for the hours gone from school. Parent(s) or guardian(s) must sign out students.

LIBRARY RULES

The following rules apply to library use:

1. Remain quiet when in the library.

2. Use library materials effectively.
3. Use time wisely, completing homework, reading, or conducting research.
4. Take good care of library books and materials.
5. Return borrowed books and materials on schedule.
6. Be considerate of others when using the library.
7. Use reference materials under teacher supervision and with approval.
8. Be polite.
9. No type of food or drink (candy, gum, sunflower seeds, etc.) should be brought into the library at any time. Throw scrap paper in the wastebasket and do not leave it on tables, floor, or shelves.
10. No fines will be charged for students K-6 but students with overdue books will not be allowed to check out books until the overdue books are returned.
11. A student who is absent on the day the book is due is expected to return the book the first day back at school. Students grades 7-12 will be charged overdue rates.

A student will be charged the full replacement cost of all lost or destroyed books. If the book is out of print and therefore cannot be replaced, the student will be charged the average cost of the newest books the library has received. Fines for damaged books will be assessed according to damage.

Students should bring pencils and library materials with them to regular library class periods. Books from other libraries or the Bookmobile should not be brought to the library.

LOCKERS

Lockers are considered school property and are furnished as a convenience to students. Any contents issued to students for use during the school year are that student's responsibility. Lockers will be issued to each student enrolled in school. Any changes in locker assignments must be cleared through the office. Do not keep anything of value in your locker. The school is not responsible for any valuables or books lost.

Springer High School does not supply its students with lockers for illicit use in harboring pilfered property or harmful substances as enumerated under the Controlled Substance Act of the State of New Mexico approved on February 29, 1972, by the Legislature. Pursuant to the above, the principal or designated representative has the inherent authority vested by the school administration to inspect any locker.

The District retains the right to inspect student lockers for any reason at any time without notice, without student/parent consent, and without a search warrant.

LOST ITEMS

Any unidentified item found by anyone should be turned in to the office, unless it is a suspicious object such as a package or unidentified substance. In that case, the superintendent or her designee will determine the proper course of events. On a monthly basis lost and found items will be viewed by students, any unclaimed items will be disposed of at the superintendent's discretion.

LUNCH DETENTION (LD)

Springer High School may utilize Lunch Detention in an effort to promote student self-responsibility and compliance with district and campus policies and procedures.

WHEN: Entire Lunch Period

WHERE: Room assigned

The following guidelines apply:

- Students must bring something to work on and stay engaged for the entire time.
- Follow the directives of the facilitator.
- Nonattendance or removal may result in further disciplinary action, which may include but is not limited to:
 - Reassignment with added days
 - After School Detention
 - Community Service
 - Suspension
 - Other discipline as assigned

Students assigned to lunch detention will be required to eat what is served from the school cafeteria, exceptions will only be made with administrative approval.

MEDICINE

Prescription Medication

Under certain circumstances, when it is necessary for a student to take medicine during school hours, the District will cooperate with the family physician and the parents if the following requirements are met:

- The medication must be prescribed by a physician.
- The parent or guardian must provide written permission to administer the medicine to the student. Appropriate forms are available from the school office.
- The medication must come to the school office in the prescription container as put up by the pharmacist. Written directions from the physician or pharmacist must state the name of the patient, the name of the medicine, the dosage, the time it is to be given and in the case of asthma or anaphylaxis episodes, a written treatment plan for managing asthma or anaphylaxis episodes of the student to or from school or school-sponsored activities.
- An administrator may designate a school employee to administer the medication.
- Each administration of prescription drugs must be documented, making a record of the student having received the medication.
- Drugs must be kept in their original containers in a locked medicine cabinet.

Self-administration:

- When the physician feels it is necessary for the student to carry and self-administer the medication, the physician shall provide written recommendations, to be attached to the signed parent permission form.
- The parent or guardian must provide written permission for the student to self-administer and carry the medication. Appropriate forms are available from the school office.
- The child must demonstrate the ability to self-administer to the medication provider and school nurse or other school personnel.
- The medication must come in the prescription container as put up by the pharmacist.

Over the Counter Medication

When it is necessary for a student to receive a medicine that does not require a prescription order but is sold, offered, promoted, and advertised to the general public, the following procedure has been established to ensure the protection of the school and the student (See OTC Form on p. 33):

Administration by school personnel:

- Written permission must be provided by the parent or guardian for the administration of specific over-the-counter drugs.
- Any over-the-counter drug or medicine sent by the parent to be administered to a student must come to the school office in the original manufacturer's packaging with all directions, dosages, compound contents, and proportions clearly marked.
- An administrator may designate a school employee to administer a specific over-the-counter drug.
- Each instance of administration of an over-the-counter drug must be documented in the daily log.
- Over-the-counter drugs must be kept in their original containers in a locked medicine cabinet.

Self-administration:

- Students are not allowed to self-administer over the counter medications.

Protection of Students

- Use or administration of medication on school premises may be disallowed or strictly limited if it is determined by the Superintendent, in consultation with medical personnel, that a threat of abuse or misuse of the medicine may pose a risk of harm to a member of the student population.
- The student shall take extraordinary precautions to keep secure any medication or drug, and under no circumstances shall make available, provide, or give the item to another person. The student shall immediately report the loss or theft of any medication brought onto school campus. Violation of this regulation may subject the student to disciplinary action.

PHONE USE BY STUDENTS

Social calls during school hours are not permitted. Messages from parents will be taken and delivered for urgent situations. No calls to students should be transferred to classrooms. Only students in grades 7-12 will be allowed to use the telephone with approval from the Principal. Elementary age students may use the phone only in case of an emergency and then with the direct supervision of a classroom teacher.

PROPER CARE OF BOOKS

Springer Municipal School provides textbooks to students each year. These books are generally used for six (6) years. Therefore, particular care in handling and protecting books is requested. Students are not to write in their books, except for placing their names on the inside cover. Pencils and pens are not to be carried inside books as this can break the covers. Books are to be returned at the end of the school year in good condition. All books must have covers. The student must pay for lost or damaged books; cost will be prorated, based on the number of years the book has been used.

PUBLIC CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS

Please follow the chain of command if you have a school related concern. Please contact your child's teacher/coach first. If this does not alleviate the problem, the next link would be the school principal, superintendent, and finally, the Board of Education per the procedures below.

- **Regarding Personnel** (forms are available in the superintendent's office) K-1481
 - ✓ Should a school community member be aggrieved by personnel, they must complete the appropriate form. The written complaint shall be presented to the employee toward whom it is directed, with a suggested solution, by the person(s) filing the complaint.
 - ✓ The employee will have a minimum of five (5) working days in which to reply to the complaint at each administrative level at which the matter is reviewed.
 - ✓ If the complaint is not resolved between the originator of the complaint and the employee, the complaint shall be reviewed by the employee's supervisor. The Superintendent shall be the final level of review.
- **Regarding Facilities and Services** (forms are available in the superintendent's office) (K-1581)
 - Level 1.** The complaint shall be presented in writing, on the appropriate form, with a suggested solution, to the site administrator. Five (5) working days will be allowed for a reply.
 - Level 2.** If a satisfactory response is not received within five (5) working days, a copy of the complaint may be forwarded to the Superintendent, who will have ten (10) working days to reply.
 - Level 3.** If a satisfactory response is not received within ten (10) working days, a copy of the complaint may be forwarded to the Board for its consideration. Consideration as to the disposition of the complaint will be given within thirty (30) days.
*If the matters of concern are eligibility and related procedures, procedural safeguards, or provision of a free and appropriate public education, the matter may be referred at any juncture in the procedure to the appropriate compliance coordinator.
- **Regarding Instructional Resources** (forms are available in the office superintendent's office) K-1531

School community members having a complaint regarding instructional materials will be asked to complete the form "Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Material." Upon receipt of a request for reconsideration, the Superintendent will review the work in question. After review by the Superintendent, copies of the request will be sent to the citizen. If not satisfied with the decision contained in the report, the citizen may appeal the decision to the Board. The Board may refer the matter back to the Superintendent for further review, or the Board by review the materials in question.

 1. Definite decisions should not be made on disciplinary problems until the full story is known or reviewed.
 2. Problems at school can be solved through mutual understanding of student, parent, and authorities.
 3. Demand that your children conform to the rules and regulations as set forth by the Board of Education and school administration for the welfare of all.

SEX OFFENDER NOTIFICATION

In compliance with the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act parents may gain access to public information regarding the presence of registered sex offenders residing within the Springer Municipal School District by visiting the following website: www.nmsexoffender.com. This website should be used to identify sex offenders within the county, city, and School District. If you do not have Internet access available you may visit the public library or request assistance from school personnel.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is a violation of the policies of the Springer Municipal Schools, and it is against the law. As a student, you do not have to tolerate sexual harassment of any kind. A copy of the Springer Municipal Schools' Policy on Sexual Harassment of Students is available for your review in the school office or in the Central Administration office.

- If you feel another student or other students are sexually harassing you, please report the matter to the superintendent.
- If you feel any employee or official of the Springer Schools is sexually harassing you, please report the matter to the site administrator.
- If you have any questions about sexual harassment issues, please discuss them with a school counselor or the superintendent.

Administrators or his/her designee are authorized to conduct searches when a search is permissible. An authorized person who is conducting a search may request the assistance of some other person, who upon consent becomes an authorized person for the purpose of that search only. Female students will be searched by a female authority and male students will be searched by a male authority. An

authorized person may conduct a search when he/she has reasonable suspicion that a crime or other breach of disciplinary rules is occurring or has occurred. An administrative authority may direct or conduct a search under the same conditions and also when he or she has reasonable cause to believe that a search is necessary to maintain school discipline.

STUDENT CODE OF BEHAVIOR

Springer Municipal School students are expected to be courteous and considerate. Your conduct demonstrates your character, your awareness, and your respect for self and others. You are a model to other students and a tribute to the school when you behave in a mature and responsible manner. Please remember to follow these regulations at all times. In situations where guidelines do not exist, remember to treat others as you would wish to be treated.

BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES:

1. Remain quiet when others are studying or need to concentrate.
2. Be considerate during school assemblies. Applause is welcome and appreciated, but boisterous outbursts are inappropriate and therefore discouraged.
3. Enter and leave the auditorium in an orderly manner.
4. Help keep your school clean by not littering on school grounds or on property belonging to others.
5. Alcohol, tobacco, and other illegal drugs are not permitted at school or at any school-sponsored activity.
6. No profane or abusive language will be tolerated at any time.
7. Refrain from displays of affection.
8. Throwing of snowballs or water-filled balloons on Springer Schools property is prohibited.
9. Radios and stereos are not allowed in classrooms unless approved by the classroom teacher. Beepers, skateboards and rollerblades or any other devices(s) deemed unsafe or disruptive are not allowed on school premises during school hours and at school activities.
10. Making a threat of any kind, whether in jest or not, will be taken very seriously. Students making threats will be subject to immediate removal from class, parent conference, and possible suspension.

STUDENT CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS, AND GRIEVANCES

(forms are available in each school site's office)

Students may present a complaint or grievance regarding one (1) or more of the following:

- Denial of an equal opportunity to participate in any program or activity for which the student qualifies that is not related to the student's individual capabilities.
- Discriminatory treatment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability.
- Harassment of the student which means knowingly pursuing a pattern of conduct that is intended to annoy, alarm or terrorize another person.
- Intimidation by another student.
- Bullying by another student which means any repeated and pervasive written, verbal or electronic expression, physical act or gesture, or a pattern thereof, that is intended to cause distress upon one or more students in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at school activities or sanctioned events. Bullying includes, but is not limited to, hazing, harassment, intimidation or menacing acts of a student which may, but need not be based on the student's race, color, sex, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, age or sexual orientation.
- Concern for the student's personal safety.

Provided that:

- The topic is not the subject of disciplinary or other proceedings under other policies and regulations of this District; and
- The procedure shall not apply to any matter for which the method of review is prescribed by law, or the Board is without authority to act.

The guidelines to be followed are:

- The accusation must be made within thirty (30) calendar days of the time the student knew or should have known that there were grounds for the complaint/grievance.
- The complaint/grievance shall be made only to a school administrator or professional staff member.
- The person receiving the complaint will gather information for the complaint form.
- All allegations shall be reported on forms with the necessary particulars.
- The person receiving the complaint shall preserve the confidentiality of the subject, disclosing it only to the appropriate school administrator or next higher administrative supervisor or as otherwise required by law.

Any question concerning whether the complaint/grievance falls within this policy shall be determined by the Superintendent.

Students should file complaints on their own behalf. A parent or guardian may initiate the complaint process on behalf of an elementary school student. A parent or guardian who wishes to complain (other than an elementary student's parent) should do so by completing the forms following policy KE on Public Concerns and Complaints.

A complaint/grievance may be withdrawn at any time. Once withdrawn, the process cannot be reopened if the resubmission is longer than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the occurrence of the alleged incident. False or unproven complaint documentation shall not be maintained.

Retaliatory or intimidating acts against any student who has made a complaint under this policy and its corresponding regulations, or against a student who has testified, assisted or participated in any manner in an investigation relating to a complaint or grievance, are specifically prohibited and constitute grounds for a separate complaint.

Knowingly submitting a false report under this policy shall subject the student to discipline up to and including suspension or expulsion. Where disciplinary action is necessary pursuant to any part of this policy, relevant District policies shall be followed.

STUDENT IN THE FACULTY LOUNGE

No students are to be in the faculty lounge unless accompanied by an adult.

STUDENT PARKING

Students are required to park and lock their cars upon arrival on campus and **are prohibited from loitering in cars or in the parking lot at any time during the school day.** STUDENT VEHICLES MUST BE PARKED INSIDE THE CAMPUS AND ONLY ALONG THE FENCE OF SIM BROWN GYM. **ONLY STUDENTS WITH A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE AND VALID CAR INSURANCE WILL BE ALLOWED TO BRING CARS ON CAMPUS. STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN A PARKING PASS UPON VALIDATION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE AND CAR INSURANCE WHICH WILL BE CHECKED BY ADMINISTRATION.** PARKING PASS MUST BE VISIBLE WHILE PARKED ON SCHOOL CAMPUS. STUDENT VEHICLES, WHEN ON CAMPUS, ARE UNDER SCHOOL CONTROL AND MAY BE SEARCHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCHOOL POLICY.

The parking area directly in front of the school is for parent/visitor/Senior class parking, and the area behind the kitchen/shop area is for delivery trucks only. PLEASE DO NOT PARK BEHIND THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

Students who choose to park in these areas blocking gates from being opened and closed properly will run the risk of their vehicle being towed at their own expense. Also speeding, reckless, or careless driving on campus will not be tolerated. First offense will be loss of driving to school for four (4) days. Second offense will result in loss of vehicle privileges at school.

In an effort to minimize automobile accidents please do not use the bus exit or entrance to campus at any time. In addition, please utilize the entrance nearest to the Springer Municipal Schools Administration building as the proper entrance to campus. We thank you for your cooperation in helping ease the flow of parking and parent drop offs to SHS.

VISITORS

ALL VISITORS ARE TO CHECK IN AT THE SCHOOL SITE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. Visitors remaining on campus must obtain a pass at the front office and the pass must be worn while on campus. Springer students may not bring relatives or friends to visit.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers can make many valuable contributions to the students and educational programs of the District. A volunteer program is approved subject to suitable rules, safeguards, and regulations as developed by the Superintendent.

In order to protect the safety and security of children and school staff, any volunteer given access to students without the presence (line of site view) of a licensed staff member shall have a background and criminal history check, with the results received prior to allowing the volunteer such access. Volunteer applicants must submit to a background investigation at the expense of the volunteer by completing an application form and background consent form in accordance with current district policy. If a background check conducted from these criteria fails to return all necessary information, a background check using fingerprints may be conducted.

Volunteers are to be made aware of and comply with all district policies and procedures relevant to the performance of volunteer duties including but not limited to conduct, privacy, discipline, supervision and ethics. Each volunteer will be provided with a job description of duties, time requirements and qualifications, and be provided training, supervision and evaluation.

This policy shall not apply to:

*adults who visit a school but have no ongoing individualized interaction with a student or students, including, but not limited to, adults who have been invited to speak to a class or assembly, to judge academic competitions, to give a musical performance, or

to participate in a sponsored program;

*a parent or legal guardian who is accompanying his or her child's class on a one-day field trip or on another type of occasional extra-curricular activity that does not involve an overnight stay.

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

No student shall carry or possess a weapon or simulated weapon on school premises without authorization by a school administrator. No student shall use or threaten to use a weapon or simulated weapon to disrupt any activity of the District.

Any employee who observes any person in possession of a weapon or simulated weapon on school premises shall immediately report the matter to the school administrator. A school administrator who observes or receives a report of a student possessing a weapon on school premises shall immediately take appropriate safety and disciplinary actions in accordance with District policies and shall immediately report a violation of this policy to a peace officer.

A student who violates this policy by carrying or possessing a firearm shall be placed in an alternative education setting for a period of not less than one (1) year, suspended for a period of not less than one (1) year, or expelled and not be readmitted within a one (1)-year period, if ever. The Superintendent may modify the one (1)-year duration of such disciplinary action on a case-by-case basis.

A student who violates this policy by any means other than carrying or possessing a firearm shall be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to expulsion. Disciplinary action against a student with one (1) or more disabilities shall be applied on a case-by-case basis in accordance with District policies and state and federal special education laws. For the purposes of this policy:

Weapon means any of the following:

- A firearm.
- Any knife
- A destructive device.
- A dangerous instrument.

Simulated weapon means an instrument displayed or represented as a weapon.

Firearm means any of the following:

- Any loaded or unloaded gun that will, that is designed to, or that may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.
- The frame or receiver of any such firearm.
- Any firearm muffler or silencer.
- Any explosive, incendiary, poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive charge of more than one-fourth (1/4) ounce, mine, or similar device.
- Any combination of parts that could be readily assembled to form a firearm.

Destructive device means:

- Any device other than a firearm that will, or is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by any means of propulsion, such as a BB/pellet gun, slingshot, bow, or crossbow.
- Any collection of parts that could be readily assembled to form a destructive device.

Dangerous instrument means anything other than a firearm, knife, or destructive device that is carried or possessed by a student for the purpose of being used or being available for use to cause death or inflict serious physical injury.

School premises means the school, school grounds, school buses, or any premises, grounds, or vehicles used for school purposes and includes premises where school-sponsored events (for example, athletic games and competitions, music competitions, etc.) are held away from District property.

Deadly weapon means any weapon designed for lethal use, including a firearm.

WITHDRAWAL

A parent or guardian must accompany a student to withdraw from Springer Municipal Schools. The parent/guardian will sign a withdrawal form, issued by the front office, which will be taken to each of the student's teachers. Teachers will check in all books/materials and clear the student of all fees or fines prior to assignment of withdrawal grades. When all grades are obtained, the student will acquire the remainder of the checkout signatures and check out in the front office.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION: SPRINGER MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS TITLE IX

Springer Municipal School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education program or activities as required by Title IX regulations. This also applies to employment. Any inquiries about Title IX in regards to Springer Municipal Schools may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary of the federal Department of Education or both.

Title IX Coordinator:
Rebecca Rameriz
1401 Eighth St.
Springer, NM 87747
Phone: (575)483-3413
Email: ramirez@springerschools.org

ABOUT TITLE IX

Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, often referred to as Title IX, is a Federal civil rights law. Title IX, which began with a focus on discrimination and ensuring equity in sports, includes a major focus on prevention of and response to incidents of sexual harassment and sexual assault.

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION:

Springer Municipal Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education program or activities as required by Title IX regulations. This also applies to employment. Any inquiries about Title IX in regard to Springer Municipal Schools may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary of the federal Department of Education, or both.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

1. A school employee conditioning an educational benefit or service upon a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the school's education program or activity.
3. Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking.

HOW TO GET HELP OR FILE A COMPLAINT/PROCESS

If you are not sure whether you should make a formal complaint, you can consult the Title IX Coordinator at 575-483-3413 or ramirez@springerschools.org. The Title IX Coordinator can help you decide if any action needs to be taken and how best to address your situation. If you believe that you or an SMS student or staff member has been sexually harassed or sexually discriminated against, please report the incident(s) to the district's Title IX Coordinator.

DIRECTIONS TO COMPLETE THE FORM:

1. Print off the form from the district's website at springerschools.org.
2. Complete all sections of the form. Be specific when discussing the incident. Your complaint is not limited to the space provided. You are encouraged to attach additional materials, which may assist in the investigation process.
3. Be sure to include: date, incident, name of all persons involved, name(s) of witnesses.
4. Sign and deliver to the Title IX Coordinator or Principal.
5. Any questions, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at ramirez@springerschools.org.

PROCESS:

1. Complete complaint form and submit it to the Title IX Coordinator.
2. It will be decided if it is a formal/informal complaint.
3. Coordinator will promptly contact the complainant and discuss the availability of supportive measures.
4. Investigator will investigate and respond in writing within 10 working days to the complainant.
5. If the complainant is not satisfied, the complainant will have 10 days to submit a written objection, including a statement of the reason for the objection to the Superintendent.
6. The Superintendent will have 10 days within which to respond to the claimant.
7. If the Superintendent does not respond within the established timeline, the complainant may request in writing that the complaint go before the Board of Education.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

*Any Springer Municipal School employee is required to inform the Title IX Coordinator, Superintendent or the Supervising Administrator of their work site of any report made to them or any instance they observe regarding sexual discrimination or sexual harassment as soon as possible, and that failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

*Springer Municipal Schools and its employees will not retaliate toward anyone reporting a concern or participating in the investigation process, and should retaliation occur, it can result in disciplinary action.

*All Springer Municipal School employees have received Title IX training through POMS and Associates August 2020.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF STUDENT RECORDS

Dear Parent:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. The Board has established written policies regarding the collection, storage, retrieval, release, use, and transfer of student educational information collected and maintained pertinent to the education of all students to ensure the confidentiality of the information and to guarantee parents' and students' rights to privacy. These policies and procedures are in compliance with:

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act; Title 20, United States Code, Sections 1232g and 1232h; and the Federal Regulations (34 C.F.R., Part 99) issued pursuant to such act;

Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (USA PATRIOT ACT);

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB); and

The Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act; 20 U.S.C. Chapter 33; and the Federal Regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 300).

Student education records are collected and maintained to help in the instruction, guidance, and educational progress of the student, to provide information to parents and staff members, to provide a basis for the evaluation and improvement of school programs, and for legitimate educational research. The students' records maintained by the District may include - but are not necessarily limited to, identifying data, report cards and transcripts of academic work completed, standardized achievement test scores, attendance data, reports of psychological testing, health data, teacher or counselor observations, and verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns.

These records are maintained in the office of the District under the supervision of the school administrator and are available only to the teachers and staff members working with the student. Upon request, the School discloses education records, including disciplinary records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. Otherwise, records are not released to most agencies, persons or organizations without prior signed and dated written consent of the parent [34 C.F.R. 99.7]. The signed and dated written consent may be in electronic form under certain conditions [34 C.F.R.99.30].

You shall be informed when personally identifiable information collected, maintained, or used is no longer needed to provide educational services to your child. The information must be maintained for two (2) years after the date your child was last enrolled in this school district.

You have the right to inspect and review any and all records related to your child within forty-five (45) days of the day of receiving a request for access, including a listing of persons or organizations who have reviewed or have received copies of the information [34 C.F.R. 99.7]. Parents who wish to review their children's records should contact the superintendent for an appointment or submit to the superintendent a written request that identifies the record(s) you wish to inspect. School personnel will make arrangements for access and notify you of the time and place where the records may be inspected. School personnel will be available to explain the contents of the records to you. Copies of student education records will be made available to parents when it is not practicable for you to inspect and review the records at the school. Charges for the copies of records will be costs of copying unless the fee prevents the parent from exercising rights to inspect and review those records.

You have the right to request that an amendment be made to the student's education records and to add comments of your own if you believe information in the record file is inaccurate or misleading [34 C.F.R. 99.7(a)(1)]. You should write the superintendent, clearly identify the part of the record you want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by you, the School will notify you of the decision and advise you of your right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to you when notified of the right to a hearing.

You have the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Copies of the District student education records confidentiality policies and procedures may be reviewed in the assigned office in each school [34 C.F.R. 99.7]. You have the right to file a complaint with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office in Washington, D.C., concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA [34 C.F.R. 99.7]. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

Sincerely,

Julie Crum
Superintendent

Springer Municipal Schools

P.O. Box 308
1401 Eighth St

Springer, New Mexico 87747

www.springerschools.org

Phone: 575-483-3432 • Fax: 575-483-3970

Dear Parents:

Should an emergency or disaster situation ever arise in our area while school is in session, we want you to be aware that Springer Municipal Schools have made preparations to respond effectively to such situations. In fact, public schools in New Mexico are built to meet stringent construction standards and may be safer than your own home in the event of a disaster. Should we have a major disaster during school hours, your child/children will be cared for at school. Our School District has a detailed emergency crisis plan, which has been formulated to respond to a major catastrophe. Your cooperation is necessary in any emergency.

1. **Do not telephone the school.** Telephone lines may be needed for emergency communication. **Do not call your child's cell phone, nor should they call you as lines can become congested and stop adults for accessing needed help.**
2. In the event of a serious emergency, students will be kept at school until they are picked up by a responsible adult, who has been identified as such on a School District Emergency form, which is required to be filled out by parents at the beginning of every school year. Please be sure to consider the following criteria when you authorize another person to pick up your child at school.
 - He/she is 18 years of age or older.
 - He/she has a valid picture ID.
 - He/she is usually home during the day.
 - He/she could walk to school, if necessary.
 - He/she is known to your child.
 - He/she is both aware of and able to assume this responsibility.
3. Turn your radio to **92.5 FM KCRT & 93.9 FM KRTN and local television stations KOAT, KRQE, & KOB** ifor emergency announcements. If students are to be kept at school 92.5 FM KCRT & 93.9 FM KRTN Radio, Springer Police Department and the Colfax County Sheriff's Office will be notified. If electrical service is not affected, information will be relayed via the School District school messenger notification system. In addition, information regarding day-to-day school operations will be available by calling the District Office and SMS Facebook page.
4. Impress upon your children the need for them to follow the directions of any school personnel in times of an emergency.

Students will be released only to parents and persons identified on the School District Emergency form. During an extreme emergency, students will be released at designated reunion gates located on school campuses. Please instruct your child/children to remain at school until you or a designee arrives.

The decision to keep students at school will be based upon whether or not streets in the area are open. If this occurs, the radio station will be notified. In the event that a natural disaster takes place during the time that students are being transported, students will be kept on the bus and the driver will ask for assistance through radio contact with the school and district personnel. Any child who is home waiting for the bus will not be picked up (if roads are impassable) and remains the responsibility of the parent or guardian. In the event that a natural disaster occurs in the afternoon, the driver will make every attempt to continue delivering the students to their homes. Should road conditions prevent the driver from delivering students to their homes or to school in the morning, the students will be delivered to the Springer Schools campus, and the school will communicate with the home school to inform them of the students' whereabouts.

In case of a hazardous release event (chemical spill) near the school area, Shelter-in-Place procedures will be implemented to provide in-place protection. All students and staff will clear the fields, report to their rooms, and all efforts will be made to prevent outside air from entering classrooms during the emergency. "Shelter-in-Place" signs will be placed in classroom windows or hung outside classroom doors during a drill or emergency. Students arriving at school during a Shelter-in-Place drill or event should report to the school office or to a previously designated area at the school because classrooms will be inaccessible. When the dangerous incident has subsided, an all-clear signal will be given.

Please discuss these matters with your immediate family. Planning ahead will help alleviate concern during emergencies.

Sincerely,

Julie Crum
Superintendent

**Springer Municipal School
2020-2021 Student/Parent Handbook
Acknowledgement Form**

We, _____ and _____ have received a written copy of the Springer
Student's Name *Parent/Guardian Name*

Municipal School Student/Parent Handbook and understand its content. We acknowledge that the student named above will agree to abide by these rules and regulations and that disciplinary action will take place if these rules and regulations are broken.

(Student's Signature)

(Date)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)

Confidentiality of Student Records

I have received and read the School Handbook statement titled "Confidentiality of Students Records". I understand my rights as a parent to review my child's records, to request a copy upon paying the copying charge, and to challenge the content if I believe it is inaccurate or misleading.

(Student's Name)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)
