

# Homer Central High School

## Handbook for Students and Parents

### 2009-2010



#### **Homer Central High School**

P. O. Box 500 West Road

Homer, New York

13077-0500

School Phone: 749-7246

[www.homercentral.org](http://www.homercentral.org)



# Homer Central High School

## Handbook for Students and Parents

SYMBOL: TROJAN

School Colors: Blue and White

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Thank you for taking the time to familiarize yourself with the contents of our Homer High School Student/Parent Handbook. Since our rules, procedures, and activities may vary slightly from year to year, we revise this handbook each summer. We encourage you to review each edition we send you. You will notice that this year's handbook reflects a reconfiguration of the daily schedule, with the elimination of a daily homeroom period. Please review the handbook carefully.

We are interested in your reaction to this handbook and we encourage you to contact us with suggestions or questions you may have. Our sincere wishes to you and your student for an enjoyable and a productive year.

Sincerely,

Fred Farah, Principal

Douglas VanEtten, Vice Principal

### Mission Statement

The Homer Central School District promotes excellence in education through a variety of opportunities in a collaborative environment built on respect, equity, trust, and responsibility.

### School Calendar 2009-2010

Sept 7	Labor Day
Sept 8	First Day for Staff
Sept 9	Opening Day of School for Students
Sept 30	Staff Curriculum Session (early dismissal)
Oct 12	Columbus Day (no school)
Oct 13	Staff Development Day (no school)
Nov 11	Veteran's Day (no school)
Nov 20	Staff Development Day (no school)
Nov 25-27	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec 24-Jan 1	Holiday Recess
Jan 1	New Years Day (no school)
Jan 4	classes resume
Jan 18	Martin Luther King Day (no school)
Jan 26-29	Regents (gr. 9-12)
Feb 1	Staff Development Day
Feb 15	Presidents Day (no school)
Feb 16	Staff Development Day (no school)
April 2	Good Friday (no school)
April 19-23	Spring Recess (no school)
May 31	Memorial Day (no school)
June 15-23	June Regents
June 24	Last Day for Students
June 26	Staff Development Day

## Alma Mater

There's a grand old school in Homer, that is known afar and wide.

As we sing its praises over, our hearts are filled with pride.

And we'll cheer for Homer High School, so loyal and so true.

And be a staunch defender of her colors white and blue.

We must leave thee, Homer High School, for paths and friendships new.

# Directory

## Homer High School

Attendance (Mrs. Alison Manzano) ..... 749-7246  
Guidance Director (Mrs. Lisa Eves) .... 749-1209  
Main Office ..... 749-7246  
Music..... 749-1258  
Nurse (Mrs. Amber Lawrence) ..... 749-1211  
Principal (Mr. Douglas VanEtten) ..... 749-1208  
Vice Principal (Mrs. Karen Lang)..... 749-1219  
Director of Physical Education  
(Mr. Michael Carboine) ..... 749-1213

## Central Administration And Support Services

### Superintendent District Office

Mr. Doug Larison.....749-7241

### Director of Business & Finance

Mr. Michael Delair.....749-7241

### Director of Instruction & Evaluation

Mrs. Linda Llewelyn.....749-1206

### Director for Special Education

Mr. Richard Passigli.....749-1226

### Superintendent of Building and Grounds

Mr. Laird Updyke.....749-1234

### School Lunch Manager

Ms. Wendy Young..... 749-1216

### Transportation Supervisor

Mr. Rich Rogers.....749-1221

## Homer Central School

## Board of Education

Mr. Scott Ochs..... 756-8143

### *President*

4489 Cosmos Hill Road  
Cortland, NY 13045

Mr. Paul Phelps ..... 749-2030

### *Vice President*

4589 Cosmos Hill Road  
Cortland, New York 13045

Mrs. Sonia Apker ..... 749-9026

4717 Lester Sweeney Road  
Cortland, New York 13045

Mr. Forrest Earl..... 756-4953

4028 McCloy Road  
Cortland, New York 13045

Mr. James Gallagher ..... 749-6226

24 Clinton Street  
Homer, New York 13077

Mrs. Marybeth Mahey.....749-

1296 Bell Drive  
Cortland, New York 13045

Mr. David Quinlan..... 749-2265

25 Grove Street  
Homer, New York 13077

Mrs. Kimberly Sharp ..... 842-6074

6725 Hights Golf Road  
Cortland, New York 13045

Mrs. Nicole Sprouse. .... 842-6669

3920 Bells Mills Road  
Truxton, New York 13158

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# Staff 2007-2008

## **AGRICULTURE**

Kathleen Pratt

## **ALCOHOL & DRUG COUNSELOR**

Christine Colosurdo

## **ALTERNATIVE TO SUSPENSION PROGRAM**

Ms. Lindsay Dashnau

## **ART**

Paul Andre'

Brian Wallace

## **COMPUTERS**

Nancy McLaughlin

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

Lori Andersen

Kay Drake

Eric Hatch

Jeannette Harris, *Chairperson*

Savanna Kucerak

Michael Massenzio

Richard Spalding

Tammy Stokoe

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**

Kimberly Casullo

Trish Kinneally

Erica Stark

Dean Williams

Tammy Zimmerman, *Chairperson*

## **GUIDANCE OFFICE**

Lisa Eves, *Director*

Audrey Fairchild

Darlene Latten

David Merry

## **HEALTH EDUCATION**

Joe Davies

## **LIBRARY**

Kathleen Ballard, *Librarian*

## **MATHEMATICS**

Craig Allen, *Chairperson*

Jacqueline DiLucci

Cathy Heath

Gary Podsiedlik

## **MATHEMATICS, continued**

Amy Potter

Judy Read

George Schneider

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

Cara McLaughlin, *Vocal Instructor*

David DiGennaro, *Instrumental Instructor*

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Michael Carboine, *Director*

*Gina Herzbrun*

Douglas Pasquella

Lynn Renner

Geoff Sorenson

## **SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST**

Steve Richardson

## **SCHOOL NURSE**

Amber Lawrence

## **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

Ted Andrejko

Harold Fuller

Tom George

Chris Maciulewicz

Robert Nasiatka

Nicholas Patriarco

Kathleen Pratt

Diane Williams– Altmann, *Chairperson*

## **SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

Jim Baldwin, *Chairperson*

Dan Bradshaw

Joseph Cortese

Thomas Cottrell

Melanie George

Janine Giordano

Sheila Knight

## **AI/READING**

Kate Fulton

Tom Roughton

Patty Wainwright

## **SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER**

Jennifer O'Callahan

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

Richard Passigli, *Director*  
 Cheryl Carboine (Resource Room)  
 Tracy Hartnett (Resource Class)  
 Judith Mable (Resource Room)  
 Erin Mahunik (Life Skills)  
 Wendy Patriarco (Resource Room)  
 Valerie Cleland (Resource Room)  
 Kris Wakula (Resource Room)

### TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Mike DiMattei  
 John Steedle

### NON-INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Becky Steedle, *Secretary to Principal*  
 Patty Durkee, *Secretary & Switchboard Operator in Main Office*

Lynda Craft, *Secretary for Athletics*

Jerri Duane, *Secretary for Guidance*

Esther Hill, *Secretary for Guidance*

Alison Manzano, *Attendance Aide*

Judy LaRue, *Copy Aide/Parking Lot Attendant*

Theresa LaRue, *Nurses Aide*

Caroline Pudney, *Secretary for Special Ed.*

Linda Robison, *Secretary for Special Ed.*

Ginny Testa, *Secretary for Special Ed.*

Becky Frost *Assistant in Computer Lab*

Alice Kniffen, *Assistant to Mrs. Mable*

Kim Roos, *Assistant to Mrs. Patriarco*

Beth Snyder, *Assistant to Mrs. Carboine*

Sue McDermott, *Assistant, Testing Center*

Stacie Harris, *Assistant to Mrs. Mahunik*

Fran Gysel, *Assistant to Mrs. Hartnett*

Pat Whitlock, *Assistant to Mrs. Wakula*

*tba, Aide/Library/AV*

## Daily Activities

### Student Daily Schedule

Period 1 .....	8:05 - 8:53
Period 2 .....	8:57 - 9:39
Period 3 .....	9:43 - 10:25
Period 4.....	10:29-11:11
Period 5.....	11:15-11:57
Period 6 .....	12:01 - 12:43
Period 7 .....	12:47 - 1:29
Period 8 .....	1:33 - 2:20
Early Bus Departure .....	2:24
Period 9 .....	2:24 - 3:05
Late Bus Departure .....	3:10
Truxton Late Bus .....	3:05

### Emergency School Closings

When schools are closed or delayed because of weather conditions or other emergencies, each morning announcements will be made over the following radio and television stations:

**Radio:** WKRT (920 AM), WHEN (620 AM), WSYR (570 AM), WHCU (870 AM), WSEN (92.1FM), WSKG (91.1 FM), WXHC (101.5 FM), WTKO (1470 AM), WNTQ (93.1 FM)

### Television: News Channel 10, WSYR

(Channel 9), WSTM (Channel 3), WTVH (Channel 5)

On certain occasions, emergency conditions such as impending storms, etc., may necessitate dismissal of students before regular school closing time. In such event, efforts will be made to have the emergency closing announced on the radio and television stations listed above.

When dangerous road conditions exist, we will make every attempt to return the students as close to their regular bus stop as possible.

Parents should be aware of what procedures their children would be following in above events.

### Visitor's Passes

All persons wishing to visit the Senior High School **must** report to entrances at the pillars or the lobby and 'buzz in' using the intercom system. Visitors will be required to identify themselves, state their business and sign in.

A student wishing to bring a friend to class with him/her must obtain permission from the Principal **prior to the day** the friend will accompany the student to class. A general rule of thumb to be followed is that the visitor must be a student enrolled in a high school which on the day of the visit is not in session.

## Start of the School Day

*It is very important that students arrive at school on time.* Students may enter their 1st period class at 7:55 a.m. A warning bell will sound at 8:03 a.m. reminding students that there are two minutes remaining to take their seats in period 1 and avoid being tardy. Students must be in their period 1 class by 8:05 a.m. Students arriving at school before 7:55 a.m. are to wait outside of school or in the main lobby until the 7:55 bell. They are not to be in the corridors in other areas of the building. Students that are in the building but fail to attend or be on time to period 1 will be subject to school discipline.

In an effort to communicate with parents and students sooner when students are tardy, and with the goal to reduce the number of occasions a student is tardy, please expect the following interventions:

At Tardy #5 – warning and meeting with student support staff to review attendance policy and discuss causes of tardiness to school.

At Tardy #10 – one after school detention assigned.

At Tardy #15 – one late (two hour) after school detention assigned.

At Tardy #20 – one Saturday morning detention assigned, and a letter home requesting student/parent conference with principal.

Subsequent Tardiness (at intervals of 5) – one Saturday morning detentions assigned.

## Ninth Period

Ninth period is part of the normal school day. This period is reserved for activities and clubs, for seeing teachers for extra help, for making up missed work, or to attend scheduled and required Academic Intervention Service session(s). Academic Intervention Services provide academic support to students having difficulty with their class-work. Students are required to attend any scheduled “A.I.S.” session as they are expected to attend classes during periods 1-8. Any intentional (illegal) absence from a scheduled “A.I.S.” session will be responded to by disciplinary procedures governing illegal class absences.

Students who have no commitments for 9th period and who are not in need of help from teachers are permitted to go home at the end of period 8. Students who have been assigned to detention during 9th period are denied the privilege of leaving school early at the end of period 8.

Bus transportation will be provided home for those students who have a legitimate reason, such as those outlined above, for staying at school during 9th period. Students are required to obtain a **late bus** pass from their teacher or club advisor. This pass must be given to the bus driver in order to be transported home. The late bus leaves at 3:10. Bus routes are combined for the late bus. Please check in the main office to determine your late bus route.

# Academic Policies

## The Guidance Department

The guidance counselors assist students in many ways during the school year. Some examples of the concerns discussed with counselors are college selection, interpretation of test results, grades, course selection, study habits, and other matters of personal importance. Students should seek their counselor’s assistance when they have questions or need to make decisions about their school program, plans beyond high school or personal concerns. Please work through the guidance office when sending applications for college or financial aid, or when requesting transcripts.

Guidance counselors will contact students toward the end of the academic year in order to plan course work for the next year. Guidance information, when available, is posted on the bulletin board outside the guidance office for all freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors. Also, check the Guidance website periodically for new information.

Students have been assigned a guidance counselor according to the list below:

### GRADE 9 Class of 2013

A-Z Mrs. Fairchild

### GRADE 10 Class of 2012

A-G Mrs. Latten

H-R Mr. Merry

S-Z Mrs. Eves

### GRADE 11 Class of 2011

A-H Mrs. Latten

I-Q Mr. Merry

R-Z Mrs. Eves

### GRADE 12 Class of 2010

A-G Mrs. Latten

H-R Mr. Merry

S-Z Mrs. Eves

## Your School Record

Every student who enrolls at the Homer Central School develops a personal school record. This record is filed in the school office.

Your school record is a vital piece of information about you. This information is used by employers, colleges, and the military services. The development of an excellent record should be the goal of every student-with emphasis on your grades, attendance, citizenship, activity participation, school and community service. See your guidance counselor if you would like to review your school record.

**Remember: Your school record is important, so make every effort possible to create the best record that you are capable of achieving.**

## Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)

As juniors and seniors, students have access to occupational/vocational education through the BOCES McEvoy Campus in Cortland. Students from high schools throughout the county may attend for one or two years and earn three or more credits per year.

## Cortland Alternative High School (CAHS)

The CAHS houses approximately 40 students from area high schools at the BOCES Adult Education site on Port Watson Street. A non-traditional program, students continue to earn credits toward their high school diploma. Students must meet with their guidance counselor, CAHS staff, and parents prior to entry into the program. Please call your guidance counselor for further information concerning this program.

## Scholarship Information for Seniors

Check the guidance office bulletin board on a weekly basis throughout your senior year. You are responsible for meeting deadlines, securing letters of recommendation and requesting a transcript from guidance.

## Homer CSD Website

[www.homercentral.org](http://www.homercentral.org)

The website provides updated information concerning the district and each individual school, as well as athletics, music, and theater.

## Employment Certificates

Under the labor laws of New York State, all teenagers under the age of 18 are subject to certain regulations regarding employment and must obtain employment certificates (also called "working papers") before they can be legally employed. Although the school acts as the dispensing agency for the employment certificates, responsibility for the legality of the employment of a minor rests entirely with the employer.

Information about employment certificates and the necessary forms are available in the Nurse's office at Homer High School and in Guidance office at Homer Junior High.

Parental permission to work, a physical examination by either the school doctor or private physician, and proof of age are the major requirements for the employment certificate.

## Homework

Homework assignments are an integral part of our instructional program at Homer. Assignments are designed to reinforce classroom instruction, provide drill in practicing new skills and to introduce new concepts or material. Homework assignments should be expected on a regular basis and will normally be counted in computing your average in a course each ten weeks. Homework assignments should be carefully and neatly done and should be completed by the date indicated by your teacher. A typical student will average about 2 hours of homework per night.

## Homework if ABSENT

A student who is absent due to illness for a minimum of three days may request their assignments by calling the Guidance Office (749-1209) between 7:30 and 8:00 a.m. Homework will then be available in the Main Office after 2:30 p.m.

## Incompletes

Incompletes are given only for **extenuating circumstances** beyond the control of the student, such as extended illness (more than 5 days) and parent removal of the student from school for more than 5 days. Truancy, class cutting, fishing, lack of time or effort are not considered circumstances beyond a student's control and therefore are not a basis for receiving an incomplete.

An important factor considered in determining whether an incomplete for an extenuating circumstance should be given is the time in the marking period the circumstance occurs. It is expected that work missed be made up as soon as possible, hopefully, within two weeks of the circumstance. Accordingly, if a student misses the third week of a marking period because of illness, it is reasonable to expect the work be made up by the fifth week; hence there would be no basis of granting an incomplete at the end of ten weeks.

Should a student experience extended absenteeism, all academic work should be made up as soon as possible. Students should discuss their situation with their individual teachers to arrange a schedule for completing missed assignments.

## Report Cards and Honor Roll

***Report cards are issued every 10 weeks.***

Students must earn an overall average of 84.5 or above in all subjects, including physical education, to be eligible for the merit honor roll. An average of 89.5 or above is required for the high honor roll. All report cards will be mailed home!

## Awards and Honors

Students are recognized at Homer Central High School for their many academic and non-academic achievements and talents. At the end of each school year an evening assembly is held to acknowledge these students and their accomplishments. There are many awards that are given to students whether to be of a monetary nature, certificates, plaques, and/or being recognized at the assembly. There are also additional awards and honors given to seniors at graduation.

If anyone would like a list of awards and honors with the eligibility criteria and purpose for the award, please contact the Principal's Office.

## Grading Procedure

- I. **A student's report card will reflect the grade earned in all marking periods.**
  - A. Teachers are responsible at the beginning of each course for outlining the curriculum and reviewing expectations for attendance, homework, testing, and completion of assignments. These should be clearly articulated. Wherever there are expectations beyond the classroom period, such as concerts for music students, community service for government classes, or writing for publication in creative writing magazines, students and parents may be required to sign agreements to indicate a clear understanding of the requirement.
  - B. A grade of 65 is the minimum acceptable grade for passing a course. This grade is a compilation and average of test scores reflecting the curriculum (state and local) requirements, homework, class assignments, lab work, attendance, and good citizenship which is basically the student's acceptance of responsibility for his role in the education process.
  - C. Interim reports will be sent home on the five weeks between report cards to students and their parents. These reports may be also sent at other times when there is a danger of failure or a significant change in work habits or behavior that may indicate academic difficulty is imminent.
  - D. In addition to interim reports, teachers are encouraged to use the comment sections on the report cards so that students and parents will be better informed about why students have received a particular mark.
  - E. A unit of credit, sometimes known as a Carnegie Unit, will be given on the basis of the student's final average in a course.
    1. The final average is an average of the four marking periods and the final examination or Regents exam. The total is divided by 5.

2. In courses where a mid-term is given, the mid-term exam will be no more than 1/3 of the second ten week mark.
3. The final average for twenty week courses is an average of the two marking periods multiplied by two plus the final examination. The total is divided by 5.
4. Competency examinations are not taken into consideration in determining the averages, but must be passed in lieu of Regents exams in order for a student to qualify for graduation. (Special Education students only.)

**II. It is the responsibility of a student's parents and guidance counselor, with input from the teaching staff, to continuously monitor a student's progress.**

- A. The guidance counselor, with a parent and student's knowledge and consent, is responsible for establishing a student's schedule. The counselor is the student's academic advisor and advocate to insure that student progresses as they should through the system to graduation.
- B. If a student fails to perform academically, the teacher should notify the parent and counselor and should set up a conference with parents and others to define the student's problem and monitor the student for successful academic progress.
- C. At first, the result of such conferences is an **informal** Educational Program. If the agreed upon program is successful, the student will thrive.
- D. If the informal program does not succeed, the guidance counselor will proceed to a more formal program, with the students, parents and teachers to achieve the desired academic success of each of Homer's students. If a student works himself into a situation where there is no way to pass, a contract may be a possibility prior to the final 8 weeks. The contracts which are made will be signed by students, parents and teachers. In the absence of a parent/guardian the student's signature alone will be considered binding.

**An example of a contract possibility follows:**

If a student should fail the first two marking periods in English with a 30 or 40 and then has a change in attitude and achievement in the third marking period where he achieves an 80, a contract could be drawn that would agree to raise the first two marks to 50's and preserve a student's chance of passing if he meets the conditions agreed to. As an example, if the student earned an 80 in the fourth marking period and passed the final with a 65, he would pass the course.

- E. Contracts are designed primarily for students in academic difficulty. They will be initiated through the Guidance Office or may be teacher initiated. They will not supersede laws or regulations and must be approved by the principal and filed in the principal's office.

**III. Physical Education classes have a mandated and well-articulated attendance policy which will be maintained. Any other class which requires minimum hours for licensing purposes or certification purposes such as occupational education classes, will be maintained at the levels required by each course. For general courses, we strongly recommend excellent attendance.**

**IV. Carnegie Credits will be granted to special education students of all classifications when they meet the curriculum requirements met by all students. The special education teachers should be in contact with the regular classroom teachers to be sure parallel curriculum materials are used. The principal needs to review and recommend the granting of credit when the student passes the course work.**

**V. There are delivery systems for course work being developed by various institutions and approved by the State Education Department. The individual scheduling the contract with conference and signature allows us to use these new systems and allow credit both for high school and college or dual credit. All the approved programs require mastery of a prescribed curriculum and a time requirement.**

**Examples:**

- A. We allow work study programs through BOCES or arrange them locally.
- B. We have articulation agreements for dual credit with TC3 in English, Math, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, CADD, and Computers.
- C. We allow students to pursue individual opportunities with SUNY Cortland and TC3.

**VI. Carnegie Credits will be granted to all students with special needs such as medical or psychological, when they demonstrate mastery of the subject matter.**

## SENIOR HIGH PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

In the Physical Education curriculum students will participate in activities that will empower them to continue regular, lifelong physical activity as a foundation for a healthy, productive life. The physical education student will leave Homer High School as an individual well rounded in a variety of individual/team sports, social skills, selected areas of wellness, and lifetime fitness. Students will have the knowledge and basic skills to establish and maintain physical fitness, participate in physical activities, and maintain good personal health.

The high school curriculum builds upon the program at the junior high school with a progression of activities that are activity based, preparing students for lifetime wellness through physical activity. Active participation, skill and knowledge, and positive values expressed through “character education” are the foundation of the high school program.

### Student Activities

\*\*The Prudential Fitness Gram Testing is done at all grade levels.

9<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> - Basketball, Cardio-Respiratory Fitness, Dance, Field Hockey, Fitness Center, Flag Football, International Games, Karate, Lifetime Games, Orienteering, Power Walking, Project Adventure, Soccer, Softball, Track and Field, Volleyball, Wrestling.

11<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> – Archery, Bowling, Canoeing/Kayaking, Cardio-Respiratory Fitness, Dance, Flag Football, Field Hockey, Fitness Center, Fly Fishing, Geo

Caching, Golf, Lifetime Games, Mountain Biking, Power Walking, Project Adventure, Racquet Activities, Softball, Team Handball, Volleyball, Winter Activities.

### Physical Education Grading

Students will be graded in 5 categories each equaling 20% of the total grade:

- **Attendance** – When a student is absent the student receives a zero (0) in all grading categories until the class is made up. If the class is not made up the zeros remain for the grade on that day. It is expected the student will make up all missed classes during the given Physical Education Make up period (**View Make Up Procedure Below**)
- **Participation** - Is dependent upon the level of effort and participation for the given class activity.
- **Skill and Improvement** – The student is individually evaluated on the knowledge and demonstration of competency in activities taught, and improvement of the skills for that given marking period.
- **Personal Relations** – The student is evaluated for responsible personal and social behavior and demonstrates respect toward the teacher, classmates and themselves.
- **Attire** – The student is required to dress appropriately for each class. The proper dress is determined by the Physical Education Department and will vary with the nature of the activity.

### Make-up Physical Education

Any student who needs to make-up a physical education class may do so during the last week of the given marking period. Make-up classes will be held 9<sup>th</sup> period Monday through Friday for the last week of the marking period. Special circumstance will result in extra time to make up additional classes.

**Any absence from class requires a Physical Education Make-up.**

Make-up classes will **NOT** be allowed for the following:

- Cutting physical education class.
- Not prepared for class
- Discipline
- Receiving a zero for lack of participation

## **Fitness Testing**

Fitness testing is an essential element of any health-related physical activity program. It establishes a baseline from which students can set goals and check progress. It also allows students to experience and better understand the components of health-related fitness.

The Fitness Gram is a series of health-related fitness activities that assess the physical fitness levels of students. The results of the test will help students learn about fitness concepts, plan and set goals for fitness and serve as a motivational tool in promoting life-long fitness.

### **Aerobic Capacity**

Aerobic Capacity is perhaps the most important area of any fitness program. Research clearly indicates that acceptable levels of aerobic capacity are associated with a reduced risk of high blood pressure, coronary heart disease, obesity, diabetes, some forms of cancer and other health problems in adults (Blair et al 1989, 1992). There are 2 tests that can be administered in the Fitness Gram that measure aerobic capacity.

**1. Pacer Test** (the **P**rogressive **A**erobic **C**ardiovascular **E**ndurance **R**un) – the object is to run as long as possible back and forth across a 20-meter space at a specified pace which gets faster each minute. This test is a valid alternative to the customary distance run.

**2. One-Mile Run** – the object is to run a mile at the fastest pace possible. If a student cannot run the total distance, walking is permitted but results are generally better if the student can maintain a constant pace during the test.

### **Muscular Strength and Endurance**

**1. Curl-up Test** – Students complete as many curl-ups as they can at a specified pace. Muscular strength and endurance of the abdominals are important in promoting good posture and correct pelvic alignment (Fitness Gram, 1999).

**2. Push-up Test** – This test is also done at a specified cadence and is the recommended test for upper body strength and endurance.

### **Flexibility**

**1. Trunk Lift Test** – This test involves a measurement of the trunk and is important because trunk extensor strength and flexibility is important for lower back health, especially vertebral alignment. Musculoskeletal fitness of the abdominals, hamstrings and back extensors work together to maintain posture and lower back health (Fitness Gram, 1999).

**2. Shoulder Stretch Test** – This is a simple test of upper body flexibility and is useful in educating students about the importance of flexibility in all areas of the body.

### **Body Mass Index**

The body mass index is determined by a simple measurement of student height and weight, providing the student with an idea of body fat percentage.

## **Academic Requirements**

\*All students are required to successfully complete two units of study in a foreign language by the end of 9th grade. Successful completion of a foreign language in Junior High will earn a student one unit of credit. The Class of 2007 and beyond **MUST** pass the foreign language proficiency exam given at the end of 8th grade.

## **Types Of Diplomas:**

**Advanced Regents Diploma:** Students must score 65 or above on 9 Regents exams and earn 22 units of credit.

**Regents Diploma:** Students must score 65 or above on 5 Regents exams and earn 22 units of credit.

**Local Diploma:** Students must score 55-64 on 5 Regents exams and earn 22 units of credit.

The local diploma is only available to non-special education students who entered ninth grade before September 2007.

For students entering ninth grade after September 2007, the local diploma will **only** be available to students in Special Education .

## **Required Regents Examination:**

**Advanced Regents Diploma:** Two regents in science, three regents in math, Global Studies (Gr. 10), United States History & Government (Gr. 11), Comprehensive English (Gr. 11), Foreign Language (after third year).

**Regents Diploma:** One regents exam in science, one regents exam in math, Global Studies (Gr. 10), United States History & Government (Gr. 11), Comprehensive English (Gr. 11).

**Local Diploma:** This diploma is being phased out for non-special education students. This will require non-special education students to earn a 65 or higher on the following 5 Regents exams: one regents exam in Science, Math, Global Studies, United States History and Government, Comprehensive English.

***Non-special education students entering ninth grade in September 2008 are required to score a 65 or higher on ALL 5 required Regents exams.***

RCT's (Regency Competency Tests) will continue to be available to students in Special Education **only.**

Student Entering 9th Grade	Regent Exam Requirement
2005	TWO scores of 65 or higher on the 5 required Regents exams AND all scores at 55 or above.
2006	THREE scores of 65 or higher on the 5 required Regents exams AND all scores at 55 or above.
2007	FOUR scores of 65 or higher on the 5 required Regents exams AND all scores at 55 or above.
2008	ALL 5 required Regents exams at a score of 65 or above.

**Eligibility for Student Athletes:**

**Student Athletes must take five subjects and physical education in order to be eligible .**

**Requirements For Graduation**

- English ..... 4 units of credit
- Social Studies..... 4 units of credit
- Science ..... 3 units of credit
- Mathematics ..... 3 units of credit
- Health ..... 1/2 units of credit
- Physical Education..... 1/2 unit each year
- Art/Music/Technology ..... 1 unit of credit
- \*Foreign Language ..... 1 unit of credit (Regents or Local)
- OR 3 units of credit (Advanced Regents diploma)
- Total Credits Requires .....22 units of credit**

**Class Rank/G.P.A.**

Students receive a weighted average their senior year to determine class rank and G.P.A. (grade point average) for college applications. Final class rank is determined after the 2nd marking period of their senior year (7 semesters).

Courses are weighted as follows:

- 1.10 College courses, Advanced Placement (AP), CLEP
- 1.05 Honors classes
- 1.00 All other courses

An un-weighted average will determine a student's eligibility for co-curricular activities, honor roll, parking privileges, National Honor Society, Merit and Senior Honor Study Hall, and lunch privileges.

**Class Standing**

**Sophomore standing = 5 1/2 units of credit or more**

**Junior standing = 11 units of credit or more**

**Senior standing = 16 1/2 units of credit or more**

Seniors planning to pursue education beyond high school should begin the process of college selection and application early in the school year. Many decisions and plans have to be made and carried out before application deadline dates. Seniors should see their counselor to discuss their plans as soon as possible in September.

**Minimum Number of Courses**

All students must maintain a minimum load of **FIVE** courses per semester **PLUS** Physical Education.

This is required for student athletes to be eligible for interscholastic athletics.

## Adding and Dropping Courses

Except for transfer students from other schools, the cut-off date for adding year and semester courses is the end of the second week of the course.

In order to drop a course after the second week, the student must complete the **Course Drop Form** in which he must state in writing reasons for his request. The teacher, counselor and parent, in that order, must respond in writing on the form. Student must pick up the form from their guidance counselor.

Half year courses (20 weeks) may **NOT** be dropped after **9 weeks**.

Full year courses (40 weeks) may **NOT** be dropped after **19 weeks**.

## Changing Course Levels

Level changes only apply to certain full year courses. It is recognized that various levels of a course are not necessarily parallel courses. They may differ greatly in content, order of topic and instructional methods. In other words, different levels may mean in some cases almost completely different courses. Accordingly, level changes may be made only with the approval of the teacher and in accordance with department policy. The cut-off date for level changes is the 10th week with exceptions being approved by the receiving teacher.

## Eligibility for Summer School

**The Homer Central School is supportive of those students who wish to repeat a course in which they have failed to earn credit. A student must have completed a course (attended through June) and must have earned a minimum final average of 50 in order to be eligible to repeat the course in Summer School.**

## Textbooks

The school district provides textbooks for all students in the district at no cost. Every student is obligated to give his books the best of care. They are to be used and not abused. Students who lose or damage a book while it is checked out to them will be expected to pay for the book.

## Failed Subjects

### Full Year Courses:

Students may retake failed full year courses for one semester. To receive credit for the course in 20 weeks, the student must have a passing average for the semester and must pass a comprehensive final exam for the course. Students who fail to do so will remain in the course for the full year. Passing or failing for students in this situation will be determined by averaging the grades for the four marking periods and the final examination.

Courses may also be taken at an approved summer school to receive credit for failed subjects. Summer school credit will not be accepted for full year courses that a student has not taken before.

### Half Year Courses:

All failed half year courses must be retaken either during the regular school year or at an approved summer school to receive credit.

We will accept summer school credit for half year courses which a student is taking for the first time.

### Regents Exams:

A student may elect to retake a Regents Exam after he/she has completed an additional year of a failed course.

He/she may elect simply to retake the Regents Exam at the next scheduled examination date.

Regents Exams are scheduled for January, June and August of each year. However, not all Regents Exams are administered on each date.

The transcript will be an accurate reflection of courses and state exams taken. All scores will be recorded, including state exams and courses retaken.

## Mission Statement

The Homer Central School District promotes excellence in education through a variety of opportunities in a collaborative environment built on respect, equity, trust, and responsibility.

# Attendance Information

## School Attendance

Regular attendance at school is one of the most important aspects of a successful educational program. Therefore, student attendance is closely monitored with appropriate measures taken to assure regular attendance by all.

## Class Attendance

Students are **expected** to attend all classes, study halls, and scheduled "A.I.S." sessions.

Being prompt and consistent in attending class ensures that the continuity of your learning is not disrupted.

**With the above in mind, the following school policies have been developed:**

1. **A little late for class is too late.** If you arrive for class after the bell has rung, you may be assigned a detention for the lateness. Repeated lateness will result in progressive disciplinary actions. If you will be late or are late for a class because your previous teacher delayed you, you should request a pass from that teacher to be admitted to the class to which you are or will be late.
2. **Truancy is the absence from school for any part of a day without the knowledge and permission of a parent or guardian at the time of absence.** Truancy is a serious violation of the State Education Laws, endangers a student's academic success and speaks poorly of the individual's sense of responsibility.

Parents will be informed of all incidents of truancy and class cutting and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

**Possible disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, after school detention, Saturday detention, suspension and permanent removal from class. The disciplinary action will depend upon the nature, severity and repetition of the offense and upon a student's past behavior. Repeated truancy may result in a student being dropped from school upon appropriate due process procedures.**

A student who is truant or cuts a class may receive a zero for class participation, for any test or quizzes given during the class and for any homework due on that day.

## Absence (Legal)

The following are considered legal reasons for absence or tardiness in accordance with State attendance laws: illness, serious illness or death in the immediate family, medical or dental appointments, attendance in court, impassable roads or weather making travel unsafe, religious observance, approved co-operate work programs, quarantine, band lessons, approved college visitations, and fulfillment of military obligations.

Any student who is not present for at least four of the eight periods in a day will be considered absent for the day for attendance purposes. A student who misses any portion of the school day is required to submit an excuse to his or her homeroom teacher or to the Attendance Office directly.

## Absence (Illegal)

The following are considered illegal reasons for absence or tardiness in accordance with State attendance laws: truancy, needed at home, missed the bus, family trips or vacations, shopping, hunting, fishing, work, baby sitting, or oversleeping.

## Tardiness

All students who are tardy in arriving to school are to report to the Attendance Office to sign in and obtain a pass to class.

In an effort to communicate with parents and students sooner when students are tardy, and with the goal to reduce the number of occasions a student is tardy, please expect the following interventions:

At Tardy #5 – warning and meeting with student support staff to review attendance policy and discuss causes of tardiness to school.

At Tardy #10 – one after school detention assigned.

At Tardy #15 – one late (two hour) after school detention assigned.

At Tardy #20 – one Saturday morning detention assigned, and a letter home requesting student/parent conference with principal.

Subsequent Tardiness (at intervals of 5) – one Saturday morning detentions assigned.

## Excuses

An excuse written by the student's parent or guardian is required for our attendance records for absence from any part of a school day(s). **E-mails and phone calls cannot be accepted as documentation for student absences.**

The excuse must be addressed to the **attendance office** with the following information included:

- Date(s) of absence
- Student's full name
- Time of absence, if partial day
- Reason
- Parent/guardian signature

All excuses for full day absence should be given to the attendance office on the **first day back in school**. Excuses for tardiness should be brought to school on the day the tardiness occurs. Absences related to illness should also be reported to the School Nurse.

### —Excusal From School for Part of a Day—

There are only two types of legal excuses.

1. A written note from a parent/guardian requesting that a student be excused at a particular time on a particular day.
2. A verbal arrangement with a parent/guardian placed with the **Attendance Office** requesting that a student be excused at a particular time on a particular day.

## Procedure for Students Wishing to be Excused From School:

1. **Excuse Procedures:** Students will present legal excuse requests to the **Attendance Office in the Main Lobby** before school. In the case of medical or dental excuses, the students are requested to have the name of the doctor or dentist with whom they have an appointment on their excuse.
2. The student will show the "**Permit to be Excused**" to the teacher from whose class he/she is to be excused. The student should then go to the **Attendance Office** to sign out.
3. When a student returns to school, he/she must sign back in at the **Attendance Office** before attending any classes.

**NOTE:** A student excused from school by a verbal request of a parent/guardian must sign out in the same manner as indicated in items 2 and 3 above. The student is then expected to bring a written excuse the next day for the homeroom teacher covering the time the student was absent. All verbal requests to be excused must be made through the **Vice Principal's Office**.

Students are not permitted to leave school grounds at any time during the school day without permission from the school office. If you must leave the building because of illness or any other emergency, you must sign out at the Attendance Office. Failure to follow the procedure will be considered an unexcused absence. Students who are allowed to leave during lunch must sign out when leaving and sign in on return. Students should not be tardy for the next class.

## Family Vacation

Students planning to go on a (family) vacation while school is in session should pick up a Vacation Form from the Attendance Office. On the form, each teacher will indicate, as much as is possible at the time, the homework assignments for the period of absence. It is the responsibility of the student, upon his/her return to school, to take the initiative to make up all school work missed. Students are allowed a maximum of 6 school days to complete missed work. A grade of zero will be recorded for any work not submitted within this time limit. It is the expectation of the Homer staff that no student will miss final exams for being on vacation. In the event you will be missing for a non-emergency purpose, reasonable notice (one month minimum) should be provided to the teachers and guidance counselor. **Family vacation is considered an unexcused absence!**

# Cafeteria and Lunch Hour

## Cafeteria

Students may purchase food before school and during lunch periods. Food purchased must remain in the cafeteria. Food is **not allowed** in the hallways or classrooms.

The price of a student school lunch for grades 7-12 is \$1.50. The price for a student school breakfast is \$1.00. Should you need any further information concerning the school lunch program, lunch prices, or the "Free and Reduced Lunch Program," please contact the food service office at the high school.

In order to keep the cafeteria clean and attractive, the following rules must be observed.

1. Wait your turn in line.
2. Always use a tray.
3. Keep milk cartons, food, and waste paper on the tray.
4. **Empty all debris from trays into the paper containers.** Return trays, dishes and silverware to the receiving window.
5. Keep tables, chairs, and floors clean.
6. Push chairs back after eating.
7. Talk in a normal voice.
8. Keep the cafeteria lines orderly.
9. Never push or run.
10. Pick and clean up any food you drop or spill.
11. All food must be eaten at the table.
12. **Respect cafeteria duty teacher's authority.**

## Lunch Period Regulations

Students will eat during their regularly assigned lunch periods and are not to be excused early from class or study hall unless an arrangement has been worked out with the principal.

1. The cafeteria is the only area in the school open to students on lunch.
2. Students are not to congregate in the parking lot during lunch period.
3. Restrooms in the main lobby will be open for students to use.
4. Students are not to block stairways or wander into other parts of the building (ex. 2nd floor, basement, North or South Wing).
5. Only the attendance office door should be used during the lunch periods by students leaving and entering the building. Students should sign in and out as when leaving and reentering.
6. Student cars are not to be used as congregating points during lunch period.
7. BOCES students who attend the Center in the morning and eat lunch upon returning to the high school will be expected to be in their next regularly scheduled class on time.
8. BOCES students who attend the Center in the afternoon have been scheduled to eat lunch during the 5th period. They must board their buses to the Center by 12:00 noon.

## Lunch Hour

**Only twelfth grade students are permitted to leave school grounds during their lunch period.** Students in grade 12 who wish to be allowed to leave school grounds during their lunch period must have a permission slip signed by their parents/guardian on file in the office, be in good academic standing and process a positive discipline record. Students with permission to leave campus will be required to sign out when leaving and sign in on returning at the attendance office. Students who remain on school grounds during their lunch periods are expected to remain in the lobby or cafeteria. Students wishing to go to the library during their lunch period should obtain a pre-signed pass from a teacher or librarian.

# Health and Safety

## Accidents at School or School Events

All accidents are to be reported by the student to the school nurse. In the event of a serious injury or illness in school, appropriate first aid will be provided by the school nurse, and the parent or legal guardian will be contacted by phone. It is then the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to obtain subsequent treatment for the child. In the event that a parent or legal guardian cannot be contacted, or the injury is of an extremely serious nature, the school nurse may, at her discretion, have the student transported to the nearest emergency room by ambulance.

An Emergency Release Form for Authorization of Treatment should be on file in the health office for each student. These forms may be obtained from the school nurse in each school building. Please update the health offices with names and phone numbers of persons who are authorized to act on the parent/guardian behalf.

In case of a less serious injury, first aid will be administered, and an accident report filed. The student will explain to the parent when he sees them what has happened and the parent will decide if and when he wants to see his physician.

## Illness in School

**Any student feeling ill should report directly to the nurse's office.** If a student becomes ill while in class, he/she should make a request known to the classroom teacher. Going to a lavatory when one feels ill may be appropriate for that moment, but the student should go immediately to the Nurse's Office. Spending a long period of time in a lavatory will not be considered as showing serious concern on the part of the student for his health, as the nurse also has a lavatory in her suite of rooms. **Being sick in the bathroom is not an acceptable excuse for missing class. Being in the nurse's office is allowable, with permission of the nurse and your teacher.**

**Persons excused for reason of illness must receive approval from the nurse or parent and sign out in the Nurse's Office before they are legally excused.** Students leaving school during the day for any reason without permission will be considered truant. Students who become ill while home for lunch should have their parent telephone the school that afternoon and the student should bring a written excuse to school upon his return.

## Financial Need

If a student has a financial need for an eye examination, eye glasses, doctor's examination, clothing or other items that would make attendance in school more conducive to maximum achievement, the school nurse has access to funds that can be used to assist that student.

## Dispensing Medication

### POLICY

The State Education Law, the Nurse Practice Act, and good health practices prohibit the dispensing of internal medication, such as aspirin or Tylenol, to school children and to school personnel by a school nurse, teachers, principals, and other school personnel. However, there are certain unusual circumstances when a medication, prescribed by a family physician, may be administered by the nurse to a pupil during school hours to meet the health needs of that pupil.

### PROCEDURE

1. The school nurse must have a written request form from the family physician in which he/she indicates the frequency and dosage of a prescribed medication. Form may be picked up in the nurse's office. Also, she must know the condition being treated, how long the medication is to be given and how often the physician will be reviewing the case.
2. The nurse must have on file a written request from the parent to administer the medication as specified by the family physician. A verbal or telephone request from the parent or physician is not acceptable from the standpoint of protection for the school nurse and the school.
3. The medication should be delivered directly to the school nurse by the parent. The temptation to "share" a single dose or multiple doses is a real danger. Every year there are a number of cases of severe drug reaction reported as a result of this hazard.
4. The medication will be kept in the school nurse's office, in a locked drawer or file.

# General Information

## Assembly Programs

Assembly programs may be mandatory or optional. The determination as to whether an assembly program is to be mandatory or optional is made by the principal.

Teachers will accompany their students to the auditorium and will supervise them during the program. Students are expected to be courteous, show respect for those taking part in the various programs, and sit in assigned areas.

Student dismissal from the auditorium is to be orderly. Each student is expected to show consideration for his fellow student.

## Corridor Traffic

Traffic control in the corridor is everyone's responsibility. Students should always keep to the right as they move about the building. Four minutes are allowed for moving from one class to another.

Classes are on-going during the lunch periods. So as not to disturb these classes, students are not to pass through classroom areas during the lunch periods.

## Fundraising

All fund raising projects must be approved by the High School Administration. Projects which involve selling merchandise to residents of our community should be limited to one per year per organization. Tickets or articles of any kind, other than those associated with school sponsored activities, are not to be sold on school property by students or outside organizations.

## Library

The library is open from 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. The library staff provides information services to all students, faculty, and staff. Our collection consists of over 10,000 books, as well as periodicals, videos/DVDs and CD 'Books on Tape'. Books may be signed out for three weeks, periodicals for one week, and videos/DVDs for one week. Reference books are available for in-library use only. The library has an automated circulation system with an online card catalog, which is accessible from any networked computer in the high school. Several electronic reference resources are also available to students through the library's web page.

The library is used by the school's population as a place to do research and/or homework, to read, and to study. Students are allowed to come to the library from study halls or with passes from individual teachers. Students may also come to the library during lunch and 9th periods.

## Lockers

Lockers are provided for the students' personal use. Each student should memorize the combination and locker number when issued by the homeroom teacher on the first day of school. The combination should never be given to anyone else. Mrs. Durkee will be glad to help any student who forgets their combination. Mrs. Durkee is in charge of distribution of school locks. The locker should always be locked. The school is not responsible for articles lost from lockers. If, for any reason, the locker does not work properly, the difficulty should be reported immediately to Mrs. Durkee.

Special lockers are issued in the gymnasium dressing rooms for gym clothes.

**The student lockers, locks, combinations and/or keys are owned by the school. Students are provided lockers to store school-related materials and personal clothing. Students should have no expectation of privacy for anything contained in the lockers. Lockers are locked only to maintain privacy between students and to maintain ownership of property. The school maintains the right to access the lockers at any time.**

Students may use only locks provided by the school. Unauthorized locks will be cut off lockers. The school will make an effort to notify the student. For your protection the locker should be kept neat and in good order. Lockers are not to be defaced in any manner. Gym lockers will be locked at all times!

## Lost and Found

Students losing textbooks or personal items should check with the secretaries in the main office. Found items may be turned into the main office.

## Senior Privileges

Senior privileges include the following:

- Parking
- Senior Honor Study Hall (89.5 un-weighted average)
- Senior Merit Study Hall (84.5-89.4 un-weighted average)
- Senior Release—applications available in Principal’s Office.

Applications and permission forms for the above are available in the Principal’s Office. Senior privileges do not exempt seniors from the requirement of signing in and out when coming and going from campus, whether for lunch or Senior Honor Study Hall.

## Student Dress

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for Homer Central School programs. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Homer Central School staff should exemplify and reinforce acceptable attire, and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the educational setting.

**Your dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails, shall be safe and appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process. Examples of clothing, which is inappropriate include, but is not limited to:**

1. **Tube tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps (shoulder straps less than 1” wide), garments with low necklines that reveal cleavage, any see-through garments, clothing failing to cover midriff and shorts or skirts that do not extend at least to a point located mid-thigh.**
2. **Ensure that undergarments are completely covered.**
3. **Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.**
4. **Not include the wearing of hats, visors or other head coverings in building.**
5. **Not include items that are suggestive, vulgar, obscene, libelous, or that denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.**
6. **Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.**

Each Building Principal shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the academic year and any revisions to the dress code made during the academic year.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item, and if necessary or practical replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including suspension.

## Student Pass

A student wishing to leave a class or study hall should obtain a pupil privilege pass. The pass should state the student’s name, date, destination, the room he/she left, the name of the faculty member issuing the pass, and the time he/she left the room. The student is normally expected to return to the room from which the pass was issued within a period of time deemed reasonable by the teacher. The student is expected to have the teacher whom he/she visited sign his pass and indicate the time he/she left the room.

A student may receive a pre-signed pass from a teacher who wishes to have the student come to his room for help. Pre-signed passes are normally given to a student at a time when he/she has a study hall.

## Headphones And Audio Devices

There are a variety of devices used to play music. Students may use personal audio devices prior to school, while in lunch, and after school, as long as the device does not create a disruption . Students should not expect to be allowed use these devices during classes.

## Telephones

The office telephone is a business phone and should be used for students to contact parents and for emergencies only. Parents should not call school except in cases of real emergency.

***Cellular phones should not be used during the school day. Emergency situations MUST be handled through the high school main office.***

# — Parking and Transportation Information —

## Bus Policies

The safety and comfort of all students requires that the following regulations be obeyed. These regulations are contained in the New York State Transportation Law.

### Rules for pupils on school buses for the information of parents and children:

1. Be ready when the bus arrives. Wait until bus stops completely to board. Remain in your assigned seat until bus stops at your destination.
2. You may not eat, drink, smoke, or use alcohol on the bus.
3. Report immediately to your bus at dismissal. Students riding a bus other than their own must have a note signed by parent or guardian and principal of the school they attend. Also, students getting off with another student must have a signed permission note from the parent or guardian and principal.
4. Head or arms may not be thrust from windows.
5. Quarreling, fighting, rough play, swearing, shouting, or physical contact with the driver is not allowed.
6. Drivers have authority to reprimand students who are causing an unsafe situation inside or outside of the bus. Bus driver will report problems to the principal who may deny the student or students the privilege of riding on the buses.
7. WALK 10 feet beyond bumper when crossing in front of the bus; STOP in line with the driver and wait for signal to cross; CHECK both ways for traffic; CROSS directly across and keep checking both ways for traffic. Students must be 15 feet away from the bus before it can move.
8. Any large or special school projects should be transported by parents. To be allowed on the bus, the object must be held on the student's lap, without bothering other students in the seat. Objects must not hang over the seat into the aisle or be taller than the seat. No animals of any kind shall be transported by a school bus. Only things requested by D.O.T. are allowed to be attached to the inside and outside of the bus.

9. Please help your bus driver to keep your bus neat and do your part to make his/her driving safe.

The bus driver will report any irregularity to the Principal who may deny the student or students the privilege of riding on the buses.

## Bus Discipline Policy

All pupils must behave appropriately as passengers of a school bus. Clearly understood and well-enforced rules are necessary for the successful management of pupils who ride school buses.

Misbehavior problems on the buses will be handled in the following manner:

**First** - The bus driver should make an attempt to correct any discipline problems by asking the pupil to behave, and, if necessary, to assign seats to certain pupils.

**Second** - After two or three verbal warnings have been given to the pupil by the bus driver for discipline problems, the child will be brought to the school Principal by the driver, along with an explanation of what the problem is. At this time, the Principal may notify the child's parents of the complaint if he deems it necessary. The action taken by the Principal will be noted on the child's card for future reference.

**Third** - After the next offense the child is again brought to the Principal, who will contact the parents by telephone and letter. At this point he/she may suspend the child from riding the bus. If the pupil is suspended, a conference must be held with the parents before the restrictions are lifted. The action will be noted on the child's card again. **Understand that the school bus is considered school property.**

## Spectator Bus

A special bus may be provided to transport students to some away games. This is a privilege granted to those who do not abuse it. A charge will be collected in advance for tickets to the activity to cover the cost of transportation. The following regulations must be followed:

1. All school district bus rules are in effect. Any undesirable behavior will result in loss of privilege to ride and further disciplinary action.
2. There must be a chaperone on each bus.
3. The bus will depart from the school at the time scheduled, IT WILL NOT WAIT. On the return trip, the bus will wait 15 minutes for tardy riders, during which time he will make a reasonable effort to locate the missing person(s). After 15 minutes, the bus will depart.
4. Only Homer Central High School Students are permitted to ride the Spectator bus.
5. Students that ride a spectator bus will only be dropped off at school. They cannot be dropped off at home or any other location.

## Transportation to Practices or Rehearsals

Many of our extracurricular activities do not always meet at the high school. Students have to travel to another school or community site to practice/rehearse. The school does not transport students to practices/ rehearsals. It is the student's and/or parent's responsibility to get the student to his/her practice/rehearsal site. This may involve the student walking or running, driving, or riding with another student, coach/advisor or a parent. Parents must know of their student's transportation arrangements.

## Student Parking

Please be advised the Village has posted "No Parking" signs on streets around school. Applications for parking permits are available in the principal's office. Also, please note that for most years we will have more applications than available parking spaces. **Priority will be given to seniors and a students "un-weighted" GPA will be the determining criteria.**

Students wishing to be considered for the school parking privilege must complete the "Alive @25" safe driving program. This four hour program encourages good decision making and positive peer intentions for young drivers

Students who are discourteous or insubordinate or who endanger others will not be permitted on school grounds with a vehicle. Anyone parking illegally faces the possibility of being towed. Extreme violators may be towed without notice. Parking violations will be treated like other misbehaviors. Parents will be notified of parking misbehaviors and repeated offenses may lead to a loss of parking privilege and/or other disciplinary consequences.

**Students, parents, and staff should be advised of Administration's intent to search any vehicle on school property which they suspect contains an item or substance which could harm, such as; a weapon, explosives, or drugs.**

# Parent's Organizations

## Homer High School

### Parent's Organization

The Parents Organization is open to all parents and guardians of high school students. The goal of the group is to provide parents with the opportunity to help make the school experience a positive one for our students.

The traditional projects of this group include the All Night Party after the prom (May) and the teacher appreciation luncheon (June). A special project for 1997 was the development of a parents handbook.

### Homer Music Boosters

The Homer Music Booster Club, Inc., is a district-wide parent organization that works to support the music activities in the Homer Central School District. Without this effort the music department's quality could suffer greatly.

Some of the areas in which the Booster parents provide assistance are the sports concession stand, awards banquets, annual Christmas tree ornament promotion, band uniform assignment/recordkeeping, chaperoning, equipment loading, staff the "Marching Band Store" (shoes, gloves, shirts, hats, etc.) and publicity. Meeting dates are listed on the district calendar.

### Homer Athletic Boosters

The Athletic Boosters are volunteers—parents, teachers, and community members—dedicated to working together in support of all athletic programs at Homer High School and Homer Junior High. Our goals include encouraging student participation in interscholastic sports, improving school spirit and attendance at athletic events, demonstrating good sportsmanship, and raising funds to purchase equipment and other items that are not covered in the school budget.

# Clubs and Activities/Advisors

## Class Activities

Each class has a fundraising activity and particular activities in which they either participate and/or sponsor. The funds that are raised during their freshman and sophomore years as well as junior and senior years goes to help defray the costs involved for the junior/senior prom, as well as the senior banquet and possible senior activities. Each class also participates in the Homecoming banner parade during the Homecoming Football game at half-time.

Class elections for sophomore, juniors and seniors are held in the spring for the following school year. The freshmen class election is held in the fall. Please see your class advisor for specific information, if interested.

Dances are sometimes held after sporting events sponsored by a class, club or organization.

### **Freshmen** –Ted Andrejko

- Fundraiser

### **Sophomores** - Val Cleland

- Responsible for Freshmen/Sophomore Semi-formal Dance (January/February)
- Class Rings
- Fundraiser

### **Juniors**—Melanie George

- Responsible for Junior/Senior Prom (May)
- Fundraiser

### **Seniors** - Robert Nasiatka and Darlene Latten

- Magazine Sale Fundraiser (Sept.)
- Senior Banquet - Dinner and speakers for seniors and their parents (June)
- Senior Trip/Picnic (June) - Students are discouraged from declaring their own “skip day.”
- Baccalaureate (June)
- Graduation (June)

## Academic Challenge Quiz Team

### **Mrs. Tammy Stokoe / Mr. Nicholas Patriarco**

The Quiz Team allows some of Homer’s academically motivated students to test their knowledge against their peers while working as a team. Teams of students from surrounding school districts compete against one another answering questions in all content areas including math, science, literature, arts, current and world events. Winners of each local competition earn the right to compete at regional and possibly state and national competitions.

The Academic Challenge Quiz Team is comprised of 5 to 6 students from the junior or senior class. Although not directly involved in the competition, several freshmen and sophomores are invited to attend and experience the atmosphere to prepare them for future competitions. Selection is based on several criteria including motivation, class rank, teacher recommendation, and previous participation. Short, after-school practices may be held several weeks prior to the competition to introduce new participants to rules and strategies.

Members may be asked to tutor students in the elementary and intermediate grades.

## FFA

### **Ms. Kathleen Pratt / Mr. David Merry -Advisors**

The FFA (formerly Future Farmers of America) is the national organizations of, by, and for students enrolled in agri-science or agricultural education. The FFA is intra-curricular and originated as a part of the high school agriculture education curriculum. Members should be enrolled in a science and/or agriculture class, but may also participate if they have an interest in anything in the broad area of the agricultural and/or environmental sciences. FFA activities encourage students to learn leadership and life skills through active participation. Experiences include conducting and taking part in public meetings, problem-solving, entrepreneurship opportunities, agri-science research projects, competitions, travel and community service.

Members experience leadership opportunities to improve their personal abilities and career experiences in the agri-science industry and their local communities.

## International Club

### **Mrs. Tammy Zimmerman - Advisor**

The purpose of the International Club is to provide activities of an international nature for the foreign language students of Homer High School. This club represents all foreign language students and supports some of the expenses incurred within foreign language classes, as well as student travel, international dinners, language competitions, language entertainment, special projects, possible support of a foreign child, and special activities with Homer's exchange students.

The information on being club officers is discussed within the foreign language classes. The officers meet regularly at an agreed upon time.

## Music Organizations

### **SENIOR CHOIR**

#### **Cara K-B McLaughlin - Director**

Senior Choir is available to all interested students. It is not an extracurricular activity; it carries Regents credit and meets during the school day. Students also in band will meet every other day and will receive one arts credit between the two ensembles. Members are required to participate in the evening concerts in December and the spring which are scheduled on the district calendar as well as one or more competitions during the year. Participation in this ensemble qualifies students for participation in Ruby Rhythms and Blue Notes.

### **FRESHMAN CHOIR**

#### **Cara K-B McLaughlin - Director**

Freshman Choir is available to all freshman not enrolled in band. It is not an extracurricular activity; it carries Regents credit and meets during the school day. This is a smaller ensemble than Senior Choir and is intended to help students transition from Junior High level music to High School level music. Members are required to participate in the evening concerts in December and the spring which are scheduled on the district calendar as well as one or more competitions during the year. Participation in this ensemble qualifies students for participation

### **BLUE NOTES**

#### **Cara K-B McLaughlin - Director**

Blue Notes is an extracurricular jazz vocal ensemble comprised of a select group of choir members who are chosen through auditions in the

fall. The group performs at concerts, competitions, and various school functions throughout the year. Students must be a current member of a curricular choir (senior or freshman) as well as maintain good academic standing to be eligible for this group.

### **RUBY RHYTHMS**

#### **Cara K-B McLaughlin - Director**

Ruby Rhythms is an extracurricular women's choir comprised of a select group of choir members who are chosen through auditions in the fall. The group performs at concerts, competitions, and various school functions throughout the year. Students must be a current member of a curricular choir (senior or freshman) as well as maintain good academic standing to be eligible for this group.

### **TROJAN MARCHING BAND/PEP BAND**

#### **Mr. David DiGennaro- Director**

This grade 7-12 extracurricular group performs at home football games, and spring parades. The ensemble performs many types of entertaining music at the football games and is a perennial favorite at the local parades. Opportunities exist for woodwinds, brass, percussion, electric bass, and color guard. In return for the extra rehearsal time required, extra rewards (such as yearly awards, banquets and picnics, trips) are planned. Weekly lessons are required for all musician members.

### **CONCERT BAND**

#### **Mr. David DiGennaro - Director**

This group meets during period 1 every day, and performs public concerts, recruitment concerts, and judged performances throughout the year. Exchange programs with other schools are sometimes arranged.

The organization's repertoire explores many different styles of music - "serious" music, show tunes, concert marches, pop selections, ethnic music, jazz, etc. The band has a tradition of performing challenging music (levels 4, 5, and 6) to high standards (A+, A, etc.).

Weekly lessons are required. Members of band may be selected for the All-County, Area All-State, or (the highest honor) the All-State Band.

When enrollment permits, a second, more select "**Wind Ensemble**" is formed through auditions.

## LESSONS

All concert and jazz band instrumentalists will be given one lesson per week. Beginners are always welcome, with the intent of joining the band in the future. To schedule lessons, students miss a different class each week (a particular course will be missed once per five or six weeks). Students may participate in annual solo and small-ensemble festivals; awards and scores are given for these festivals.

## WINTER GUARD

### Mr. Richard Spalding - Director

This extracurricular group participates in competitive winter color-guard circuits. The ensemble performs to many types of entertaining music and annually employs top choreographers and instructors to work with its sections. In return for extra rehearsal time required, extra rewards (such as banquets, award ceremonies, and trips) are planned. Membership is open to all.

## JAZZ BAND

### Mr. David Shiffman - Director

This is a voluntary instrumental group available to all interested students. They examine and perform all types of jazz, swing, and rock music. The Jazz Band participates in exchange programs, school assemblies and concerts, as well as recruiting concerts. Through this group, an opportunity is provided for the interested students to perform, in a serious way, this facet of the American Musical Scene. The Jazz Band usually meets on Monday evenings. Membership in Concert Band is required.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

### Mrs. Cathy Heath / Mrs. Kathy Ballard- Advisors

The purpose of National Honor Society is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. For many students, selection as a member of the National Honor Society (NHS) is the pinnacle of their achievements in school. This honor, recognized throughout the nation, is both the public recognition of accomplishment and the private commitment to continued excellence on the part of the new member.

## Selection Procedure:

National guidelines require that membership be based on 1) scholarship, 2) leadership, 3) character and 4) service. Prospective members need to see the Society advisor for a detailed guideline of the criteria under each of the four headings.

- Students' academic records are reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility. The Guidance Office provides the faculty advisor with a list of all students that have a cumulative un-weighted average of 90 or above and have attended the school the equivalent of at least one semester (if a transfer student).
- Students who are eligible scholastically are notified by the faculty advisor and are encouraged to complete a Student Activity Information Form for consideration for selection to the NHS chapter by the Faculty Council. The information form is not an application for membership and review of information gathered does not guarantee selection. The form exists to support the student's candidacy by providing relevant information for use by the Faculty Council. Students must complete the form and return it to the advisor by the deadline date.
- The Student Activity Information Form will be reviewed by the Faculty Council, along with any other verifiable information about each candidate and his or her activities which define the candidate's leadership, service and character. The Faculty Council consists of five voting faculty members who are appointed by the principal.
- Candidates receiving a majority vote of the Faculty Council will be invited for induction into the chapter. The principal votes only in case of a tie. The advisor does not vote.
- Students who are selected are notified of their selection and given information regarding the upcoming induction ceremony and the obligations of membership in NHS. The formal induction ceremony will be held in the spring.
- Prior to the induction ceremony, the faculty advisor will verify the acceptance of all selected members in order to plan effectively for the ceremony.

Selection for membership is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities. The Faculty Council decides on appropriate disciplinary measures should a member fall below the standards by which the

member was selected. Disciplinary measures will be consistent with both local school policy and NHS national guidelines. Flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws will result in a dismissal hearing. A student who is dismissed or who resigns is never again eligible for membership in NHS.

With induction, a member assumes certain obligations. The chapter must conduct a service project for the school or community, and see to the development of an individual service project for each member. The chapter may choose to sponsor fundraising projects or involve itself with the school to reach the chapter's goals established to encourage scholarship, promote leadership and service, and build character. In addition, regular meetings of the chapter will be held to conduct chapter business and communicate with members. All active NHS chapter members are expected to support these and other chapter activities.

## Odyssey Yearbook

### **Mrs. Nancy McLaughlin / Mrs. Becky Steedle - Advisors**

The Odyssey staff is composed of all interested students. Students apply in the spring for the type of work they wish to do on the staff. The entire staff is composed of several smaller staffs, each with a specific job. The copy staff writes the material which goes into the yearbook. The production staff does the actual layout and planning of what the book will look like and where the copy and pictures will be placed. The ad staff is responsible for financing the book. There are also typing, sports, photography, and business staffs, which have respective jobs. Freshmen entering in the fall should see the advisor if they wish to participate in the yearbook staff.

## The Olympian

### **John Steedle - Advisor**

The Olympian is the student run newspaper first published on October 3, 1930, as the Homer Academy News. The newspaper staff is headed by a student editor-in-chief who coordinates the overall production of the newspaper and distributes story assignments as well as photography assignments. Any student interested in contributing on a continuing basis or even on an occasional basis is welcome to join our staff.

Beginning with the 78th anniversary edition of the Olympian on September 30, 2008, the newspaper became an all-digital publication. In the first full year of creating a digital newspaper, the Olympian

staff will save more than 100,000 pages from being needlessly printed and soon after, discarded. The conservation of resources is a valuable example of how organizations, large and small, can reinvent their modes of operation to be more sustainable and responsible.

Students with an interest in writing. Photography, graphic design are encouraged to join the Olympian staff. Meetings are held on a monthly basis in room 41 of the high school.

## Shakespearean Society

### **Ms. Louise Felker-Holl - Advisor**

Membership in the Shakespearean Society is an honorary position which recognizes the work done by an individual on theater productions during the school year. Any student may participate in the plays in any form (sets, props, acting, etc.), and membership is voted on by the present members. At the end of the year, a banquet is held at which drama awards are held at which drama awards are given.

## SADD

### **Michael Massenzio-Advisor**

SADD stands for "Students Against Destructive Decisions". This group plans a number of activities each year, the most noteworthy of which is the pre-prom safety activities in May.

## Student Government

### **Mr. Eric Hatch- Advisor**

The purpose of the Student Government is to enable students to voice their opinions, discuss and possibly make decisions concerning school problems, new ideas and any school related matters. Student Government acts as a liaison between the student, administration, faculty, staff and other students. This organization helps to plan student activities and participates in orientation, open house, spirit week, sponsors dances, and also does humanitarian efforts

Student Government is open to all interested students. Officers are elected at the end of each school year by students in ninth, tenth, and eleventh grades.

# Student's Rights and Responsibilities

## It is the Student's Right to:

- Have the student's record available for inspection by his/her parent or legal guardian upon request, or by the student him/herself if 18 years of age or older.
- Attend school in the district in which his/her parent or legal guardian resides.
- Be afforded that the school will be a safe and orderly place for all students to gain an education.
- Be free from unreasonable intrusion upon his/her person or property by school personnel and/or police agencies.
- Be free from discriminatory practices.
- Be respected as an individual entitled to his/her personal dignity and integrity.
- Be aware of right to access and guidelines governing such access.
- Be afforded due process in the event of disciplinary action brought against him/her, including suspension and/or expulsion.
- Be represented by an active student government.
- Be afforded the opportunity to develop school publications such as a school newspaper.
- Be afforded the opportunity to participate on athletic teams and in other extracurricular activities regardless of race, sex or national origin, except pursuant to Regulations of the State Education Commission.

## Resolution of Student/Teacher

### Disagreements

The vast majority of interactions between students and teachers are positive. Occasionally disagreements do arise.

It is our expectation that most disagreements between student and teacher will be worked out at the student/teacher level. On occasion, students or their parents may feel the need to involve a guidance counselor or administrator in discussions. Also, on rare occasions, a parent may feel the need to contact the Superintendent of Schools for resolution of matters, which have not been worked out at the building level.

## Character Education

The Homer High School's program is built on respect and responsibility. We are committed to the development of respect and responsibility in a caring learning environment. We believe that all people have worth and dignity and can learn.

The focus of all instruction in the high school is to nurture individual excellence, which is best achieved in a climate of respect, equality, trust, responsibility and creativity. To assure that these concepts and characteristics are taught to all students, the district's **We C.A.R.E.** (Cooperating in an Academic and Respectful/Responsible Environment) character education program is integrated into all of the subject areas and instruction.

# Sports Information

## Athletic Memberships

Homer Central School District is a member of the Onondaga High School League and the New York Public High School Athletic Association, Section III.

## Interscholastic Athletic Program

### FALL

#### Boys

Golf

Varsity Football

JV Football

Varsity Soccer

JV Soccer

Cross Country

#### Girls

Varsity Tennis

Cross Country

Varsity Football Cheerleading

JV Football Cheerleading

Varsity Soccer

JV Soccer

Varsity Field Hockey

JV Field Hockey

### WINTER

#### Boys

Indoor Track

Varsity Basketball

JV Basketball

Varsity Wrestling

JV Wrestling

Varsity Ice Hockey-Combined Cortland/  
Homer team

#### Girls

Indoor Track

Varsity Basketball

JV Basketball

Varsity Volleyball

JV Volleyball

### SPRING

#### Boys

Varsity Baseball

JV Baseball

Varsity Lacrosse

JV Lacrosse

Varsity Tennis

Track

#### Girls

Varsity Lacrosse

JV Lacrosse

Varsity Softball

JV Softball

Track

### Coaching Roster

The coaching roster is currently on file with the Superintendent of Schools and the Director of Athletics. This roster is updated quarterly.

### Sign-ups for Sports

Sign-ups for sports are announced over the PA system and posted near the gymnasium area. These are posted well in advance of the first try-out practice date.

### Cheerleaders

Cheerleading is divided into several different squads. There are Varsity and Junior Varsity squads for football. Only girls in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades are eligible for the squads. Tryouts are held in the spring or summer for the following school year. Cheerleading involves not only cheering at a game but other numerous preparation activities that take up time; each cheerleader is expected to devote a lot of her time and efforts to these activities.

Although cheerleading is not recognized as a sport in New York State, Homer Central School treats it as one. Cheerleading follows all the rules regulations of the athletic programs.

**See Code of Behavior for Extracurricular Activities. A specific, detailed code directed to athletics is also given out each season.**

## Physicals

New York State law requires that a student have a physical each year in order to participate in sports.

The school arranges physical exam dates before each season. These are announced over the PA system, posted on the bulletin board of the Athletic Director's office, and listed in the newspaper. If a student does not attend the school physical, they must get one from their doctor. Forms to be filled out are available in the nurse's office or in the Main Office. This must be given to the nurse prior to the first practice. One physical exam per school year is sufficient for all sports that school year. A physical exam is good for twelve months from the date acquired.

## Practices

Practice times and sites may vary. Depending on the season they may be inside or outside. We have practice sites that are off school property.

Practices are rotated to different locations to allow each team to practice where they play. Time slots vary so that teams are not always practicing late. Other factors include schedules, cancellations, school functions, and requests from other groups for facility use. Please note that due to ice time, practices for ice hockey may be scheduled before the official start of the school day.

Weekly schedules are given to coaches for distribution to athletes, and are posted on a **bulletin board** outside the athletic office.

## Athletic Contest Sites

Updated information may be found on the Homer CSD website ([www.homercentral.org](http://www.homercentral.org)) or by calling the athletic office.

## Season Passes

The price of admission at home football, basketball, wrestling, soccer, field hockey and lacrosse games is \$2 for an adult and \$1 for

students. We are selling athletic passes that are good for all home contests. The adult pass is \$25 and the student pass is \$12. These are sold in the Main Office and the Athletic Director's office.

Section III Tournament games have a set fee for admission. Homer passes may not be valid for Section III playoff games.

## Map Booklet to Other Schools

A map booklet to other opponents' schools is in the Athletic Director's office and the Main Office or all district buildings. The booklet is free. Contest sites may also be found on the Homer CSD website ([www.homercentral.org/sports](http://www.homercentral.org/sports)).

## Intramurals

Intramurals are posted and announced in each building and Physical Education classes.

P.E. teachers organize and supervise Intramurals. This is open to all students and is recreational.

## NCAA Eligibility

Information on NCAA Eligibility is available in the Athletic Director's office or Guidance office

## Athletic Information

Schedules, contest sites, Section III regulations are all available on the HSCD Web Site: [www.homercentral.org/sports](http://www.homercentral.org/sports)

## HOMER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF BEHAVIOR FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Athletes who participate in athletic activities should recognize that they have an obligations to themselves, their co-participants and the school community to strive for excellence. It is hoped that participation in our program will enable the athletes to value their learning experiences, instill self-discipline and self-control and exercise mature behavior and judgment.

To encourage the development of the above, athletes are expected to adhere to the following general rules:

1. Athletes are expected to exemplify good citizenship in both school and the community at large. Athletes who do not, will be subject to removal from participation in athletics for a period of time, depending upon the severity of the offense. Any student who is suspended from school may not participate in athletics for those days that they are suspended. This includes in-school suspension.

1. All participants will adhere to the academic eligibility policy for athletes. Athletes will be informed of this policy. Eligibility to participate will be determined from grades in all subjects in which the athlete is enrolled.

2. Each student must arrive at school in time for the school day to begin. This especially applies to the school day immediately following evening contests. Extenuating circumstances can be brought to the attention of the coach or athletic director. Students who abuse this rule will be dealt with on an individual basis with the school administration.

3. Athletes will travel to and from contests via school approved transportation. Athletes may be released after the contest (a) directly to the parents or (b) with written permission from their parents approved by the building principal or the athletic director.

4. Athletes will be required to pay for lost equipment and for equipment damaged through misuse. Lack of payment or return of uniform will jeopardize his/her athletic status. Any athlete who is found guilty of stealing (money, sports equipment, clothing, etc.), or vandalism will be expelled from the activity and prosecuted if warranted.

5. Individual coaches may establish rules pertaining to their particular sport. Athletes will be informed of these rules in writing and are required to abide by them. Athletes may be suspended from participation for violation of these rules. Any such rules will be approved by the A.D.

6. A student is considered a team member when they are included on a squad list, have a physical exam and have participated in an organized team practice. No athlete will quit a team without first talking with his/her coach and explaining the reason for leaving the team. Any athlete who violates this requirement will be unable to participate or try out for another team until he/she talks with the coach.

7. All athletes involved in athletic programs shall not use or possess tobacco in any form, alcohol or other intoxicants, illegal drugs, or performance-enhancing drugs. Additionally, the abuse or distribution of prescription drugs is also prohibited. Violations of this rule will be dealt with according to the extra curricular code of behavior for students located in the student handbook.

**Interscholastic Sports Career**—This includes all interscholastic sports in grades 7-12. A student's violation record shall start clean when they enter the 7th and 9th grades.

**Risk of Injury**—Participation in athletic activities creates risk of injury. Injuries can range from minor to very serious, including paralysis or even death. Contact sports normally carry the highest risk of serious injury. Homer Central School is committed to providing facilities, equipment and coach/supervision that will make this participation as injury-free as possible.

**Transportation to Practices:** Many of our athletic activities do not have practice facilities at the high school. Athletes have to travel to another school or community site to practice. The school does not transport athletes to all practices. It is the athlete and/or parents' responsibility to get the student to his/her practice. This may involve the athlete walking, running, driving, or riding with another student, coach or a parent. Parents must be aware of how this transportation is taking place.

# Extra/Co-curricular Activity Code

**Extra/Co-curricular-** All after-school activities ( membership in which is a student choice) not related to the activities of a credit bearing class.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities should recognize that they have an obligation to themselves, their co-participants, and the school community, to strive for excellence. It is hoped that participation in our programs will enable the students to value their learning experiences, instill self-discipline and self- control, and to exercise mature behavior and judgment.

To encourage the development of the above, participants are expected to adhere to the following general rules:

## Academics:

The mission of the Homer Central School District is high academic standards for students. Extra Interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the education program at Homer. Our student athletes must realize that the academic and athletic programs both strive to achieve this mission. The following Academic Eligibility Policy is established to insure that the District's mission is being met.

- 1) Academic eligibility rules apply during the respective activity or sport season.
- 2) Eligibility will be based on the work of the student for the ten-week period prior to participation and reviewed at each five-week progress report. Eligibility lists will be prepared as soon as report cards are issued.

Eligibility for the first ten weeks of the school year will be based on the marks received the preceding June. In the event a student attends summer school to make up a deficiency, the summer school mark may be substituted for the June grade.

- 3) Eligibility shall be determined from grades in all subjects in which the student is enrolled. Dropping a class to allow eligibility is not acceptable.
- 4) A student failing more than two classes will be ineligible to try out for or continue participation in activities. Students placed on ineligibility status will have their status reviewed using the next five-week report. Students will be placed at the appropriate eligibility level using the new grade report.

- 5) A student failing two courses will be placed on probationary status for two weeks. The probation period starts at the date of notification. Students will have this probationary period to bring their failing grades to a passing level. While on probation students will be ineligible for full participation.

Grades will be reviewed at the end of the two week period. If the student, at the end of the two-week period, has not brought the failing grades up to a passing level, they will remain ineligible for further participation for the remainder of the 5 week grading period. They will then be placed at the appropriate level using the new grade report.

- 6) A student failing one class must attend a minimum of two extra help classes each week in that subject in order to stay eligible. Effort and progress must be demonstrated.
- 7) It is the student's responsibility to reestablish their eligibility. Full participation can be reestablished by bringing all failing grades to a passing level.

## Conduct:

- Every student is expected to exemplify good citizenship both in school and in the community. A student who does not will be removed from participation for a period of time, depending upon the severity of the offense.
- Each student will travel to and from performances or contests via school approved transportation. When extenuating circumstances arise, a student may be (a) released directly to his or her parent or (b) have written permission from a building principal or the athletic director to travel by other means.
- Each student will be required to pay for lost equipment and for equipment damaged through misuse. Lack of payment or failure to return uniforms will jeopardize the student's activity status.
- Any student found guilty of stealing (money, sports equipment, clothing, etc.) or vandalism will be expelled from the activity and prosecuted if warranted.

- Individual activity advisers will establish rules pertaining to their particular activity. Each student will be informed of these rules in writing and will be required to abide by them. A student will be suspended from participation for violation of these rules. All rules have been approved by the building principal/athletic director.
- Any student wishing to discontinue participation in an activity must consult with the coach or adviser prior to making a final decision. Any student who violates this requirement will be unable to try out for or participate in for another activity until the season of the activity he or she left is completed.

**Substance Abuse:**

**Any violations of rules concerning the use of or possession of tobacco in any form, alcohol, or other intoxicants, illegal drugs or performance enhancing drugs will result in the student being suspended from all extracurricular activities for a period of time. Suspension of these extracurricular activities will result if the violation occurs during the school year, at any time, on school grounds or off.**

In the case of any activity that may begin before the start of school, the students will be subject to this code of behavior beginning the first date of activity.

**Consequences for substance abuse violations:**

- **1st Offense            30 Calendar Day Suspension**
- **2nd Offense            60 Day Suspension**
- **3rd Offense            1 Year Suspension**

Students who are suspended from extracurricular activities may not participate in any practices, games, rehearsals, performances or meetings. These suspensions will begin on the date of notification from administration. These consequences will be cumulative for a student during their junior high and high school careers. A student's violation record shall start clean when they enter the 7th and 9th grade years.

**Appeal Procedure**

Should a student and/or their parents desire, decisions made by the junior high or high school administration may be appealed to the superintendent of schools.

Appeals may continue to the Board of Education and then to the Commissioner of Education or the court system.

**RISK OF INJURY**

Participation in extracurricular activities creates risk of injury. Injuries can range from minor to very serious, including paralysis or even death. The contact sports normally carry the highest risk of serious injury. Homer Central School is committed to providing facilities, equipment and coaching/supervision that will make this participation as injury-free as possible.

# Technology Use

**Internet Service**

Our goal in providing Internet service to students is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, communication, and collaborative work. Upon registration, Homer students are given a computer account which gives them independent access to many software applications and the Internet.

Students are expected to be aware of the ethics and the responsible use of the Internet, and demonstrate knowledge of the policy and regulation governing use of district technology. An acceptable Use Policy can be found in this handbook and should be reviewed prior to logging onto the computer network.

Prior to logging onto the network, students (and staff) see this message "This computer is provided for educational use for the Homer Central School District community. All data on district systems is the property of Homer Central Schools and may be monitored in any manner. THERE IS NO RIGHT OF PRIVACY IN THIS SYSTEM. Use of this system by any user constitutes consent to this policy." By logging onto the network, all users are subject to these guidelines.

**E-MAIL USE**

The use of E-mail for educational purposes is at the teachers discretion. It is expected that students will use technology during the school day to support their course work.

# Harassment

There are two forms of harassment that students should be aware of: Sexual Harassment and General Harassment.

Harassment in any form will not be tolerated.

**Sexual harassment** is unwelcome sexual behavior that makes a person feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Examples of sexual harassment are:

**Verbal (Unwanted and Unwelcome):**

- Comments about body parts or rating someone's body
- Sexual suggestions or threats
- Spreading sexual rumors or stories
- Sexual jokes
- Conversations that are too personal
- Insulting comments about sexual orientation

**Visual (Unwanted and Unwelcome):**

- Staring or pointing at a person's body in a way that is too personal
- Displaying obscene sexual material or placing it in someone's locker or computer
- Writing a person's name along with sexual remarks, suggestions, or drawings in public places.
- Making obscene gestures

**Physical (Unwanted and Unwelcome):**

- Grabbing or touching in a sexual way
- Tearing or pulling at a person's clothing
- Purposely bumping or brushing against someone
- Kissing or holding a person against his or her will
- Preventing someone from moving freely

• People sometimes confuse sexual harassment with flirting. If you are unsure about the effect of your behavior on another, ask yourself the following questions:

- Am I making the person uncomfortable?
- Would I do the same things in front of a parent, a teacher, or others I respect?
- Would it be OK if someone did the same thing to a sister, brother, or other relative of mine?

:

**General Harassment** is the systematic persecution by annoyances, threats, or demands. It can be unrelenting pursuing or demanding; persistent nagging or teasing; or deliberate persecution by taunting, bullying, or insulting others. Harassment results in a person feeling uncomfortable or unsafe and can cause worry, mental distress, or irritation on the part of the victim. Examples of general harassment are:

**Verbal**

- Name calling
- Spreading rumors
- Jokes or comments that make fun or ridicule others
- Threatening to harm someone.

**Visual**

- Writing a person's name with degrading remarks or drawings
- Make obscene or threatening gestures
- Writing threatening notes to the victim or others threatening physical or emotional harm

**Physical**

- Purposely brushing or bumping against someone
- Preventing someone from moving freely
- Grabbing someone
- Hitting, tripping, or any unwarranted physical contact

If you are being harassed, talk to an adult you trust, preferably a school official.

If you witness harassment, you can be of assistance by openly expressing your concern to an adult.

# Discipline

## Student Behavior

Students are expected to contribute to the maintenance of a safe and orderly environment by:

- Respecting the feelings and property of others.
- Respecting the religious beliefs of others as they will respect their own.
- Showing courtesy to other people at all times.
- Abiding by the laws and regulations of the school and community.
- Being honest with themselves and others, and being of good moral conduct.

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

With an understanding of the purposes of discipline in a school, you may form a correct attitude toward it, and not only do your part in making your school an effective place of learning but develop the habit of self-restraint which will make you a better person.

Students are reminded that they must adhere to a code of good behavior not only for their benefit, but for the benefit of others as well.

The disciplinary action taken for acts of misbehavior depends upon the student's past record of behavior. Discipline is generally progressive. The range of disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to:

Warning/Reprimand, Ninth Period/Evening Detention, Two Hour Evening Detention, Saturday Detention, Alternative To (In School) Suspension or Out of School Suspension.

All disciplinary situations are evaluated individually, taking into account the circumstances giving rise to the student behavior. The following section identifies potential consequences for student behavior. Except where required by law, the administrator will consider the circumstances of the behavior when establishing the most appropriate discipline from the range of consequences.

## **NINTH PERIOD/EVENING DETENTION (SUSPENSION)**

Ninth period detention and/or evening detention (suspension) (2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.) may be assigned at the discretion of the Principal or Vice Principal. Students assigned detention are required to report to the Vice-Principal or their teacher during the 9th period. Absences from ninth period detention (suspension) will result in one or two additional assignments of the same discipline. Additional instances of an intentional absence for ninth period detention or evening detention (suspension) will result in suspension from school.

## **EVENING DETENTION (SUSPENSION)**

### **2:30-4:30 P.M.**

An evening detention (suspension) from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. may be assigned at the discretion of the principal or vice principal in place of in-school suspension. The 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. evening detention (suspension) assignment would be based on discipline for rules infractions which would result in in-school suspension.

## **SATURDAY MORNING DETENTION**

As an option to suspensions, the principal or vice principal may assign Saturday Morning Detention. Students 7-12 report to the high school by 8:30am on a Saturday morning and are supervised by a 7-12 teacher. Students should bring school work and can request help on the work from the supervisor. Students are dismissed from Saturday Morning Detention at 11:30am. Failure to attend or complete a Saturday Morning Detention may result in an additional Saturday Morning Detention being assigned, or suspension from school.

## **ALTERNATIVE (IN-SCHOOL) TO SUSPENSION**

Students who are suspended in-school are not allowed to attend their classes. Their time is spent in supervised study. Assignments and scheduled exams for students involved in in-school suspension will be provided by the vice principal and faculty to the supervising teacher.

## **SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL**

Suspension from school for up to 5 days may be invoked for acts of **insubordination, disorderly conduct, or conduct which otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.** During the suspension, the

student is not allowed to attend school or school functions during and after normal school hours, nor be on school grounds. A conference between the student, his parents, and the administration may be required. Alternative (In-School) Suspension may be considered in lieu of suspension from school at the discretion of the administrator.

**The following incidents of misbehavior result in automatic suspension from school for the duration of the time indicated:**

- a) Smoking anywhere on school grounds - **3 day suspension.**
- b) Violation of School Drug Policy - **5 day suspension.** (see pp. 35-36)
- c) Drinking, possession, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages on school grounds, on school buses, or during school time - **5 day suspension.**
- d) Threatening or striking a member of the school staff - **5 day suspension and a referral to the superintendent for further discipline action.**
- e) Having in possession or using fireworks of any type, firearms, knives or other weapons of any kind on the school grounds, school buses, or at school activities - **5 day suspension and a referral to the superintendent for further discipline action.**

*Students wishing to bring an antique rifle or other firearm to school for demonstration purposes must first clear the matter with their respective teacher and principal.*

**The following incidents of misbehavior result in suspension from school from one to five days depending on the nature of and severity of the incident and upon the student's past behavior:**

- a) Fighting is considered a most dangerous action. It is not only disruptive to the educational process but also endangers the health, safety, and welfare of students. With this in mind, the school strictly prohibits fighting and warns that students who fight will be suspended. Students have an obligation to refrain from fighting and to seek an alternative resolution.

**It is expected that a student will seek help in avoiding a fight situation by contacting school personnel. Fighting will result in a five day out of school suspension.**

- b) Disrespectfulness or profanity towards staff members will not be tolerated nor will refusal to follow a staff member's reasonable request or direction.
- c) Disrespectfulness toward or harassment of

other students will not be tolerated.

- d) Repeated illegal class absences.
- e) Theft of items from the school.
- f) Each student is expected to assume responsibility for the care of all school property. Students who damage property accidentally may be held financially responsible. Damage of a malicious nature will be considered a very serious matter and must be repaired or replaced at the expense of the student at fault.

It is important to note that the above list of misbehaviors that will or may result in suspension from school is not meant to be all inclusive but to provide a general guideline for expected behavior and resulting discipline. **Again, more generally, suspension from school for up to 5 days may be invoked for acts of insubordination or disorderly conduct or conduct which otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others. A student whose physical or mental condition endangers the health, morals, safety of himself or of others may be suspended.**

## Discipline Procedure for Illegal Class Absence

### First Offense (Step #1)

Assigned two (2) ninth period detentions. Parental contact by letter. Teachers involved have the option to assign additional classroom detentions.

### Second Offense (Step #2)

Assigned four (4) ninth period detentions, or a 2:30-4:30 detention, in a specified area. Parental contact by letter or telephone.

### Third Offense (Step #3)

Assigned Saturday Detention or two 2:30-4:30 detentions (suspensions). Parental contact by letter or telephone. Parent conference may be requested.

### Fourth Offense (Step #4)

The student is assigned Alternative to suspension for one (1) day. Parental contact by letter and telephone. **Parent conference may be required** before the suspended student may return to school.

### Note:

- Two (2) illegal class absences during the same school day will place the student on discipline procedure Step #2.

- Three (3) or more illegal class absences during the same day or being illegally absent or Truant from school for an entire day, will place the student on discipline procedure Step #3.
- Illegal absence from an assigned ninth period detention (classroom or school detention) will place the student on discipline procedure Step #3.
- When a student is placed on discipline procedure Step #4 it is because the student is **insubordinate and refuses to follow school rules.**
- Every infraction following the fourth offense, will immediately place the student on discipline procedure Step #4.

## Illegal Absence From Detention

### First Offense

Three (3) additional after school detentions, parental contact by mail or phone.

### Second Offense

Saturday Detention or two 2:30-4:30 p.m. Evening Detentions, written notification to parents of suspension, parental contact by phone, parent/administrative conference.

### Third Offense

Suspended for one (1) day, written notification to parents of suspension, parental contact by phone, student cannot return without parent / administrative conference.

## Illegal Absence From Two Hour Evening Detention or Saturday Detention:

1. Any instance of this offense will result in an immediate suspension.
2. The student will not be allowed to return to school until a parent/administrative conference has taken place.

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. After school work is not considered a legal reason for missing after school detention or 2:30- 4:30 p.m. suspension.
2. Student work schedules must be adjusted should this situation arise.

## The following policy is in effect regarding work missed during suspension.

- It is the responsibility of the student, upon his/her return to school, to take the initiative to make up all school work missed. **Students are allowed one day plus the number of days of the suspension to complete missed work.**
- A grade of zero will be recorded for any work not submitted within this time limit. Students are encouraged to see their teachers prior to the start of the suspension, when possible, to get homework assignments.

## Student Behavior at After-School Functions

Students are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner at all after-school affairs. **Use or possession of tobacco is not permitted on the school grounds.**

Violations of the student disciplinary code will result in disciplinary action.

## Administrative Regulations Regarding Drug Related Incidents

The following policies and procedures apply to all school sponsored activities including those outside the normal school day.

### I. Definition of Terms

- A. Drugs:** A drug is any chemical, including alcohol, which affects a person in such a way as to bring about psychological, physical, emotional, or behavioral change.
- B. Drug Abuse:** Drug abuse is the use of a chemical substance, licit or illicit, which results in an individual's physical, mental, emotional, or social impairment.
- C. Possession:** Possession includes on person, in locker, in automobile, etc.

- II. When a student is suspected to be under the influence of a drug, the situation will be treated as a medical emergency.** All standard medical and emergency procedures will be followed.

**In such instances, the student shall not be left alone:**

1. The school nurse shall be summoned.
2. The administration informed immediately.

**A.** If there is ever a question of a student's safety, professional medical personnel will be notified immediately. If a student must be taken to a medical facility, the student will be accompanied by the school nurse or other delegate authorized by the administration.

**B.** Parents will be notified immediately by school personnel.

**C.** All substances discovered at the emergency scene or subsequently uncovered shall be turned over to the administration.

**D.** Law enforcement authorities will be notified by the administration should the safety of the emergency victim or student body be at risk.

**E.** Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken and a parent conference will be held.

**F.** Confidentiality by all parties involved is essential.

**III. Disciplinary measures for students found in possession or under the influence of a drug or in possession of a drug instrument or found supplying drugs to other students are as follows:**

**A. First Offense**

1. The matter will be pursued on an internal basis in terms of investigation and discipline unless circumstances warrant notification of appropriate legal authorities and/or outside agencies (i.e. amount and, or nature of drug, attitude and/or behavior of student, etc.)

2. The staff member who discovers the drug will confiscate all drugs in plain sight. The student involved will be brought to the administration. The administration will request that all other substances be surrendered by the student. The student and his locker may be searched.

3. Parents will be notified and completely informed of the circumstances.

4. The student will be suspended from school for 5 days.

5. In all cases the following requirements must be met as a prerequisite for readmission:

a. A parent/student conference will be

held.

b. Evidence that a satisfactory program of action to include counseling has been developed to prevent recurrence of the problem.

c. Other conditions for reinstatement may be established, if deemed necessary, to secure the health, safety, or welfare of the student or others.

d. Unsatisfactory compliance with the rules of readmission will result in further discipline.

**B. Repeated Offenses**

1. Parents will be notified immediately by school personnel.

2. **The student will be suspended from school for 5 days.**

3. If the infraction is also a violation of the law, the matter will be referred to the appropriate legal authorities.

4. **A Superintendent's Hearing will be conducted.**

**IV. When a student has been caught with drugs and there is sufficient evidence that the student is selling or dispensing the drug:**

**A.** Law enforcement authorities will be notified to conduct the investigation.

**B.** Parents will be notified immediately.

**C. The student will be suspended from school for 5 days.**

**D. A Superintendent's Hearing will be held at which time it will be determined if further disciplinary action is warranted.**

**V. If a staff member suspects a student of using drug substances, but there is not clear evidence to support the suspicion:**

**A.** The staff member should offer help based on a personal concern for the well-being, behavior and school performance of the student. Each staff member must show by attitude and actions concern and care. The situation should not be ignored.

**B.** The staff member's concern should be made known to the school nurse and/or counselor.

## VI. Students seeking drug related help or advice from school personnel:

- A. Shall be informed of the availability of school and community professional services and of the confidentiality to which they are entitled.
- B. Shall be encouraged to seek such help.
- C. Occasionally a student will contact a staff member in regard to the drug usage of another student. Any response must be made in consideration of the indirect source of the information. Such a student should be encouraged to relay information about help and student's rights to the student with the problem.

## Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is defined as any act of physical force by a staff member upon a pupil for the purpose of punishing that pupil. Under most circumstances it is an unacceptable procedure for controlling students.

If any physical force does occur, it should be reasonable in nature and for the following purposes:

- A. To protect oneself from physical injury.
- B. To protect another student or employee or any other person from physical injury.
- C. To protect the property of the school or others.
- D. To restrain or remove a student whose behavior is interfering with the orderly performance of school district function, if that student has refused to comply with a request to refrain from disruptive acts.

## Personal Search

In *People of the State of New York v. Scott D.*, 34 N.Y. 2d 483, the Court of Appeals recognized that public school authorities have a special responsibility and correspondingly broad power to control school grounds in order to protect students entrusted to their charge. Chief Judge Breitel noted at p. 486-487 that:

"A school is a special kind of place in which serious and dangerous wrongdoing is intolerable. Youngsters in a school, for their own sake, as well as that of their age peers in the school, may not be treated with the same circumspection required outside the school or to which self-sufficient adults are

entitled. The fact of an epidemic danger in the school may not be ignored in theory or in reality. The dangerous drug prevalence in many schools and in many areas is a significant fact to be considered in many schools and in many areas is a significant fact to be considered in determining the reasonableness in making searches."

The court noted the difficulty of balancing the basic freedom from personal search against the social necessity for maintaining and preserving order and concluded that school authorities could conduct a search of a student's person only where sufficient cause for such search existed, finding that "the circumstances of a school search, including the special responsibilities of the teachers in charge of students, permits a wider latitude for finding cause for search than would be applied to an adult or any person outside the school precincts." Among the factors considered in determining the sufficiency of cause to search, the court noted, would be "the child's age, history and record to which the search was directed, and, of course, the exigency to make the search without delay.

Responsibility is inherent in the exercise of every right, and it must be emphasized that lack of responsibility results in a weakening of rights.

### It is the Student's Responsibility to:

- Attend school daily, except when ill or legally excused by his/her parent or guardian.
- Attend and be on time to all school classes.
- Be willing to volunteer information in disciplinary cases if he/she has knowledge of importance in such a case.
- Take an active part in student government by running for office, and/or conscientiously voting for the best candidates and making his/her problems known to the representatives.
- Be aware of available educational programs in order to use and develop capabilities to the maximum.
- Refrain from libel and obscenity, and observe the normal rules of responsible journalism.
- Be aware of all rules and expectations governing participation and conduct himself/herself in accordance with these guidelines.
- Be aware of actions which constitute serious and dangerous wrong doing and refrain from such acts (possession of contraband, drugs, etc.).



# Homer

Central School District

## 2009-10 Calendar

"Excellence of Instruction and Opportunity"

[WWW.HOMERCENTRAL.ORG/CALENDAR](http://WWW.HOMERCENTRAL.ORG/CALENDAR)



July				
M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
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August				
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September				
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February				
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June				
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### SEPTEMBER

- 7 Labor Day
- 8 Staff Development Day
- 9 First Day of Classes
- 30 Early Go-Home Drill

### OCTOBER

- 12 Columbus Day
- 13 Staff Development Day

### NOVEMBER

- 11 Veteran's Day Observed
- 20 Staff Development Day
- 25-27 Thanksgiving Recess

### DECEMBER

- Dec 24-Jan 1 Holiday Recess

### JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 4 Classes Resume
- 18 Martin Luther King Day
- 26-29 Regents

### FEBRUARY

- 1 Staff Development Day
- 15 President's Day
- 16 Staff Development Day
- 17 School in Session (No BOCES)

### MARCH

- 

### APRIL

- 2 Good Friday
- 19-23 Spring Recess

### MAY

- 31 Memorial Day

### JUNE

- 15-23 Regents
- 24 Last day of class for Students
- 24 Last day of class for Teachers
- 25+ Staff Development Day

### Key:

Holiday/Vacation Days:

Staff Development Days:

Regents:

K-12-Early Dismissal for Staff Curriculum Sessions:

187 Faculty Days


182 Student Days

	M	T	W	T	F
<b>SEPT</b> <sup>(17)</sup>		1	2	3	4
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<b>OCT</b> <sup>(21)</sup>				1	2
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<b>JAN 2010</b> <sup>(19)</sup>					1
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	M	T	W	T	F
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<b>MAR</b> <sup>(23)</sup>	1	2	3	4	5
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<b>APR</b> <sup>(16)</sup>				1	2
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<b>JUNE</b> <sup>(18)</sup>		1	2	3	4
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	28	29	30		

September 7 Labor Day  
 September 8 Staff Day  
 September 9 First Day of School  
 October 12 Columbus Day  
 October 13 Staff Day  
 November 11 Veterans Day  
 November 25-27 Thanksgiving Recess  
 December 24-Jan 1 Christmas Recess  
 January 18 Martin Luther King Day

January 26-29 Regents Exams  
 February 15-17 Presidents' Day/Winter Recess  
 March 19 Staff Day  
 April 2 Good Friday  
 April 19-23 Spring Recess  
 May 31 Memorial Day  
 June 15-23 Regents Exams  
 June 24 Rating Day/Last Instructional Staff Day

holiday     staff development day     Regents

185 Staff Days

Adopted: 03/19/09

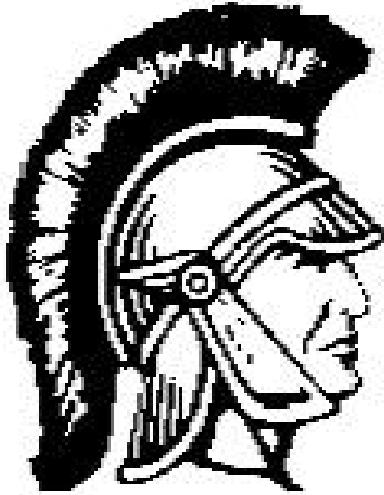
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