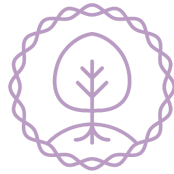


Team Handbook

2024-2025



GIRLS PREPARATORY
ACADEMY
KANSAS CITY

Approved: August 28, 2024

This document is for informational purposes. The information in this document may be changed without notice subject to subsequent approval by the Board of Directors of Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy as set forth in the Official School Board Policies of Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy.

This document covers policies for employees of both Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy and the Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy Foundation.

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OUR VALUES AND PRIORITIES

Mission

Prepare young women to use their voices, succeed in college, and lead impactful, meaningful lives.

Vision

In 2015-2016, only seven open-enrollment schools within the Kansas City Public Schools boundaries had more than half of students proficient in math and reading.¹ For students who take college-entrance exams, scores fall far below requirements for competitive admissions.² These burdens are borne disproportionately by low-income communities of color in Kansas City.³

KCGPA seeks to ensure that young women growing up in neighborhoods negatively impacted by de jure and de facto racial segregation⁴ achieve equitable educational outcomes. Too often, young women living in segregated neighborhoods – and especially young women of color – do not have access to equitable educational opportunities.⁵ KCGPA aims to change this reality.

KCGPA will establish a school community that prepares students not just for academic and career success, but also ensures that young women from underserved communities develop the knowledge, skills, and agency to define for themselves what a meaningful, impactful life will be, and to act in service of the values and equity-focused critical lens that they've developed within their school community.

KCGPA will develop a reputation for strong community engagement, a trusting and caring culture, and supportive, rigorous academics. The school community of families, students, staff, and partners will celebrate one another's successes, support learning from failures, and feel an ever-growing sense of possibility as strong academic results confirm the potential of every young woman. The school will have a reputation as a premier option for students with special needs and/or with limited English proficiency, who the school will serve with excellence.

¹ Missouri Comprehensive Data System. <https://mcds.dese.mo.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

² "The Conditions for Success: Ensuring Great Public Schools in Every Neighborhood." Education Cities Presentation to the Missouri State Board of Education. 2014.

³ "Putting Performance on the Map Locating Quality Schools in the Kansas City, Missouri School District." IFF. 2010. <http://www.iff.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/IFFKCRReportFINAL.pdf>

⁴ Briana O'Higgins. How School and District Boundaries Shaped Education In Kansas City." *KCUR*. June 27, 2014. <http://kcur.org/post/how-school-and-district-boundaries-shaped-education-kansas-city#stream/0>

⁵ Center for Public Education. "Educational Equity What does it mean? How do we know when we reach it?" <http://www.centerforpubliceducation.org/educationalequity>

Ultimately, KCGPA's students will attend competitive colleges and universities. They will be experiencing success and navigating hurdles with the supportive relationships they grew with one another and KCGPA's staff. These alumnae will return to KCGPA to inspire young women following in their footsteps. They will share their excitement as they prepare to serve as Kansas City's next generation of leaders in medicine, law, business, public service, engineering, education, and countless other fields.

Values

KCGPA's philosophy is informed not just by a desire to redress injustices, but also by a deep belief in the potential of every young woman to achieve at incredibly high levels when nurtured by a program founded in shared values of Community, Growth, and Freedom. These three core values serve as both the foundation of all programming and the lens through which the KCGPA team measures success.

Freedom

Our core value of Freedom is about more than diversity, inclusion, or equity, which are ultimately means to an end.

The end we seek is freedom, or the idea of collective liberation. Collective liberation recognizes that all of our struggles are intimately connected, and that we must work together to create the kind of world we know is possible. We believe that every person is worthy of dignity and respect, and that within systems of oppression everyone suffers.

KCGPA believes that equity is a means to this ultimate end of freedom/collective liberation. KCGPA believes that equitable outcomes can be achieved through the development of a diverse community of students and families with an intentionally inclusive culture. The culture of this community will be driven not only by a shared desire for equitable outcomes, but by an abiding belief in the value of equity itself – that we must open our eyes to past and current inequities and work together to address them.

KCGPA believes that a community driven by a commitment to equitable outcomes can be served well through the structure of an open-enrollment, single-gender model. It is important to note, however, that KCGPA does not pursue a single-gender model because it subscribes to biological theories of different learning styles by sex any more than it subscribes to biological theories of different learning styles by race.⁶

Gender and race matter in schooling not because girls and girls of color learn differently; gender and race matter because of normative social and cultural beliefs that often obstruct the progress of young women, and especially young women of color.⁷ A large and growing body of

⁶ Lise Eliot. "The Myth of Pink and Blue Brains." *Educational Leadership*, Vol. 68, No. 3. Nov. 2010.

⁷ Beverly Tatum. *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria: And Other Conversations About Race*. BasicBooks. 1997.

research documents how educators' stereotypes of race and gender shape damaging expectations for academics, behavior, and future potential for female students and students of color.⁸

*KCGPA is in the process of updating the Mission, Vision and Values

⁸ Jamilya J. Blake, Bettie Ray Butler, and Danielle Smith. "Challenging Middle Class Notions of Femininity: The Cause for Black Females' Disproportionate Suspension Rates." *Closing the School Discipline Gap: Research to Practice*. Daniel Losen ed., forthcoming; Seth Gershenson, Stephen B. Holt, and Nicholas Papageorge, "Who Believes in Me? The Effect of Student-Teacher Demographic Match on Teacher Expectations." W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research. 2015. http://research.upjohn.org/up_workingpapers/231/; Ulrich Boser, Megan Wilhelm, and Robert Hanna. "The Power of the Pygmalion Effect: Teachers Expectations Strongly Predict College Completion." Center for American Progress. October 6, 2014.

These beliefs play a prominent role not just in the classroom, but across entire school systems. These beliefs are often implicit⁹ because they are embedded in assumptions about who deserves resources and support, whether they be via course offerings or behavior management practices.¹⁰ The fact that beliefs are often implicit does not reduce their impact across a wide range of factors, including disproportionate rates of suspension in Missouri,¹¹ inequitable access to qualified and effective teacher¹² and wage gaps for African American, Hispanic, and white women earning just 64 cents, 55 cents, and 78 cents to the dollar that a white, non-Hispanic male earns, respectively.¹³ Tragically, the confluence of these pernicious beliefs can even be seen in life expectancies that are 8-14 years shorter in Kansas City's low-income neighborhoods than its high-income neighborhoods.¹⁴

These stigmatizing beliefs clearly have life-altering impacts. KCGPA will embrace its core value of equity to directly challenge them. KCGPA will ground staff and student understanding of issues of equity in a theory of difference proposed by Stuart Hall, where "race is more like a language than it is like a way in which we are biologically constituted." Hall describes how "floating signifiers" like religion, skin color, language, gender, and a host of other classifications shape people's expectations of themselves and of others, very often without their conscious awareness that this is happening.¹⁵ To succeed in its mission, KCGPA's families, students, staff will engage in an ongoing, mutually supportive dialogue to embrace the value of equity and the struggle to understand, challenge, and fundamentally reshape limiting beliefs and expectations.

Community

KCGPA will reinforce its foundational belief in equity by cultivating a trusting, supportive, and tight-knit community where young women construct their sense of self and of purpose. In the words of Cesar Chavez: "We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community – and this nation." KCGPA believes that the best way to develop confident, independent young women who see their diversity as an incredible asset and can lead in and outside of their communities is to engage their community in their education.

⁹ Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, The Ohio State University. "2016 State of the Science: Implicit Bias Review." 2016. kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/my-product/2016-state-of-the-science-implicit-bias-review

¹⁰ Lisa Delpit. *Other People's Children: Cultural Conflict in the Classroom*. New York. The New Press. 1995.

¹¹ Sarah Martin-Anderson. "School Suspension as a Determinant of Health." Presentation for Kansas City School Suspension Summit. September 6, 2017.

¹² United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights. "Dear Colleague Letter: Resource Comparability." October 1, 2014. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-resourcecomp-201410.pdf>

¹³ "A Look at the Wage Gap for African American Women in 20 States." National Partnership for Women and Families. January 9, 2013. www.nationalpartnership.org

¹⁴ United States Census Bureau. *2011-2015 American Community Survey*. 2016. census.gov/programs-surveys/acs

¹⁵ Stuart Hall. *Race, the Floating Signifier*. DVD. Sut Jhally. 1997.

KCGPA will serve young women in 5th - 8th grade to help them navigate a critical stage in their identity development.¹⁶ Social and Emotional Learning, which has been shown to have significant, positive, and long-term impacts on “mental health, social skills, and academic achievement,”¹⁷ will be supported through a daily advisory and integration into core curricula.

KCGPA will also constantly measure its progress through the lens of its belief in the power of community. Organizations often operate with implicit or assumed values.¹⁸ KCGPA will engage students, families, and staff in an ongoing discourse around where the values are being lived out – and where the school is falling short. KCGPA’s belief in community drives a commitment to working with the school’s community to achieve the mission. Please see Section A.2: Curriculum and Instruction and Section B.6: Parent/Guardian, Community, Higher Education, and Employee Involvement for more information.

Growth

KCGPA’s team also believes fundamentally in the power of a growth mindset and an excitement in the constant journey to learn and grow. This belief is grounded in research. Stanford psychologist Carol Dweck has shown that a strong growth mindset can be more predictive of success in life outcomes than a high IQ.¹⁹ She defines a fixed mindset as a belief that “basic qualities, like... intelligence or talent, are simply fixed traits.” People with this mindset “spend their time documenting their intelligence or talent instead of developing them.” This contrasts with a growth mindset, wherein “people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work... [which] creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment.”

KCGPA’s founding team recognizes that most people have a blend of fixed and growth mindsets. They may perceive their ability to develop friends through a growth mindset lens, whereas they may perceive their math abilities through a fixed mindset. For all members of KCGPA’s community, development of this growth mindset will support their near-term academic and personal growth while building the habits of mind for long-term success. All KCGPA students and staff will believe that every experience is a learning opportunity and that every single student can learn at high levels with effective, strategic effort.

Long-Term Organizational Priorities

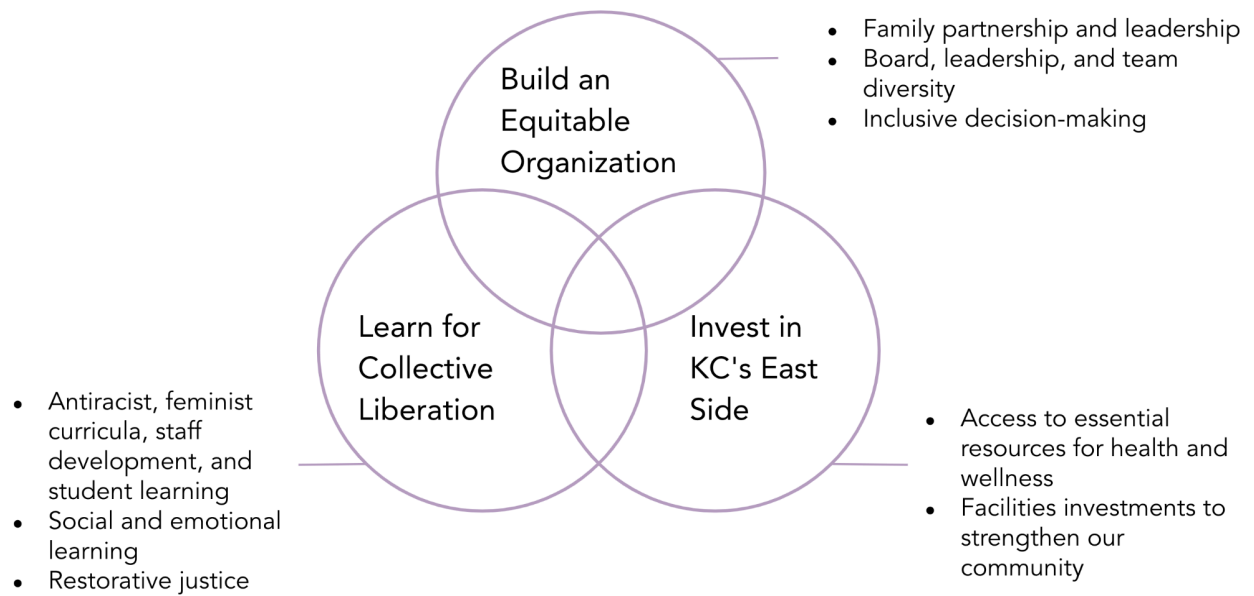
¹⁶ Melissa Johnson. “Girls In-Between: Social, Emotional, Physical, and Sexual Development in Context.” *Women’s Reproductive Mental Health Across the Lifespan*. Springer International Publishing. Switzerland. 2014.

¹⁷ Rebecca D. Taylor, Eva Oberle, Joseph A. Durlak, Roger Weissberg. “Promoting Positive Youth Development Through School-Based Social and Emotional Learning Interventions: A Meta-Analysis of Follow-Up Effects.” *Child Development*, Volume 88, Issue 4, July/August 2017.

¹⁸ Glenn Singleton. *Courageous Conversations About Race: A Field Guide for Achieving Equity in Schools*. Corwin. 2005.

¹⁹ Carol Dweck. *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*. Ballantine Books. 2007.

The graphic below outlines our long-term, org-wide priorities.



Org Chart

Please find our org charts [here](#).

TEAM COMMUNICATIONS

Norms

Talking About Identity, Power, and Intersectionality

Our students need adults willing to engage in civil and inclusive conversations.

- We use shared definitions for concepts like racism and antiracism from [Beverly Tatum](#)
- We learn about the history and current social, economic, political, and cultural practices creating systemic inequities (too many resources here to link them all)
- We recognize our own implicit bias and constantly [seek to interrupt it](#).
- We educate ourselves on identifying and interrupting [racial microaggressions](#)
- We avoid [common “detours” that prevent us from addressing racism](#)
- We use [antiracist and feminist reflection questions](#) to analyze our work before action planning.

Feedback and “Difficult Conversations”

Our commitment to talk “to the person, not about the person” is at its heart a demonstration of deep trust and caring. It may at times require courage, but we commit to bringing issues directly to the person because we trust that they will work with us to resolve the issue, and we care about them enough to talk to them even about hard topics.

Conversely, we don’t talk about those hard issues without the person/people involved being present. This can sow distrust and harm relationships. If a colleague is “venting,” please help them move towards solutions: “I hear X is stressing you out. Can I help you think through how to address it with [name of person/people who need to be involved].”

Two approaches can support this commitment:

	Learning Conversations	Feedback model
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To explore a “bump or a bruise” with a colleague in order to understand their perspective, improve communications, and seek solutions together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quick affirming and adjusting feedback
Looks / Sounds Like	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mental Prep: Curious or defensive? Learning or being right? ● Topic: 1 sentence. Headline. ● What happened: Impact intention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Events without judgment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can I share some feedback? ● When you <u>behavior</u> <u>NOT judgment</u>. ● The impact is ____.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Impact on me - be transparent ○ Assumptions and name own ignorance about their intent ● PSAV: Paraphrase. State what learning. Ask for help. Validate emotions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Affirming - Thank you! ○ Adjusting - What should we do moving forward?
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exemplar videos - mild and spicy ● Planning template and example plans ● Printable card for your wallet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PPT overview from Manager Tools

Systems

KCGPA uses a variety of channels to streamline communication. Please talk to your team lead and/or manager if you have questions or see opportunities to improve these.

Please also remember - all KCGPA communications and internet usage are public domain. Do not email anything or visit websites which you would not consider public.

Channel	Purpose and Norms
Phone Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Important and urgent. ● Use sparingly.
Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Urgent response needed. ● Use sparingly. ● Try to respond as quickly as possible without interrupting teaching or meetings.
Slack	<p>Slack v. Email: Slack is for quick-hits, things that can get solved quickly but still may not require immediate attention. Email is for longer (but not extensive) information sharing that can wait up to 72 hours to receive a response. Consider what enabling systems and spaces are already in place where you can get those questions answered.</p> <p>Slack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whole group (#msallstaff): leadership/office will post announcements, no response is expected unless stated but if you have a clarifying question that can be answered quickly please ask. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritize instruction and check on plan periods or beginning/end of day, and during emergencies. - Have all Slack notifications enabled on your device. - Grade level: This is meant for your team to share quick hits, not to extensively problem solve or to request support from leadership,

	<p>coordinators, or network team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check on plan periods or beginning/end of day only, and during emergencies. - Joy Channel: Meant for posting pictures and sharing joyful stories about students, this could include personal joy, jokes, inspiration, affirmations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only check at the beginning OR end of day. - In Search of: Non-urgent materials (water bottle, supplies, personal items). This does not include students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only check at the beginning OR end of day. - One-on-one: Quick hit items that are meant for a single person, or potentially a couple of people. These are items that don't need <i>immediate</i> attention but could be answered by the end of day.
Email	<p>Email: avoid putting feedback and important questions in an email, strive to give feedback and ask important questions in person or put them in appropriate feedback channels (weekly feedback survey sent on Fridays, feedback to coach at end of coaching meeting or cycle, feedback for GLC/content lead, TNTP). Email should be saved for information sharing (i.e. PTO requests, weekly notes, meeting recaps with action items stamped, etc.)</p> <p>We don't want an email-heavy culture. Our goal is to minimize time on email so we can maximize time to connect with each other and our scholars.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purpose: important, non-urgent info and action items, e.g. a meeting wrap-up email with next steps/owners. ● Keep it simple. ● Avoid one-word replies not answering a direct question (e.g. "OK," "Thanks," and "Got it.") ● Don't Cc unnecessarily. Write "Moving [Name] to BCC" if they don't need to be included. ● Response times <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Avoid email outside of work hours or on weekends. ○ Respond within 48 hours, or send an acknowledgement: "Got it - will get back to you by X time." ● Clear subject lines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FYI → FYI: Agenda for 10/2 Culture Planning Meeting ○ Action Requested → 30min AR by 9/24: Please respond to comments on Unit 3 plan ● Pro tips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Batch email. Do not keep email open all day. ○ Turn off email notifications on your phone and laptop. ○ To schedule external meetings, use google calendar appointment slots. ○ Use canned responses for frequently sent emails. ○ Use filters to auto-archive, block, or sort email into folders.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mark all non-essential newsletters as spam. ○ To move quickly through your inbox: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use speech to text. ■ Click on Settings/Auto-advance/After archiving, deleting, muting, etc. a conversation: Go to the previous (older) conversation. ■ Use keyboard shortcuts.
Google Calendar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Team members should keep a Google Calendar with updated schedules (teaching periods, duties, planning periods) that allow for easy scheduling of meetings. ● To schedule a meeting, send a calendar invite to the person you are meeting with to ensure you both have the meeting on your calendars. ● Accept or decline invites so meeting organizers can plan for attendees. ● Before sending the calendar invite, be sure you have communicated with the person about the meeting and you are on the same page as far as the meeting's necessity.
Bulletin Boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We want our surroundings to breathe energy into the work that we do each day. ● Accordingly, we want our physical displays to highlight and celebrate our students' work and growth in both academics and our Commitments. ● Grade Teams will work together to identify rotations.
Weekly Staff Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading staff notes before Monday Huddle is required. ● Staff notes consist of important academic, culture, operations, and general updates that will allow us to disseminate a fair amount of information efficiently.

Staff, Student and Families Communication

Staff are available for family contact between 7:45am-4:00pm, Monday through Friday. Staff are expected to respond in 72 business hours.

Attendance: Call front office and leave a message at (816) 268-2573

Transportation: Call First Student at (816) 254-5262.

Mental Health: Call Alexandria Williams, School Social Worker or Gina Bumgarner, School Counselor

Mental health services are available 24 hours per day through the following providers. If you have a situation requiring emergency care, please call one of the following crisis numbers:

1-888-761-4357 ([Missouri Crisis Line](#))

1-800-273-8255 ([National Suicide Prevention Hotline](https://www.nationalsuicidepreventionhelpline.com))

1-800-392-3738 ([Missouri Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline](https://www.missourichildabuse.org))

	Purpose and Norms
Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Email teacher● Call with your parent/ guardian
Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● If a student reaches out before 8 AM or after 4 PM about something class-related, respond to them in person when you see them at school.● If a student reaches out before 8 AM or after 4 PM with an emergency (i.e. they are unsafe), contact emergency responders if/when appropriate and/or forward the concern over to the school leader.● If a student texts you between the hours of 8AM-4PM, please include the parent/ guardian on the response back to the student.

Branding External Documents

- For all external-facing documents, follow KCGPA's Brand Guidelines at [KCGPA /External Communications/Brand Guidelines](#).

Document Naming Conventions

- General
 - Simple Doc Name - YYYY-MM-DD
 - Pride Overview PPT - 2019-08-19
- Curriculum
 - Varies by content area, but is ideally standard within each content team to assist planning
 - ELA - Lesson#_Novel_pages_DateTaught

FAMILY AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

Documentation for Student Communications

Documentation of communications is critical to protect student and team safety. All staff are required to **document all communications with families and students in [Infinite Campus](#)**.

Communications with enrolled or potential students and families at KCGPA should only take place:

- at the school during school hours
- during school-sanctioned meetings or events
- to assist with homework

Please consult the following guidelines for specific types of communication.

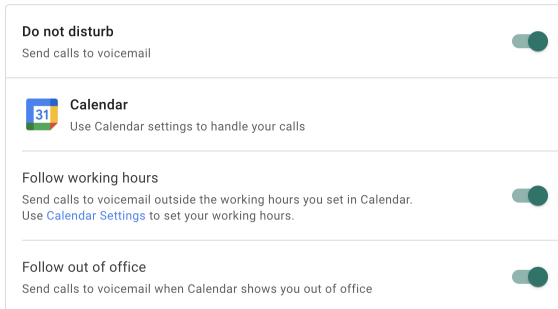
Talk or text with a student 1:1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ask the parent/guardian to communicate with the student on your behalf directly if possible. ● If the parent/guardian is not able to help, ask to speak with the student on speakerphone, ideally with the parent/guardian present. ● At minimum, notify the parent/guardian via text or call that you need to communicate with the student, what you are communicating about, and document this in Infinite Campus.
Zoom with a student 1:1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Notify the parent/guardian via text or call that you will be communicating with the student via Zoom ● Record the zoom to your Zoom cloud account. This should happen automatically based on the settings in the link below.
Zoom class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you are teaching a virtual class, set your Zoom to record all classes to your Zoom cloud. Instructions are here.
Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To ensure everyone’s safety, KCGPA team members should not engage with students or their families in any of the following ways without prior written approval of the Chief Executive Officer or School Leader: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social networking sites ○ Blogging ○ Podcasting ○ Other online postings
Emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If a student indicates he/she is in a situation requiring emergency assistance or professional help, the teacher should follow all mandated reporting guidelines and notify the School Leader immediately following the interaction.

Google Voice

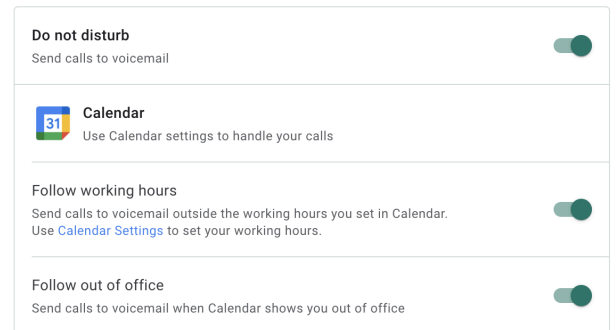
All KCGPA full-time staff members have had a google voice number assigned to them and are encouraged to use and publish this information to families.

1. Go to voice.google.com.
2. Sign in to your Google Account.
3. Review the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. click Continue.
4. Your number has already been assigned to your email.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions.
6. Set up your availability and Do Not Disturb
 - a. Go to Settings in Google Voice (look for the wheel)
 - b. Select the following options.
7. To set your working hours, click the Calendar Settings link under working hours.
 - a. Set your working hours as shown below.

Do not disturb



Do not disturb



Interpreter Services

Resources

Girls Prep contracts with a real-time phone interpreting service called [Telelanguage](#). Team members can use this service at any time to support family communications.

- Dial 888-877-8353
- Say or enter your access code 41070
- Say the language needed
- After this you will be connected with your interpreter

Girls Prep also has a contract with Jewish Vocational Services for in-person translation services. Please email the Family and Community Engagement Manager to request assistance if needed.

The [Talking Points app](#) can also be helpful to translate text conversations.

Support

Effective interpretation can be quite difficult. Please review these two resources prior to using an interpreter for the first time:

- [Best practices for maximizing the impact of an interpreter](#)
- [Video of how to leverage an interpreter for an IEP meeting](#)

Our school Social Worker can provide additional support with best practices.

Weekly Family Letter

- We send a weekly letter home to families to ensure consistent communications.
- Pride Leaders should read the letter aloud to their Pride on Fridays and add any important context/answer questions to ensure our students understand.
- To add information to the weekly letter, please email it to your manager and the Family and Community Engagement Coordinator.

Attendance Policy

We believe that attendance is a critical part of our scholars’ social, emotional, and academic success. When a scholar is missing school on a consistent basis, we consistently reach out to the family to problem solve and get them back to school.

Each week, the Office Manager/Registrar runs a report on weekly absence totals and follows the table below for excused and unexcused absences.

Days	Action	Owner
1 day absent	Phone Call Home	OM/R call day of to confirm absence Log in Infinite Campus under Attendance Call
3 days absent	Phone Call Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attendance Compliance Ofc. makes a call home and document in Infinite Campus Contact Log.
6 days absent	Phone Call and Letter goes home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attendance Compliance Ofc. calls home, send letter, and document in Infinite Campus Contact Log.

9 days	Letter and possible citation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attendance Compliance calls home, send possible withdrawal letter home, and submit for citation to state prosecutor. Parent will be issued the citation to appear in court.
10 days absent	Truancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10 day consecutive of absence or 69% absence and lower <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Students will be dropped from the last day of attendance in IC and documented in Infinite Campus. ❖ Parents will be notified with a phone call and letter sent home concerning non-attendance and truancy. ❖ Attendance Compliance Ofc, will issue a request for citation to the prosecuting attorney. ❖ Prosecuting attorney will notify the Attendance Compliance Ofc. that a citation was issued and the court date for parent appearance. ● Parent must appear for their scheduled court date. ● If parents miss the 1st scheduled court date the prosecutor will reschedule for another date. ● If parents miss the 2nd scheduled court date a warrant will be issued by the city. ● If the parent does not show improvement concerning scholar attendance, the judge can issue a fine of \$500 or the option of attending parenting classes to reduce the cost or exempt payment upon completion of parenting classes.

Make-up Work for Absences

To ensure all scholars can access lessons, teachers will have a designated Make Up Work location in their classroom for students to access when returning from absences. Teachers will need to check in with students to establish a time for learning needed to complete make-up work and should work with the student's Pride teacher and their own manager and/or content team to determine the best way for students to access guidance on the lesson.

Deadlines for Make-Up Work Submission

- Students should be given two days for every day absent to complete make-up work.
- Encourage students to plan, prioritize, and advocate for their needs. If more time is needed, help them plan accordingly and request it from their teachers.

Inclement Weather

KCGPA follows KCPS school closure decisions to simplify childcare for families.

Definitions:

- Snow Day: A traditional snow day is when we call off school due to inclement weather. This will be a no school day for students and no work day for 10.5 month employees. 12 month employees will work from home. Managers may work with employees to adjust meeting schedules and to address childcare or other personal needs.
- AMI Snow Day: Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) snow day is when students have take-home instructional packets to complete and attendance is counted through completion of these packets.
- Hot Days: Our bus provider does not have air conditioning on all buses. In the event that the heat index is considered a dangerous level, students may be sent home early.

KCGPA does not prioritize AMI Snow Days unless it will prevent the need to add additional weather make-up days at the end of the school year.

Closure decision process:

- CEO and Director of Operations confirm we are canceling for the day. The decision will be notified to staff by 6:30am.
 - The Office Manager sends an Infinite Campus message to all families and reaches out to news channels.
 - Family Partnerships Manager emails families.
 - The Office Manager sends an Infinite Campus alert and email to families and staff and notifies local television and radio stations.

Interactions with Students and Families

Acceptable and Unacceptable Staff/Student Behavior

This policy is intended to guide all School faculty and staff in conducting themselves in a way that reflects the high standards of behavior and professionalism required of school employees and to specify the boundaries between students and staff.

All family communications (emails, phone calls, text messages) must be returned within 24 (business) hours.

Although this policy gives specific, clear direction, it is each staff member's obligation to avoid situations that could prompt suspicion by parents, students, colleagues, or school leaders. One viable standard that can be quickly applied, when you are unsure if certain conduct is acceptable, is to ask yourself, "Would I be engaged in this conduct if my family or colleagues were standing next to me?"

For the purposes of this policy, the term "boundaries" is defined as acceptable professional behavior by staff members while interacting with a student. Trespassing the boundaries of a student/teacher relationship is deemed an abuse of power and a betrayal of public trust.

Some activities may seem innocent from a staff member's perspective, but can be perceived as flirtation or sexual insinuation from a student or parent's point of view. The objective of the following lists of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors is not to restrain innocent, positive relationships between staff and students, but to prevent relationships that could lead to, or may be perceived as sexual misconduct.

Staff must understand their own responsibility for ensuring that they do not cross the boundaries as written in this policy. Although sincere, competent interaction with students certainly fosters learning, student/staff interactions must have boundaries surrounding potential activities, locations and intentions.

Duty to Report Suspected Misconduct

When any employee becomes aware of another staff member having crossed the boundaries specified in this policy, he or she must speak to this staff member if the violation appears minor, or report the matter to school administrators. If the observed behavior appears significant, it is the duty of every staff member to immediately report it to an administrator. All reports shall be confidential. It is the duty of the administrator and/or HR to investigate and thoroughly report the situation. Employees must also report to the administration any awareness or concern of student behavior that crosses boundaries or where a student appears to be at risk for sexual abuse.

Unacceptable Staff/Student Behaviors (Violations of this Policy)

- Any type of unnecessary physical contact with a student in a private situation.

- Intentionally being alone with a student away from the school.
- Making or participating in sexually inappropriate comments.
- Seeking or offering emotional involvement (which can include intimate attachment) with a student beyond the normative care and concern required of an educator.
- Discussing staff's personal troubles or intimate issues with a student, especially in an attempt to gain their support and understanding.
- Sending electronic communications, such as chats, e-mails, text messages, pictures, social media instant or direct messages or responses, or letters to students if the content is not about school activities.
- Being alone in a room with a student at school and with the door closed, unless otherwise required as part of a state-mandated privileged conversation (such as a school counselor, school psychologist, school nurse, mental health professional, or testing evaluator).
- Involving students in non-educational or non-school related issues, including, but not limited to, the employee's employment issues.
- Using profanity with or to a student.
- Being "friends" with a student on any personal or non-School social media website.
- Allowing students in your home without signed parent permission for a pre-planned and pre-communicated educational activity which must include another educator, parent, or other responsible adults.
- Giving students a ride to/from school or school activities without parent permission, or outside of a legally mandated purpose.

Acceptable and Recommended Staff/Student Behaviors

- Obtaining parents' written consent for any after-school activities on or off campus.
- Engaging in communication with students that is professional, pertains to school activities or classes, and is easily accessible to the minor student's parent or legal guardian.
- Keeping the door open when alone with a student.
- Keeping a reasonable space between you and your students.
- Stopping and correcting students if they cross your own personal boundaries.
- Refer students to the appropriate staff person that is trained to address their particular concerns.
- Be aware of the legally protected confidentiality rights of students and parents.
- Keeping staff supervisor and student's parents informed when a significant issue develops about a student.
- Asking for advice from senior staff or administrators if you find yourself in a difficult situation related to boundaries.
- Involving your supervisor if a conflict arises with a student.
- Informing your supervisor about situations that have the potential to become more severe.
- Making detailed notes about an incident that could evolve into a more serious situation later.

- Recognizing the responsibility to stop unacceptable behavior of students and/or co-workers.
- Asking another staff member to be present, or within close supervisory distance, when you must be alone with a student after regular school hours.

Common Scenarios

Parent action	Teacher response
“ _____ will be absent for a health reason/sick. ”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thanks! I’ll share that with our Office Manager, Ms. Rubio. If you need to contact her, she can be reached at srubio@kcgpa.org or 816-268-2573.
“ _____ will be absent for a vacation/ non-school sports or arts etc. ”	
Asks for an appointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ideally, set one up within a week with specific time constraints (30 min is normal) ● Include other teachers/admin as needed
Messages a question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Send an acknowledgement within 48 hours (“Thank you for writing. Let me connect with _____ and get back to you by _____”) ● If it’s a straightforward question, answer it. ● Be conscious of using a formal, professional, and kind tone.
Messages a concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Send an acknowledgement within 48 hours (“Thank you for writing. Let me connect with _____ and get back to you by _____”). ● Resist urge to answer immediately, as it’s often a good idea to 1) let you think through a calm, professional response and 2) let the parent cool off ● Based on severity of complaint, notify your manager: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Example: A family thinks their scholar is being treated unfairly or is quite upset ○ Non-example: A parent thinks a quiz grade is unfair.

Online Interactions with Students and Families

Communications with enrolled or potential students and families at KCGPA should only take place at the school during school hours, during school-sanctioned meetings or events, as part of the school's curriculum or regular reporting process, or to assist with homework or similar supports.

To ensure everyone's safety, KCGPA team members should not engage with students or their families in any of the following ways without approval of the Chief Executive Officer:

- Social networking sites
- Blogging
- Podcasting
- Other online postings

If a student indicates he/she is in a situation requiring emergency assistance or professional help, the teacher should contact 911 and notify the School Leader immediately following the call.

To maintain an appropriate professional boundary, staff should also:

- Avoid communication with students/parents/guardians using technology (such as social networking sites, online chat, e-mail, text messages, telephone, and video) for personal or non-work-related purposes.
- Be aware that posting personal information on professional web sites or other media might cause boundary confusion, inappropriate dual relationships, or harm to students/parents/guardians.
- Be aware that personal affiliations may increase the likelihood that students/parents/guardians may discover the staff member's presence on web sites, social media, and other forms of technology. Staff members should be aware that involvement in electronic communication with groups based on race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, mental or physical ability, religion, immigration status, and other personal affiliations may affect their ability to work effectively with particular students/parents/guardians.
- Avoid accepting requests from or engaging in personal relationships with students/parents/guardians on social networking sites or other electronic media to prevent boundary confusion, inappropriate dual relationships, or harm to students/parents/guardians.
- Not engage in dual or multiple relationships with current or former students/parents/guardians in which there is a risk of exploitation or potential harm to the students/parents/guardians. In instances when dual or multiple relationships are

unavoidable, staff members should take steps to protect students/parents/guardians and are responsible for setting clear, appropriate, and culturally sensitive boundaries. (Dual or multiple relationships occur when staff members relate to clients in more than one relationship, whether professional, social, or business. Dual or multiple relationships can occur simultaneously or consecutively.)

Communicating with Current Students

There is at times an inherent tension between our goal of forming meaningful relationships and our responsibility to respect boundaries and provide for adequate safety and legal protection for all members of our school community. Employees should utilize school provided communication platforms (Google Voice, email, Infinite Campus, etc.) for instructional or other school-related purposes. The use of electronic media for communicating with students and parents is an extension of the employee's workplace responsibilities and explorers are expected to use professional judgment. Maintain a professional demeanor at all times, keeping interactions respectful and appropriate within the educational context.

Employees should be mindful about factors that may make communication with a student directly inappropriate such as time of day, quantity of communication, and communicating about non-school related items.

Crisis Response

In the event of local or national events that may incite fear and distress amongst staff and students, KCGPA seeks to use the following guiding principles:

- Create space - might be in the moment, a space throughout the day/week, or in intentional lessons
- Be responsive vs directive
- Recognize that no one has to have the right answers - we seek to lead with love and compassion for each other
- Reaffirm our values as a community, what you stand for, and why
- Expect a range of the unexpected. Some staff and students may cope with anger, shutting down, sadness, or even laughter. [OB] These are all coping mechanisms.
- Staff need support so they can provide support. We seek to pour into our staff before the school day in a quick huddle meeting or similar space.
- We seek to provide resources rather than trying to do it all ourselves

- "Normal" can feel reassuring - sometimes books and direct discussions are helpful, but it can also be overwhelming and re-traumatizing. After creating space, it's completely OK to still learn science, laugh, play, and learn.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Social Work Services

Please refer to this [Social Work Cheat Sheet](#) for information and resources to support families and students.

To refer a student, please use this [Google Form](#) or this [Google Doc](#).

Staff Sharing Personal or Private Information

With the positive intention of being honest and vulnerable with students and families, staff may wonder if they should disclose personal information to form or deepen a connection. For example, a team member may wonder if it would help to share about a personal relationship challenge they've experienced (e.g. a recent break-up with their significant other) or a personal history of trauma in order to show empathy for a student's experience.

This practice is prohibited for employees of KCGPA because of the potential for significant, if unintended, negative consequences. These consequences often result from miscommunication of the intended message or distortion of that message when it is relayed to others. This is especially prone to occurring due to the private and often emotional nature of this information.

Disclosure of certain types of private, personal information can also remove students and families from the center of our collective focus. This can instead place a potentially harmful or distracting spotlight on staff members instead.

Types of information that KCGPA staff should not disclose include historical or current:

- Physical, sexual, or emotional abuse
- Neglect or abandonment
- Drug/alcohol abuse
- Sexual activities
- Other private, personal details that may be reasonably considered inappropriate to share

If there is any doubt about whether information should be disclosed, the default for employees is to not disclose. For further reflection, please consider the [Ethics of Self-Disclosure With Children and Adolescents](#) and these questions:

- How will the student benefit from knowing this information?

- Is there a way that I can validate and empathize with the student without self-disclosing information?
- What are the reasons behind my feeling to self-disclose?
- Am I being triggered by these discussions with students during sessions in an attempt to be mindful of using self-skills while in session?
- What would my supervisor say or think about this situation?
- Do I have unresolved emotional issues that are causing me to want to share this information?
- Am I nervous if I don't share this information or answer the student's question that the student will be upset with me?
- How will the student interpret my self-disclosure?

Student Sharing Private/Sensitive Information, Including Gender Identity and/or Sexual Orientation

Students often disclose private or sensitive information in the course of staff member's work with them. Handling such information appropriately is critical to balance the privacy and safety of students.

Guiding Principles

- We seek inclusion and put the onus of responsibility for inclusive policies and procedures on majority groups, rather than putting that burden of advocacy on minority groups who may be most negatively impacted by dominant social norms.
- We recognize that gender inclusion is not a new topic, but that it has become a more prominent topic in the public eye, and that it may trigger strong reactions in part due to varying levels of access to information about it.
- We recognize a student's right to informational privacy extends to students in a school setting. Students have the constitutional right to share or withhold information about their sexual orientation or gender identity from their parents, teachers, and other parties, and it is against the law for school officials to disclose, or compel students to disclose, that information.
- We believe that, in addition to preserving a transgender or gender nonconforming student's privacy, referring to a transgender student by the student's chosen name and pronouns fosters a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment.

Staff Expectations

- If a student so chooses, KCGPA staff shall be required to address the student by a name and the pronouns consistent with the student's gender identity, without the necessity of legal documentation or a change to the student's official district record.

- It is strongly suggested that teachers privately ask transgender or gender nonconforming students at the beginning of the school year how they want to be addressed in class, in correspondence to the home, or at conferences with the student's parents.
- To ensure that transgender or gender nonconforming students have equal access to the programs and activities provided by the school, all members of the school community must use a transgender student's chosen name and pronouns.

What if a student tells a staff member they would like to change their name and/or pronouns but asks that this information be kept confidential from their parent/guardian?

- KCGPA staff defer to a child's parent/guardian when legally permissible. We know that no one knows or loves their child more than their parent/guardian.
- However, all KCGPA team members must adhere to legal standards of confidentiality relating to information about a student's gender identity, sexual orientation, pronoun preferences, legal name, and/or gender assigned at birth. In particular, staff shall treat information relating to a student's gender identity, sexual orientation, and/or pronoun preferences as being particularly sensitive, shall not disclose it to other students and parents without permission, and shall only disclose to other school personnel with a legitimate educational interest.
- KCGPA shall allow students to assert a name and gender pronouns that reflect their gender identity without any substantiating evidence. School staff shall, at the request of a student or parent/guardian, address the student using the asserted name and pronoun that correspond to their gender identity.

What is the procedure if a student shares private and/or sensitive information with a staff member?

- The staff member should:
 - Thank them and let them know they're fully heard.
 - Inform them that, as a team member at KCGPA, you:
 - Are responsible for making sure they have the resources and support they may need in any situation.
 - Get the student's permission to share the information with at least one member of the dedicated Social and Emotional Learning Team (Dean of Culture, Counselor, and Social Worker).
 - Remember that if a student shares something about their gender or sexual identity, they must grant direct permission for a staff member to legally share that information with a member of the SEL Team or the student's parent/guardian.
 - Review the [mandated reporting](#) section of the Team Handbook for situations in which harm may be occurring.
- If they are informed, the SEL team will offer a wide variety of support and resources, starting with planning with the staff member and/or the student and/or their parent/guardian how to address the situation that has been disclosed.

When does KCGPA follow a parent/guardian vs. a student's name and pronoun preferences?

- If caregiver and student are aligned in their choice of name and pronoun preferences:
 - KCGPA changes the name in our Student Information System and makes every effort to make the student and parent/guardian aware of any locations where we may be unable to make a change (e.g. a mailing from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education with state test results).
 - The method of communication of name and pronoun preferences within the school community will be decided on a case-by-case basis with input from the parent/guardian and student.
- If caregiver and student are not aligned in their choice of name and pronoun preferences:
 - Staff will make every effort to communicate proactively with student and parent/guardian in order to reach a consensus on how to best move forward.
 - Due to the aforementioned confidentiality and legal protections, staff will use the student's preferred name/pronouns rather than the parent/guardian's preferred name/pronouns if these wishes are in conflict.

What if another student or staff member refuses to use a student's preferred name and/or pronouns?

- If a member of the school community intentionally uses a student's incorrect name and pronoun, or persistently refuses to respect a student's chosen name and pronouns, that conduct should be treated as harassment.
- That type of harassment can create a hostile learning environment, violate the transgender student's privacy rights, and increase that student's risk for harassment by other members of the school community.
- Examples of this type of harassment include a teacher consistently using the student's incorrect name when displaying the student's work in the classroom, or a transgender student's peers referring to the student by the student's birth name during class.
- This does not include unintentional or sporadic occurrences.

What about nicknames?

- The default expectation for staff is to call students by their given name or a nickname that their family uses, but not a personal nickname that the student may use with peers.

Key:

DOC = dean of culture

GLC = grade level chair

SASS = Scholar Achievement Support Squad

OPS = operations team

SL = School leader

Roles and Responsibilities within School-Wide systems

System	Students	Team	Progress Monitoring / Key Roles
<p>Caregiver Comm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Routinely check grades, attendance, behavior logs at home and/or in Pride 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Contact caregivers when support is needed with their scholar. ○ Contact caregiver when students have been out of uniform (each occurrence) ○ Minimum 2 positive, proactive communications per month, per scholar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Can be text, email, or phone call ■ 1 of 2 communications must be verbal ● Log all Caregiver communications in Infinite Campus 	<p>Deans complete weekly data steps to analyze communication trends.</p> <p>GLC will discuss this data with their grade level teams</p>

Busses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Greet/thank our driver● Bottom in seat, back against the back of the seat● Hands and feet to self● Aisles clear● Talking to those next to me● No filming/photographing others● Follow all directions given by bus driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● As students load the bus and await departure, staff will monitor student behavior and redirect/affirm when appropriate.● If a specific behavior persists or knowledge of bus conflict arises, e-mail the grade level DOC who will communicate next steps.● If an individual student's bus behavior requires it, then assigned seats will be given as needed	Ops: communicating with the bus company
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<p>Arrival</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Doors open at 8:00 ● Students will enter the school from the side doors and walk straight into the cafeteria for breakfast. ● Late Arrivals (Bus/Cab ONLY) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All late students will enter from the front office entrance (after 8:15), sign in, and then put their belongings in their lockers (besides all needed learning materials) before going to breakfast in the cafeteria. ○ All students that are late will require a SmartPass from the staff member that is managing breakfast count for Operations (has been LaToya in the past). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 8:00 am - All team members at duty posts or present in the cafeteria and actively monitoring students. ● Deans and ASLs will be in charge of monitoring all entry points. They will give permission for students to use the restroom and assign restroom passes. 	<p>Duty Posts schedule.</p> <p>Ops: Utilize slack to communicate bussing updates and food updates.</p> <p>School leaders are using smartpass to monitor students leaving the cafeteria.</p>
<p>End of Day Dismissal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dismissal from class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Same procedure as Last 5 ○ Wait for PA announcement ● Go straight to the designated locker if needed, <u>students may use restroom 1 only</u> ● Bus Rider - after leaving lockers, immediately go to the assigned bus immediately. May not enter the cafeteria unless directed by PA announcement. ● Car Rider - after leaving the locker immediately walk to the designated car rider area. Students still waiting for their ride at dismissal wrap up wil: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Four or more student = cafeteria to wait for ride ○ Less than 4 students = office to wait for ride ● After school activity - after leaving the locker immediately walk to designated after school activity spot ● Once students exit the school, they may not re-enter unless given permission by an adult. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will be dismissed from classes in the following ways and time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Car Riders: 1:35/3:40 ○ Bus Riders: 1:38/3:43 ● Ensure scholars are exiting at Level 2 ● If you have afternoon duty, immediately go to your post. ● If you do not have an assigned post, walk with your class or grade level to the lockers and on to the bus area; remain in the area until buses depart. 	<p>Dismissal Duty Posts schedule.</p> <p>Ops: Utilize slack to communicate bussing updates and food updates.</p>

- **Breakfast**

- Prides and their rosters will be listed on the lunch tables.
- When students enter into the cafeteria they will enter in the double doors nearest Bathroom 1 and will exit out of the double doors nearest Bathroom 4.
- Once students enter the cafeteria they will immediately go through the breakfast line and then sit with their PRIDE only.
- Once seated, if a student needs to use the restroom, they must raise their hand, and receive permission from a school leader. As they exit the cafeteria, Dr. Chaur will assign the student a hallway pass. No more than one grade level out at a time.
- Voice levels will max at LEVEL 2.
- If a student would like an extra serving of breakfast they must raise their hand first. Their Pride leader will acknowledge the student. The student will then check in with Amalia/or the food service staff to see if they can have an extra serving or not.
- The Pride Leader will choose a student to wipe the table down with wipes and all students are responsible for throwing away their own trays.
- At 8:15 Deans will begin Dismissing by grade level. Students may exit the cafeteria when their Pride leader escorts them out.

*Lunch and breakfast management is the same, but with different dismissal times.

Breakfast

- Ensure students are seated by Pride.
- From there, a balance of 3 priorities:
 - First priority: Actively monitor behavior and address student questions or concerns
 - Voice level: Reset to Level 2 through clap and resetting expectations
 - Behavior: Immediately redirect undesirable student behavior using BMC
 - Extra serving of food: Pride leader will acknowledge the student after the student has raised their hand. The student will then check in with Amalia/or the food service staff to see if they can have an extra serving or not.
 - Second priority: Build relationships with colleagues and scholars.
 - Circulate and actively connect with scholars.
 - Check in with one another! :-)
- Pride leaders will escort their class from the cafeteria when grade level is called, but before exiting the cafeteria Pride leaders will check for uniforms and document each infraction in infinite campus.
- School Leaders will be responsible for monitoring entry and exit points of the cafeteria. If a student needs to use the restroom, the Deans will give them permission.

*Lunch and breakfast management is the same, but with different dismissal times.

Duty Post

For breakfast, all Pride leaders should be posted in the cafeteria with their prides. 1 non-pride leader should be posted outside bathroom 1, 1 non-pride leader should be posted in the main hallway, and the rest should be at the door where students are entering the building.

For lunch, SLT and BI's will be on duty (deans and BI's should be on the duty that's opposite of their grade-levels)

Uniform expectation:

- Uniforms are worn daily
- **Tops:**
 - A short or long sleeved collared polo in one of the following colors: White, gray, lavender, navy, or a KCGPA t-shirt.
 - Verified KCGPA top
- **Bottoms:** Khaki or navy colored bottoms
 - Short skirts, capri pants, cargo, joggers, or jumpers.
- **Outerwear/Warm Layer:**
 - Solid white, gray, navy, or lavender cardigan.
 - Verified KCGPA crew neck sweater and Q zip
- **Shoes:** Must be full back and closed toed, this excludes slippers.
- **Not permitted:**
 - Hats, hoodies, bonnets
 - Bags or purses
 - Outdoor coats (unless building temps require it, with permission from staff)

Uniform infraction:

- Scholars not in uniform, but can correct the item will be redirected to remove the item. Scholars refusing to comply will earn a reflection.
- If the scholar is in an **non-correctable** out-of-uniform item, the student will be given an Off compass redirect and reminder about uniform policy.

*All religious/cultural wear must be in the standard KCGPA colors of: white, navy, lavender, or Khaki

*Scholars may dress down during field trips, spirit weeks, or special celebrations.

- Teachers will Check uniforms Before exiting the cafeteria with their Pride after breakfast.
 - **In Uniform:** : Affirming comments made to students who are in uniform.
 - **Correctable Uniform Infraction:** redirect scholar to correct clothing item and document in Infinite Campus
 - Corrected = reinforce student's choice to meet expectations with an affirming comment.
 - Non-adherence after two redirects = In a calm and neutral tone, inform the student that to best support their arrival in the appropriate uniform each morning, you will be reaching out to their family.
 - **Non-Correctable Uniform Infraction:**
 - In a calm and neutral tone, identify the uniform piece that is not in adherence with the KCGPA uniform policy.
 - Provide an opportunity for the scholar to explain why they are not in uniform. See the progress monitoring/key roles section, to the left for more information on the appropriate team members to contact for different uniform needs.

*All religious/cultural wear must be in the standard KCGPA colors of: white, navy, lavender, or Khaki

*Scholars may dress down during field trips, spirit weeks, or special celebrations.

Pride Teachers: Check and document all uniform infractions each morning as scholars exit the cafeteria, and initiate initial communication with parents or guardians.

GLC: Examine uniform data to identify trends, then utilize this information to reflect on and develop action plans with their grade-level team.

Deans: will routinely review uniform data and collaborate with teachers to contact families when a scholar is out of uniform two or more times in a week.

If student is need of a uniform for one of the following reason, teacher will contact:

- **temporary needs that came up during the day** (rip,spill,blood, etc.) = slack nurse Kaniesha and send student with a smartpass

-Long term need due to **extenuating circumstance** (financial) = Complete the student of concern form.

-**New student** = Molly during the enrollment process.

Uniform

<p>Lockers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scholars have the option to visit their locker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ After breakfast ○ Before & After lunch ○ Dismissal ○ With a SmartPass during class time, excluding the first five and last ten. ○ After accessing their lockers, scholars will immediately transition to class. ● Lockers will only contain learning materials, minor decorations, and a lock. ● Lockers will be free of food, candy, and drinks. No opened food or liquids. (we don't want bugs/mice!) ● No sharing lockers (safety) ● Replacement locks will be available for purchase for \$5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SmartPass must be used to send students to their locker. ● Pride will have scheduled locker clean out once in each quarter. During this time Pride leaders will check that each student has a lock on their locker and document any missing or damaged locs. ● Locker and lock information can be found in the Culture One Stop Shop document ● Deans will manage locker assignments for new students. 	<p>Teachers: Check locks on the lockers during clean out. Make note of any missing/broken locks on the KCGPA Locker & Combo doc. and send an email to Ms. Shepherd so the ops team can contact caregivers.</p> <p>Security officer: checks lockers are locked throughout the day</p> <p>Ops: locker spreadsheet tracker and mail merge, physical locks/lockers</p> <p>Dean: locker support for Pride Leaders and Summer Bridge rollout</p>
<p>Learning Materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Only bring designated learning materials to class as determined by the team. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Binders ○ Class specific materials ○ Pencil pouch ○ Clear water bottle ○ Agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure that scholars only have learning materials in class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Redirect + Reinforce: ○ Additional Support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not allowing students to visit the locker to grab "forgotten material". This may result in a poor grade. ■ Providing extra copies of work to prevent a scholar leaving to grab "forgotten material" 	<p>Teachers are monitoring student data to make decisions on addressing learning material concerns.</p>
<p>Transitions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Voice level 2 ○ Walking on the rights side of the hall with Hands/objects to self ○ Using water fountain/restroom assigned to grade level ○ No locker visitation ○ Once in class, stay in class (no in-and-out) 	<p>Threshold</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At threshold for the entire passing period, every passing period ("One Foot In, One Foot Out"). ● Actively monitor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Learn/use student names. ○ Build relationships ○ Address all student behavior by name. ○ Greet scholars and check uniforms at entry. If the student has a correctable out-of-uniform item on the student will go to their locker to put the item up and will be considered tardy upon their return to class. If the student is in a non-correctable out-of-uniform item, the student will be given an Off 	<p>School Admin will progress monitor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Daily walkthroughs will occur daily for the first six weeks of school. -For the remainder of the year, walkthroughs will occur, at minimum once a month. This is subject to change based on school wide culture system data. <p>Ops: setup and adjust bell schedules</p>

		<p>compass redirect and reminder about uniform policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the end of the passing period, close the classroom door. Mark any student who enters after the bell tardy. <p>Bathroom Duty Posts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For safety, every transition must have an adult outside of every bathroom. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively monitor students Limit the number of students to the number of stalls. Go into the restroom to ensure it's not a hang-out space. If you can't get to your assigned bathroom during transition, please get support from a colleague. 	
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the bell rings the scholar must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In class Seated Getting out materials/ completing the Do Now 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take attendance for every class within the first <u>5 minutes</u> of the class's start time. Privately Slack the appropriate grade level Dean if a student has not arrived in the first <u>10 minutes</u>. 	<p>Ops: Reminder to teachers to complete attendance as needed</p> <p>Dean: If it is communicated that a student has not arrived within the first 10 minutes, support with locating and escorting to class.</p>
On Compass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earned for demonstrating the following KCGPA commitments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accountability Safety Joy Curiosity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name, On-Compass Point for showing [Character Strength] when [specific action] "Name 1, On-Compass point for showing Kindness when you invited Name 2 to sit with you at lunch today." 	<p>Deans: Weekly analyze data to facilitate reflection on trends during PD and with GLCs.</p> <p>GLC: Weekly analyze data to facilitate reflection on trends with their grade level team.</p> <p>Classroom teachers: Weekly analyze data to reflect on classroom trends and guide future classroom practices.</p>
Chill Corner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scholars will communicate their need for the Chill Corner to their teacher by raising their hand or will be presented with the option to use Chill Corner by their teacher if the scholar is slightly dysregulated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not punitive Space will Ideally be cozy, clean, and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restorative reflection sheets coping skills sheet fidgets/activity basket 	<p>DOC : Weekly analyze data to facilitate reflection on trends during PD and with GLCs.</p> <p>GLC: Weekly analyze data to facilitate reflection on</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Refusal to do so may result in further consequences that vary by severity by student behavior: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Movement of seating in the classroom ○ Dean support ○ Emote to request SEL check-in ○ Recal lead by teacher ○ ISR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non traditional desk and chair encouraged. ● Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Direct students to the regulation resources found in the corner. ○ Communicate your expectations for the chill corner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Before a student leaves the chill corner the teacher will facilitate a restorative reflection. ○ Communicate the time you will return to check-in with the student (5 mins). ● Monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Warmly check-in with students at the 5 minute mark to determine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How much more time is needed, if needed. ■ Where the scholar is at in their emotion regulation. ■ If they need any support ○ Facilitate a restorative reflection with the student before they return to class. ○ If they are disrupting learning, request Dean support through Emote. 	<p>trends with their grade level team.</p> <p>SASS: Will use chill corner logs to gather intervention data when determining student support.</p>
<p>SmartPass Usage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● When students request to leave the room, they must assigned a SmartPass before leaving the classroom space and when returning if needed (nurse) ● Staff requested passes must be created with a handwritten pass. (ex: a teacher ask for a student to come to their room)) ● Bathroom = 5 mins, Walk/Water Fountain = 2 mins, Nurse= 10 mins, and other times/locations may vary. ● If a student is given a SmartPass they must go to the designated location on the pass or they will be considered to be Roaming. ● Students must use the bathroom closest to their classroom and leave it cleaner than they found it ● If you notice anything broken or inappropriate in the restroom tell nearest adult right away ● No backpacks permitted in the restroom during class time ● If a student is given a SmartPass they must go to the designated location on the pass or they will be considered to be Roaming. <p>Failure to meet Smartpass expectations may result in a hallway behavior plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use SmartPass to assign hallway passes. ● If a scholar is 5 minutes over the time allotted to them on their pass, message the respective Dean privately by Slack. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>If SmartPass is not working you will write a handwritten pass:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student name, date, time, destination, and legible staff signature ■ Communicate with DOC that your smartpass is not working. This will help us troubleshoot the issue. ● If you see a scholar in the hallway that does not have a pass, send them back to their starting point to get one. ● Staff requested passes must be created with a handwritten pass. (ex: a teacher ask for a student to come to their room)) 	<p>DOC : Weekly analyze data to facilitate reflection on trends during PD and with GLCs.</p> <p>GLC: Weekly analyze data to facilitate reflection on trends with their grade level team.</p> <p>SASS: Will use chill corner logs to gather intervention data when determining student support.</p>

Cell Phones/ Personal Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cell phones, smartwatches, headphones, or any other personal technology should be/have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume off Locked in locker Not visible at any time in the building, including during arrival, lunch, breakfast, and dismissal 	<p>All staff will actively monitor for students who have technology on their person, if the student refuses to follow the staff's directive, the staff member will reach out to the respective DOC and if the DOC is absent then the staff will reach out to the respective ASL to assist.</p>	
Gum / Candy / Snacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No gum, candy, snacks outside the cafeteria (we don't want bugs/mice!) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers may distribute candy or snacks to be eaten in their classroom - but may not give permission to be eaten in other spaces, and all snacks must be consumed and garbage disposed of during that class 	
Chromebooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> chromebooks will be grabbed in the morning, before pride and put away at the end of the day in their last period class. See this schedule for more information. Signed technology contracts required Gentle, careful use of devices at all time Only teacher-assigned content may be accessed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep Chromebook carts locked when not in use Maintain a clear routine/procedure for signing out and returning Chromebooks Use GoGuardian to actively monitor scholars 	<p>GLC's will receive any flags for inappropriate internet usage</p>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear water bottles only Students must bring their own water bottle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not provide water cup or give pass for water cup to student If there is suspicion of alcohol, Privately slack any school admin member 	
Outside Time Or requesting a space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only go to outside space designated by teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prioritize daily, bell-to-bell instruction, taking students outside must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of a planned lesson Added into a section of your lesson Pre-approved by manager Once approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring a walkie talkie for safety First Aid bag All student health items (i.e. epi pen) Alert Security Officer via Slack 	<p>Ops: Teachers will email Kiana, requesting approval for outside spaces/times.</p>
Community Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Meeting will be held every Friday, during the last 40 minutes of the day. Students do not earn a grade in community meetings, but are still required to participate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All team members will be present for the Community Meeting and will determine ahead of time who will facilitate each part. School Leaders will push-in to support or participate in the community activities as needed. 	<p>GLC: Facilitate the grade level meetings where Community Meeting planning takes place.</p> <p>Grade level teams: Will plan out a scope and sequence and weekly lessons needed for Community Meeting. For guidance on possible</p>

			Community Meeting activities, grade level teams can use the Community meeting Menu .
Pride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will receive a grade for Pride. This grade will be determined by Second Step, Badgework, and Academic Check-in completing and participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pride leaders will follow their grade level Pride Scope and Sequence to prepare and plan for daily Pride activities. 	School Leaders: Will complete observation walkthroughs during Pride.
Circle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will participate in badgework coaching before sharing their work in circle. Students will participate in weekly circles and share at least two pieces of badgework by the end of the year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certainly! Here is the revised version while maintaining your original format: Pride leaders will manage their Compass Mentor Dashboard to monitor student badgework sharing data. Pride leaders will facilitate badgework coaching with students during Pride to prepare students for sharing during Friday Circle. Pride leaders will facilitate student circles each Friday. Staff will participate in bi-weekly faculty circles and share at least two pieces of badgework by the end of the year 	School Leaders: Will completed observation walkthrough during pride

ACADEMICS

2024-2025 Grading Policy

At KC Girls Prep, we believe deeply in our responsibility to give feedback to students.

The purpose of grades: Grades communicate a student's mastery and growth that will lead to choice-filled lives.

- Grades are a tool to build academic pride and identity
- Grades show academic growth towards short and long term goals
- Grades show academic readiness for secondary and post-secondary success
- Grades show mastery of college-ready standards and content specific skills
- Grades show mastery of academic habits such as participation, homework completion, note taking, etc.

Platform

Grades will be entered and stored on Infinite Campus. This platform communicates grades to students and families.

GPA

Research shows the importance of maintaining an unweighted GPA of 3.0 in access to and success in college. For this reason, students should strive to maintain a 3.0 or B average. Similarly, teachers should strive to maintain class averages of a 3.0. It is from this metric (and many others) that we will monitor our academic program's success.

- Core Classes (ELA, Math, Science, Humanities), Enrichment and Intervention will be included in GPA calculation.
- Pride will be graded Pass/ Fail and not included in GPA calculation

Grading Scales

KCGPA uses an expanded grading system, meaning we account for pluses and minuses (+/-) within each grade letter. This system gives students smaller increments for growth to use in goal setting as they strive towards a 3.0. The corresponding percentages are below:

A-F Grade Scale		
Score	Percent	GPA
A/A+	93-100%	4.0
A-	90-93%	3.67
B+	87-90%	3.33
B	83-87%	3
B-	80-83%	2.67
C+	77-80%	2.33
C	73-77%	2
C-	70-73%	1.67
D+	67-70%	1.33
D	63-67%	1
D-	60-63%	.67
F	<60%	0

Pass/Fail Grade Scale	
Pass	>60%
Fail	<59%

Grading Terms

In order to give students sufficient time to master content and demonstrate growth, grades will be calculated by semester. This means that semester grades are cumulative, and each semester's grades and corresponding GPA will be recorded on their transcript.

Quarter grades will act as midterm grades, giving students and families a sense of mid-term progress towards semester goals. Quarter grades will not lock, but continue to be added to throughout the semester.

Grading Categories & Weights

Grading Categories for Core & Enrichment Classes		
Category	Weight	Description and Examples
Classwork	50%	<p>The majority of student growth and mastery of content happens during class time. It is also where students most apply the academic soft-skills required for success, such as participation, note taking, materials organization, advocacy, etc. For this reason “Classwork” is the most heavily weighted gradebook category.</p> <p>Examples of classwork include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Completion of a Science Lab ● Annotations of a short story ● Engagement in a discussion of Ancient Civilizations ● Completion of math problem practice ● Participation in athletic exercises with the appropriate dress ● Bringing necessary school supplies ● Accuracy of a daily exit ticket to assess learning ● Participation in group work
Assessments	30%	<p>“Assessments” are critical to demonstrating and monitoring student learning. For this reason, they are weighted at 30%. Assessments come in different forms, depending on the content and unit of learning.</p> <p>Examples of assessments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● End of Unit Essay on a novel’s theme ● A multi-pronged design challenge to build a sustainable ecosystem ● An multiple choice Interim Assessment ● An end-of-unit Socratic seminar ● A team-sport play off tournament ● A states and capitals map test
Homework	20%	<p>Homework is treated as further practice or for-class preparation. Both this reactive and proactive approach to learning help students master skills and knowledge. Additionally, Independent practice (homework) is a necessary study habit for college and</p>

		<p>career readiness that helps teach students academic discipline, prioritization, and organization.</p> <p>Examples of homework include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More math practice problems ● Pages to read in an independent reading book ● Summaries of pages in a history textbook ● Further work on a planetary model project ● Interviewing a family member about their experience with health and fitness
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Weekly Grading Expectations	
Category	Grades
<p>Classwork Unit_Assignment Name (50%)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minimum of 2 CW grades per week ● Entered into Infinite Campus each week by Thursday End of Day ● To preserve students' ability to earn an 3.0, no classwork grade will be entered lower than a 50%, <u>if</u> the classwork was attempted. If not attempted, permanently missing, the student will receive a "0". <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "Attempted" means that the student attempted half of the assignment in good faith. Teachers determine if the student attempted half of the assignment in good faith. ● Teacher discretion for how many points a classwork assignment is worth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Recommendation: 10 points per assignment, knowing the occasional assignment may be worth more or less</i>
<p>Assessment Unit_Assessment Name (30%)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minimum of 3 Assessment grades per unit ● Entered into Infinite Campus by end of unit ● To preserve students' ability to earn an 3.0, no assessment grade will be entered lower than a 50%, <u>if</u> the assessment was attempted. If not attempted, permanently missing, the student will receive a "0". <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "Attempted" means that the student attempted half of the assessment in good faith. Teachers determine if the student attempted half of the assessment in good faith.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teacher discretion for how many points an assessment is worth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Recommendation: 30-50 points per assessment. Because this category will have fewer assignments than the others, even a 20 point assessment will likely affect a student's grade more than a 10 point Classwork assignment.</i> ● <i>Example: Interim = 50 points, Bi-weekly quizzes = 30 points</i>
<p>Homework Unitt_Assignment Name (20%)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minimum of 1 HW grade per week ● Entered into Infinite Campus each week by Thursday, End of Day ● Teacher discretion for how many points a classwork assignment is worth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Recommendation: 10 points per assignment, knowing the occasional assignment may be worth more or less</i>

Intervention Gradebooks

Grading Categories for Intervention		
Category	Weight	Description/Examples
Classwork	70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minimum of 2 CW assignments a week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participation (whole class, partner, etc.) ○ do-nows ○ discussions ○ independent work ○ accuracy grades for classwork ● Should be more focused on effort/participation as opposed to only rewarding accuracy ● Entered into Infinite Campus each week by Thursday, End of Day
Assessments	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A balance of growth and mastery-based assessments to ensure students are progressing in their areas of need <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mastery Tests in Workbooks ○ Growth shown through difference between Mastery tests ● Entered into Infinite Campus biweekly

Pride Gradebooks

Grading Categories for Pride	
Category	Weight
Formative	80%
Summative	20%

Grade Level Homework Amounts:

Grade level teams and Pride leaders should monitor the amount of homework students' are assigned. Accounting for all classes (not each class) in a student's schedule, the following guidelines are recommended per night, per student:

Grade	Recommended Minutes /night
5th Grade	15-30 minutes
6th Grade	30-45 minutes
7th Grade	45-60 minutes
8th Grade	60-75 minutes

Missing Work Policy

Regardless of if the absence was excused, students are required to make up the classwork, homework, and assessments they miss.

If absent, students have until the end of the unit to complete missing work. This might mean two weeks for Math, or a whole quarter for ELA, so if teachers need to shorten this timeline due to the length of their unit, they should. If a student turns in work after the end of the unit, it is up to the teacher's discretion to accept that work.

Students present for the classwork or assignments but who fail to turn in the work will be treated on a case-by-case basis. Similarly, students who submit incomplete work will be treated on a case-by-base basis.

After the end of the semester, no missing work from the previous semester will be accepted. Grades will lock and cannot be changed.

Students are ultimately responsible for completing their missing work. Staff ensure students have access to the work and necessary resources to complete the work.

Absence Type	Description
Excused Absences	Students can still receive full credit on any missing work assignments, as long as it is completed before the end of the unit.
Unexcused Absences <i>Including unexcused tardies, Suspensions, etc.</i>	Students can only receive up to 80% credit on unexcused missing work, as long as it is completed before the end of the unit. This includes assessments, projects, classwork, homework, etc.
Late Enrollment <i>Students enrolling after 8/15/24</i>	Students will be excused from completing all work assigned prior to their enrollment date. However, a teacher may recommend a student completes essential work to get caught up with their peers, and if a student completes that work, their grades will reflect that effort and mastery.
Pulled out from class <i>Includes SPED/ELL, Behavior, Therapy and Social Work pull-outs</i>	Students that are pulled out of class for services should be given the work that they missed and one extra day to complete it with teacher support. If possible, communicate with the adult pulling them to let them know what they are missing. Students will be exempt from any discussion or participation points during the time of their services. Students should not have additional homework because of time missed from services.

Academic integrity

Academic Integrity is a fundamental principle in our school community, reflecting our commitment to honesty, fairness, and respect for the intellectual efforts of all scholars. This policy outlines our expectations for maintaining academic integrity, with specific emphasis on plagiarism and the appropriate use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools.

Core Values of Academic Integrity

1. **Honesty:** All work submitted by students should be their own original effort.
2. **Respect:** Acknowledge and respect the intellectual property of others by properly citing all sources.

3. Responsibility: Take responsibility for your learning and for upholding the principles of academic integrity.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's work, ideas, or expressions without proper acknowledgment. It includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying text, images, or ideas from books, websites, or other sources without giving credit.
- Paraphrasing someone else's ideas without proper citation.
- Submitting another student's work as your own, including copying homework, assignments, or projects.
- Knowingly allowing someone to copy your text, ideas, images or original work.

Consequences of Plagiarism:

- First Offense: The student will be required to redo the assignment, and parents will be notified. The student will also receive guidance on how to properly cite sources. Their use of plagiarism will be noted in Infinite Campus.
- Second Offense: The student will receive a zero for the assignment, and a meeting with parents, the student, and the Dean will be held to discuss further consequences. The student may still be required to redo the assignment, but for no credit.
- Third Offense: The student may face more severe disciplinary action, including in-school suspension. The student may still be required to redo the assignment, but for no credit.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AI tools, such as language models, writing assistants, like ChatGPT, or automated research tools, can be valuable resources when used responsibly. However, the use of AI must align with the principles of academic integrity.

Guidelines for AI Use:

- Transparency: Students must clearly indicate if AI tools were used in their work. Any content generated or suggested by AI must be appropriately acknowledged.
- Originality: AI tools should be used to assist in learning and generating ideas, not to complete assignments on behalf of the student. The final work must reflect the student's own understanding and effort.

- Citation: If AI tools are used to generate text, ideas, or other content, this should be cited in a manner similar to traditional sources, indicating the specific tool used and the nature of the assistance it provided.

Consequences for Misuse of AI:

- First Offense: The scholar will be asked to redo the assignment without use of AI, and parents will be notified. Their inappropriate use of AI will be noted in Infinite Campus.
- Second Offense: The student will receive a zero for the assignment, with a parent-teacher-administrator or dean conference to follow. The student may still be required to redo the assignment, but for no credit.
- Third Offense: The student may face more severe disciplinary action, including in-school suspension or additional restrictions on the use of technology in school assignments. The student may still be required to redo the assignment, but for no credit.

Academic Integrity Pledge

All students are required to sign an academic integrity pledge at the beginning of the school year, acknowledging their understanding of this policy and their commitment to upholding the principles of academic integrity.

Support and Education

To support students in adhering to this policy, the school will:

- Provide ongoing instruction on proper research and citation practices.
- Offer instruction on the ethical use of AI and other emerging technologies.
- Encourage open discussions about the importance of academic honesty and the consequences of academic dishonesty.

Maintaining academic integrity is essential for a positive learning environment. By adhering to these guidelines, students will develop a strong ethical foundation that will serve them well in their future academic and professional endeavors.

Academic Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and Responsibilities	
Category	Description and Examples
Beliefs, Behaviors and Ways of Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Believe that all students can and will learn ● Believe that feedback is crucial to their own growth and development ● Have open lines of communication with staff, students and families ● Demonstrate a commitment to equity and a willingness to provide meaningful contributions to the workplace
Sense of Belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Treat staff, students and families as people first ● Show empathy for others ● Understand and honor differences among staff, students and families ● Lead with a positive tone, push for clarity and have curiosity
Classroom Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Creates a culture of trying– “it’s okay to make mistakes here, I am here to support you–” with clear expectations and boundaries ● Give student opportunities to influence the learning environment in an effort to build investment ● Design, execute and tweak behavior systems as needed to support a culture of learning ● Respond to behaviors in a calm but firm tone that conveys a clear boundary and resets expectations ● Reconnect with students after a breach in culture ● Nurture curiosity and a love for learning through own joy of teaching and learning
The Teaching and Learning Cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set clear goals connected to curriculum and achievement for students, convey them often ● Internalize units at least two weeks prior to teaching them ● Lesson plan daily with a focus on targeted feedback to students during learning, alignment to exit ticket, appropriate pacing, and differentiation for diverse learners ● Clearly communicate what mastery looks like to students and give students feedback on their progress towards that throughout the lesson ● Clearly posts agenda for each lesson and uses strategies to continue the momentum going in class ● Uses a variety of methods for students to engage within the lesson ● Clearly communicates time throughout the lesson

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Administers assessments that are aligned to the curriculum, rigorous and appropriately modified when necessary● Tracks and analyzes student data in an effort to provide feedback to students on their progress
Knowledge Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Utilizes multiple modes of learning to gain new knowledge and strategies● Uses knowledge of child development to appropriately interact with, respond to, and empathize with students● Knows content in a way that allows students to build on their previous learning and prepare for what will come in following years● Provide thoughtful connections to literacy in any content● Differentiate lessons in ways that are thoughtful for each student as an individual learner

Grading Expectations FAQ

What if a student is absent?

- The student has the same amount of time to turn in make-up work that is equal to the days they were absent, i.e. if a student was absent for one day, she has one day to turn in the work she missed.
- If more time is needed, please communicate that expectation with the team.

What if homework is turned in late?

- Teacher will deduct 10 points per day for later homework.
- After 5 days, work will no longer be accepted

Pride Leader Expectations

- Welcome student back and do a quick check in
- Remind student to check google classroom/makeup work folder in each class for missed work.

Teacher Expectation

- Check in with student to see if they need help accessing recording
- If work is not turned in by due date, check in with student and caregiver to see how you can support.
- incomplete "I" grades will be available in the gradebook. However, it is recommended "I" grades are used as a placeholder until a student submits the assignment.
- If work is not submitted, add in zero.

How often do I need to update grades?

Content Teacher will update grades weekly in Infinite Campus. This helps families and students keep track of their progress.

Progress reports will be communicated with families bi-weekly.

Pride Leader Expectations

- Check students grades in your pride.
- Call families to share when you notice growth
- Call families when you notice any concerns in overall grades. Collaborate with families for best solution and what feedback they have for us.

Teacher Expectation

- Enter grades in weekly
- If you see a scholar needs support, proactively reach out to families and scholar.
- Bring academic concerns to designated Grade Level Meeting time

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Observation and Evaluation

We believe that our team is best able to flourish when we are:

- surrounded by a web of strong, trusting relationships
- able to pursue excellence in core dimensions of being an incredible teammate: knowing our purpose, pursuing mastery of our roles, and contributing to a commitment-based culture

Our goal as an organization is to provide a work environment that fosters these pursuits. In addition, we believe that having clear, ambitious goals, job descriptions, and processes for work help support our teams in being successful.

Particularly with systems related to our team's evaluation and development, we also maintain a focus on our long-term goal to build equitable talent systems. This means that we proactively consider [typical ways that bias may enter into observations and evaluations](#) and its impact on the types of supports offered to a team member. This also requires significant training and collaboration for evaluators to ensure that evaluation ratings are fair, accurate, and reliable.

Our performance management system seeks to provide a structure in which KC Girls Prep can provide strong, personalized support to each team member to be exceptional at their role. Observation, feedback, and evaluation cycles are intended to support this goal.

Finally, this system meets Missouri Educator Evaluation System requirements, including:

- Using research-based and proven practices to measure educator performance.
- Establishing performance indicators for educators based on their level of performance.
- Aligning the evaluation process with an educator's probationary period to provide for an appropriate accumulation of performance data.
- Using student learning, based on a variety of performance measures, in the evaluation process.
- Assessing educator performance on a regular basis and providing feedback to teachers and administrators that they can use to improve their performance throughout their career.
- Ensuring evaluators are highly trained so that evaluation ratings are fair, accurate and reliable.
- Using the evaluation process to guide school district policies that impact the development of educators and student learning.

Tools

The following goal-setting, coaching, and evaluation tools are used to support our annual performance management cycle.

- [Teaching for Excellence Rubric](#)
- Goal-setting and evaluation template
- [Whetstone](#) to track goals and action steps over time

Schedule

The purpose of every aspect of the schedule below is to encourage frequent, performance-based feedback to develop our team towards attainable yet challenging goals.

Type	Window	Description
Weekly coaching based on at least 3 short observations per month	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shorter class observation of ~10-15 minutes (or observation/review of a key performance goal for non-teaching roles) ● May be unannounced or based on when would be best to support implementation of the action step from the prior observation. ● Observers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify and share strengths, opportunities for growth, and a highest-leverage action step. ○ Record notes, ratings, and action steps in Whetstone for progress monitoring purposes only.
BOY Diagnostic and Goal-setting	Aug - Oct	
Mid-Year Evaluation	Dec - Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Longer class observation of ~30 minutes (or full observation/review of a key performance goal for non-teaching roles) ● Unannounced, however, the teacher will be given a one-week range in which it will occur. ● Observers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify and share strengths, opportunities for growth, and next steps. ○ Determine and share ratings with the teacher for developmental and formative purposes. ○ Ratings will only be given on rubric rows that are observed.
End of Year Evaluation	March - April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Longer class observation of ~30 minutes (or full observation/review of a key performance goal for non-teaching roles) ● Unannounced, however, the teacher will be given a one-week range in which it will occur. ● Observers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify and share strengths, opportunities for growth, and next steps. ○ Determine ratings based on this point in time observation and share these ratings with teacher

		<p>for developmental and evaluative purposes (e.g., the ratings “count”).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ratings will only be given on rubric rows that are observed.
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ATTENDANCE AND TIME AWAY FROM WORK

KCGPA asks a great deal from its team members in the interests of achieving extraordinary results for students. Regular and on-time attendance of team members is essential to the success of students and colleagues.

Contracted Days and Hours

All team members’ contracted hours are **7:50am - 3:50pm (8 hours)** Monday-Friday. Please note that all full-time employees are salaried (not hourly) and, while it is in both our team member’s and KCGPA’s interest to limit hours for long-term sustainability, there may be times when an employee is required to work a longer day.

Teacher Planning and Support

KCGPA respects the commitment of its staff and will provide support in a variety of ways to help sustain its team members and strives to provide the time needed for effective planning and support. Daily planning periods, extended holidays, early student release on Friday’s, and interim assessment data days are examples of these support mechanisms.

Attendance and Coverage for Absence

Planned Absences

To prepare for a planned absence, please schedule with your manager at least two weeks in advance of your absence. **If there are more than three team members with planned absences on a given day,** PTO may not be approved. After PTO is approved ([see below for more information](#)), a team member is responsible for providing all substitute lesson plans and related materials to their manager.

Unplanned Absences

All staff should inform their manager, the Director of Operations, and the School Leader via e-mail **and** mobile phone as early as possible when illness or emergency will (or may) prevent them from being at work for any of the standard school hours. Staff may receive up to 3

emergencies if approved by their manager. Enter PTO on Bamboo by EOD on the next work day. Remember to update emergency substitute plans.

Substitute Lesson Plans and Materials

To prepare for an emergency or unexpected absence, all teachers are required to share with their manager three days worth of substitute teacher lesson plans and materials. If any of these materials are used in the event of an absence, they must be replaced within three weeks.

- A copy of the lesson plan and all necessary materials
- List of assigned duties for that day
- Attendance sheets
- Notes on any parent meetings, student situations, accommodations or modifications, or other relevant circumstances
- During virtual learning, asynchronous video to support students successfully completing independent work

Substitute Teachers and Internal Class Coverage

KCGPA employs substitute teachers, but may ask that instructional and administrative team members cover for one another when someone is absent. The following policies are intended to ensure that an absence does not adversely impact student learning or school function.

Class coverage will occur in one of the following ways.

- Step 1 - KCGPA contracted substitute
- Step 2 - Required internal coverage rotation

KCGPA makes every effort to secure an effective substitute teacher for planned and unplanned absences. The internal substitute rotation is a back-up system in place for each day of the week in the event we have exhausted all external resources for covering absent teachers or in the event of an emergency. This is especially important because the state-wide shortage of qualified and effective substitute teachers may often require team members to support during an absence.

This rotation requires team members to be ready to cover at least one class (or share coverage with another staff member) unexpectedly on their pre-assigned coverage period (a plan period). For example, if a team member is assigned a Pd. 2 rotation, they should expect to be called upon any Pd. 2. However, multiple other team members will be assigned to share Pd. 2 so the group will have its own rotation during that period. Teachers can volunteer to be “first in line” for class coverage.

Staff will be compensated at a rate of \$25 for each class covered.

Staff will complete the [timesheet](#) and submit to Kiana Brown at kbrown1@kcgpa.org prior to the next pay period (timeline included in tab 1 of timesheet).

Internal Coverage Rotation Expectations

Staff that are supporting in emergency coverage situations will be asked to complete the following:

- Take student attendance for class period in [Infinite Campus](#)
- Lead and execute sub plan provided
- Monitor and support student work

Paid Time Off (PTO)

Paid Time Off (PTO) consists of a combination of pre-scheduled vacations for employees and flexible days intended to be used for vacation, sick, or personal time. These flexible PTO days are tracked by the hour so an employee may address needs such as a dental appointment that does not require missing an entire day of work.

KCGPA offers paid vacation and holiday time throughout the year in an effort to ensure balance and personal time can be prioritized, while also providing consistent instruction for students during scheduled school days.

Eligibility

Full-time, benefit eligible team members receive PTO days according to the [Schedule of Benefits by Years of Employment](#).

If a team member starts after the beginning of the school year, personal leave/sick days are prorated. Team members who are re-hired are considered new hires for purposes of PTO eligibility. Benefit eligible part-time team members receive a prorated PTO benefit based on their percent of full time status.

KCGPA tracks PTO by hours via the [Bamboo HR online benefits portal](#).

Floating Holidays for Religious Holidays or Personal Celebrations

KCGPA provides team members 2 days of paid time off for the occasions that are important to them. Each employee, in addition to the normal PTO allotment and holidays established organization-wide, receives two “floating” holiday which they may use for a day they deem important (Chinese New Year, Diwali, Eid al-Fitr, etc.).

The intention of this policy is to ensure that all employees have the opportunity to celebrate something they value.

Note that as a non-sectarian, public institution, religious holidays have no official status at KCGPA.

Floating holidays must be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance. All other PTO limitations and policies apply also to floating holidays except for rollover and reimbursement. Floating holidays must be used by the day and not the hour. Floating holidays can be applied to blackout dates. If used for a Blackout Date, other PTO rules (2 weeks in advance, multiple team members, etc. does apply).

Limitations - Consecutive Days

Employees may take no more than three (3) consecutive PTO days annually with pay for personal reasons.

If an employee misses more than three (3) consecutive days of work for any reason other than bereavement or pre-approved PD, a physician's statement verifying the medical cause of the educator's absence must be submitted to Human Resources. Notification is essential to be in compliance with FMLA.

Limitations - Multiple Team Members

Prior to requesting time off, a manager should be consulted to coordinate personal days in order to minimize multiple staff being out on the same day in a given department or team.

PTO will not be approved for more than three team members on a given day, except in case of emergency or special circumstance at the discretion of the Directions of Operations or School Leader.

Limitations - Blackout Days

Except in cases approved in advance by the Chief Executive Officer or School Leader, PTO may not be used during the following "blackout dates":

- the day before or after a holiday
- the day before or after a school vacation day or week with students
- the day before or after a three-day weekend
- the day following a KC Metro sporting championship game (i.e. Chiefs, Royals, Current, Sporting)
- during Summer Professional Development or staff in-service days
- during the first and last two weeks of the school year
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- State testing (NWEA & MAP)
- Back to School Night

Emergency PTO and special forms of leave (e.g. Non-FMLA Medical Leave or Bereavement Leave) during blackout dates must be supported by medical or equivalent documentation uploaded to your private Bamboo account. In the absence of medical or equivalent documentation, time off taken on a blackout date will be unpaid.

In the event of an unforeseen circumstance or emergency, employees may request emergency PTO. Emergency PTO is defined as time off needed due to sudden, unexpected events such as medical emergencies, urgent family matters, or other critical situations. Employees must notify their immediate manager as soon as possible when an emergency arises. The notification should include the reason for the emergency PTO and an estimated duration, if known. Emergency PTO is subject to approval by the employee's manager and Director of Operations.

Employees are also asked to not use 3 or more personal days consecutively, unless in highly special circumstances. These will be carefully reviewed on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the School Leader. All school days are of critical importance to scholars' learning, and requests for PTO on critical days like interim assessments, state testing, or data days will also be carefully considered.

There is a 2-week period at the beginning and end of the school year in which PTO cannot be taken by school-based team members. The rationale for this is to ensure that scholars can start and finish strong. This policy also applies to team members whose employment at KCGPA will end at the conclusion of a school year. Non-returning employees will work their final days on-site at KCGPA.

Exceeding Allotted PTO Balance

If a full-time employee exceeds their allotted PTO during the contract year, their next paycheck will be automatically deducted in proportion to the employee's annual salary for the hours that were exceeded.

A negative PTO balance does not carry over to the following year. In the case of an early resignation or termination for an employee with a negative PTO balance, KCGPA will automatically deduct the final paycheck(s) in proportion to the employee's annual salary for the hours that were exceeded.

PTO Rollover and Reimbursement

Unused PTO can be rolled over from one year to the next up to a maximum accumulation of up to 120 hours. After this point, unused PTO hours will be automatically reimbursed on the July 15 payroll at a rate of \$12/hour (\$96 per eight hour day).

Only 16 hours of rollover PTO (2 days) may be used per school year. In the event of a parental or medical leave, all unused PTO can be applied.

Team members can request in writing that all hours be reimbursed rather than rolled over at the end of the year. Requests must be submitted no later than June 10th each year to the Director of Operations.

In the event of early resignation or termination, eligible unused PTO balances will be paid out automatically in the final paycheck.

Requesting PTO

All PTO time must be scheduled at least two weeks in advance, except in cases of emergency, and must be approved by your manager and Director of Operations.

To request PTO:

- 1) Discuss with and email your manager so they're aware of the dates you'll be requesting.
- 2) Manager approves or denies and adds to PTO Google Calendar if approved
- 3) Teacher submits PTO in Bamboo (see directions below and contact Director of Operations if you need help with this request)
- 4) Director of Operations approves PTO

Approval

Prior approval from the Manager of Operations is required before personal time is taken.

Non-emergency PTO requests should be submitted at least two weeks in advance; failure to comply with this timeline may result in denial of PTO. Emergency PTO requests should be submitted as soon as possible prior to the date of leave. Approval of PTO is not guaranteed even in situations where the above timeline is followed.

If a team member chooses to not attend on a day(s) that is not approved by the organization, the day(s) will be considered unpaid. In specific circumstances, this could lead to further disciplinary action.

Consecutive Absences

Team members are expected to exercise good judgment when using Paid Time Off for personal illness. Absences of three (3) consecutive working days or more may require a physician's statement.

15 Minute Grace Period

If an employee expects to arrive later than their scheduled start time, they must notify their immediate manager as soon as possible. Notification should be made via [preferred method—e.g., phone call, text message, email], and should include the reason for the delay and an estimated arrival time. Depending on the nature of the delay, employees may be required to provide documentation (e.g., medical emergencies, traffic accidents) to substantiate the reason for their tardiness. The 15-minute grace period is intended for occasional use in cases of

emergency or unforeseen circumstances. Regular or repeated use of the grace period may indicate a pattern of tardiness. Frequent or excessive use of the 15-minute grace period may lead to further disciplinary action. Employees are responsible for managing their time effectively and arriving at work as scheduled. The grace period should not be used as a regular adjustment to start times. If the 15 minute grace period is utilized by an employee, they must submit the time in BambooHR.

Vacation and Holidays

KC Girls Prep seeks to build a sustainable schedule for all team members. For that reason, 12-month employees receive 36 days of paid vacation (just over 7 weeks) and 10.5-month employees receive 46 days of paid vacation (just over 9 weeks).

All KCGPA team members will observe the following national holidays during the school year unless situations arise (i.e. snow make up days) that would require school to operate on a designated holiday:

- Labor Day
- Indigenous People's Day/Columbus Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- President's Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day

Holidays will be scheduled to align with the Kansas City Public Schools holiday calendar whenever possible to make childcare simpler for families. When a holiday falls on a Saturday, it will be observed on the previous Friday. When a holiday falls on a Sunday, it will be observed on the following Monday.

All full-time team members receive full pay for the holidays listed above. Part-time non-exempt team members who have met the general eligibility requirements may receive prorated pay for holidays based on their percent of full time as noted in their Summary of Benefits. Part-time exempt team members who have met the general eligibility requirements receive full pay for the holidays listed above if it is a day they are regularly scheduled to work.

All KCGPA team members will receive the following school vacations, as identified by the school's annual calendar, unless other situations arise (i.e. snow make up days) that would require the school to operate during part of the designated break:

- Fall Break/ Thanksgiving - 5 days in November
- Winter Break - 10 days
- Spring Break - 5 days, typically in March
- Summer break for 12 month employees - 10 days during the last week in June and first week in July

Summer Break

Twelve month benefit eligible team members are required to work during the summer months except during KCGPA's designated two-week "summer break" when students are not in session. KCGPA's two-week "summer break" is determined by the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer will communicate the designated two-week "summer break" period to team members prior to September 30 of each school year. All twelve-month benefit-eligible team members will use their ten (10) summer break days during the designated two-week "summer break" period unless alternate arrangements are approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer, or the Chief Executive Officer requests alternate arrangements from any team members who need to work at the school during the designated "summer break" period. Twelve-month benefit-eligible team members required to work during the designated "summer break" will use their ten (10) summer break days during an alternate period approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Twelve-month benefit-eligible team members who start their employment after April 1 will be granted "summer break" days in year one of employment at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer. Benefit-eligible part-time team members receive a prorated summer break benefit based on their percent of full-time.

Unused summer break days may not be carried over from one year to the next except in circumstances where the CEO approved an alternate schedule, and unused summer break days will not be paid out including at the time of termination.

Eleven-month benefit-eligible team members are required to work eleven months total with one month of summer vacation. Additional summer vacation time may be provided based on the school's priorities for a given year. If compensated summer work has not been arranged with the Chief Executive Officer, eleven-month benefit-eligible team members will be considered "out of session" between their last day of work for the current school year and their first day of work for the new school year. The "out of session" period will be approved by the Chief Executive Officer and embedded in the school's annual academic calendar, which will also account for the potential of inclement weather make-up days at the end of the school year.

Leaves of Absence

Jury Duty

KCGPA will pay regular wages for the first three days of jury duty to any team member. Team members must present notification of Jury Duty to the Chief Executive Officer and Human Resources.

Bereavement

In the event of a death in the immediate family or a miscarriage, up to a total of three (3) working days with pay shall be provided. The three (3) days may be comprised of the day of death, immediately following death, or day(s) to attend the funeral/service. Any request for additional time off must be presented to, and approved by, the Chief Executive Officer and Human Resources. Blackout dates do not apply.

For bereavement leave, "immediate family" means:

- A team member's: Parents, siblings, spouse/domestic partner, children, mother/father-in-law, sister/brother-in-law, daughter/son-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, step-brother or sister, step-children, step-parents
- A domestic partner's: Parents, siblings, children, mother/father-in-law, sister/brother-in-law, daughter/son-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, step-brother or sister, step-children, step-parents.

Leave for Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence

Team members who are victims of domestic or sexual violence, or have a family or household member who is a victim of domestic or sexual violence, may take unpaid leave from work to address such violence by:

- Seeking medical attention for, or recovering from, physical or psychological injuries caused by such violence
- Obtaining services from a victim services organization
- Obtaining psychological or other counseling
- Participating in safety planning, temporarily or permanently relocating, or taking other actions to increase the safety of the employee or employee's family or household
- Seeking legal assistance or remedies to ensure health and safety

Staff may take up to two workweeks within 12 months for unpaid leave for reasons related to domestic or sexual violence. Leave does not need to be consecutive but does run concurrently with FMLA and cannot exceed 12 weeks.

Please note that staff must provide prior notice and, per law, KCGPA may need or be required to request any of the following:

- Documents from an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim's services organization, member of the clergy, or medical or professional staff
- Police report or court record
- Other corroborating evidence

Parental Leave

Purpose

The purpose of KCGPA's Paid Parental Leave (PPL) policy is to:

- Maximize long-term team member retention so that we can build the long-term, committed relationships that allow us to best serve students and families.
- Maintain fiscal responsibility in keeping with our goal of being sustainable on public funding.
- The purpose of this policy is to provide eligible employees with time off to care for and bond with their new child, whether through birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

Flexibility. KCGPA seeks to provide maximum flexibility for employees to use leave benefits in the manner most helpful to the employee given the constraints of her/his job responsibilities.

Eligibility

- Full-time employees who have been with the company for at least 12 months are eligible for Paid Parental Leave.
- Part-time employees who have worked at least 1,250 hours over the past 12 months are also eligible.

Duration of Leave

- Up to twelve weeks of Paid Parental Leave will be available following a qualifying event (birth, placement of a child for adoption, placement of a child for foster care),
 - **Maternity Leave:** Up to 12 consecutive weeks of PPL for the birth mother. This includes:
 - Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA),
 - 12 weeks of job protection under FMLA,

Short Term Disability,

- 60% pay while you are disabled per your doctor up to 13 weeks maximum (please refer to STD policy in benefit booklet for additional details)
- 8 day consecutive elimination period prior to start of STD
- Paid Parental Leave,
 - 12 weeks of PPL running concurrently with FMLA and STD
 - 0% pay for weeks while on STD
 - 100% pay remaining weeks
 - Total of 12 weeks STD and PPL combined
 - **Parental Leave:** Up to 12 weeks of PPL for the non-birth parent. Can be used within 12 months of birth.
 - **Adoption/Foster Care Leave:** Up to 12 weeks of PPL for either parent. Can be used within 12 months of placement.

Paid Parental Leave is 12 work weeks and may be used during the 12-month period beginning on the date of the birth or placement involved. Within these 12 work weeks, Paid Parental Leave is available as long as an employee has a continuing parental role with the child whose birth or placement was the basis for the leave entitlement.

How to Apply

Eligible Employees should give notice to their manager by completing a Request for Paid Parental Leave form. Paid Parental Leave may be applied with notification, otherwise the absence will be recorded as non-worked hours.

Planning for Paid Parental Leave

KCGPA requests that employees prepare a basic plan prior to their Paid Parental Leave that covers the following elements.

- **Notice Requirements.** Employees must provide at least 30 days' notice before the expected start of their leave.
- In cases where 30 days' notice is not possible, employees must notify the company as soon as practicable.
- **Time off window.** When the employee expects the baby to be due or the adoption to occur, how much time off she or he will take beforehand, and how much after. This is not a commitment, it's an intention to help the employee and manager plan.
- **Communication plan with manager while away.** How the employee and manager intend to communicate, how often, and about what? This will vary greatly depending on the employee's role and intended duration of leave.
- **Communication plan with team while away.** How the employee and her or his team intend to communicate, how often, and about what? An individual contributor may only need to communicate with the person covering for them. A manager may need to be more available, especially if the person covering doesn't have as much experience. In this case, a much more robust training program beforehand will be necessary.
- **Naming and training of a #2.** Decide on a number 2, even if you're an individual contributor. A strong plan will include a recommendation, a plan to train them, and what the employee thinks can be dropped or put on hold.
- **Existing work review - project status, plans for work during, etc.** This need not cover every last detail, but should highlight important workstreams. The intent is to help your manager and/or team make decisions on your plan and whether it makes sense in terms of your chosen number 2 and training plan.

- **Brief team member review** - If the employee is a manager, they should note pending actions or issues with anyone on her/his team -- anything the manager or number 2 might need to know in terms of personnel issues.

Compensation

- During the leave period, eligible employees will receive 100% of their regular salary through a combination of Short Term Disability and Paid Parental Leave.
- Employees may choose to extend their leave beyond the paid period using accrued vacation or unpaid leave, subject to approval.

Job Protection

- Employees taking Paid Parental Leave will have their job or an equivalent position protected during their absence.
- Benefits will continue during the leave period as if the employee were actively working.

Coordination with Other Benefits

- Paid Parental Leave will run concurrently with any applicable state or federal leave entitlements, such as the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
- Employees are encouraged to discuss their leave plans with Human Resources to ensure all benefits and entitlements are coordinated.

Returning to Work

- Employees are required to notify the company at least two weeks before their expected return to work.
- If an employee is unable to return to work at the end of the leave period, they must contact Human Resources to discuss their options.

Additional Considerations

- Special circumstances, such as complications during pregnancy or childbirth, will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Employees may request flexible work arrangements upon returning to work, which will be considered based on the needs of the business.

Policy Review

- This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure compliance with applicable laws and alignment with company values.

Note

During any leave of absence, including FMLA leave, outside employment is prohibited.

FAQ

1. Do you have to work for KCGPA for a certain amount of time before being eligible for Paid Parental Leave?

Like Short Term Disability, you are eligible for Paid Parental Leave on your first day of employment.

2. Do I have to repay any portion of the PPL if I choose to leave KCGPA?

Yes, one-year employees pay back 50%, two-year employees pay back 25%, and 0% for employees with 3 or more years at KCGPA.

3. What happens if a holiday falls during PPL?

If an employee has a baby at the beginning of December, they would be eligible for holiday pay (or paid parental leave), but they couldn't extend their leave beyond the 12 weeks from date of birth.

4. If I'm a 10.5 month employee having a baby in the summer, does my leave begin on 7/31 when team members are expected to return?

Leave covers the days in your contractually required time at KCGPA (e.g. having a baby over the summer works out great for a 10.5 month employee bc their leave starts when their contract picks back up in late July).

5. Is there any stipulation around using PTO days first, before leave begins, or after? No

6. When does this policy begin? Upon adoption of the Board

Leave During Non-Contracted Days

If a leave falls during a period in which an eligible employee is not otherwise contracted to work (e.g. a summer break for an 10.5-month employee), the leave period would pause during that unscheduled time period and resume upon the resumption of contracted work.

Supporting the Needs of Nursing Mothers

- KCGPA provides a private room with a lockable door and blinds on windows for staff members to pump breastmilk, including a mini-fridge.
- If the electrical system of the classroom permits, pregnant and nursing mothers may also use a mini-fridge in their classroom to store snacks and breastmilk.

Leave Eligibility

To qualify for FMLA leave, you must (1) have worked for the School for at least twelve (12) months, though it need not be consecutive so long as breaks in service do not exceed seven (7) years; and (2) worked at least 1,250 hours in the twelve-month period immediately prior to the request for leave.

NOTE: If an employee takes PTO or other leave for a condition that progresses into a serious health condition, defined below, and it later becomes apparent that the FMLA applies, the School may retroactively designate all or some portion of the initial leave as FMLA leave, to the extent that the earlier leave meets the necessary FMLA qualifications.

Leave Policy – Generally

If eligible, an employee may take up to twelve (12) or twenty-six (26) weeks of family or medical leave, whichever is applicable (as explained below), within the relevant 12-month period defined below. While the employee is on FMLA leave, the School will maintain the employee's group health insurance coverage at the same level and under the same circumstances as when the employee was actively working, as explained more fully under the subsection below titled, FMLA Leave and Use of Available Benefits. Upon returning from approved FMLA leave, the employee has the right to be restored to the same job or an equivalent position, subject to the terms, limitations, and exceptions provided by law.

Types and Timing of Leave

An employee may request Medical Leave for qualifying family or medical events. Eligible employees are entitled to a total of twelve (12) weeks of **unpaid** leave during a 12-month period, measured backward on a rolling basis from the date the employee uses any leave under this policy. Leave may be taken for any of the following reasons:

- Birth of a child, and to care for that child. Leave for birth must be taken within one (1) year of the birth of the child. ***See parental leave policy above*
- Placement with the employee of a child for adoption or foster care. Leave for adoption or foster care must be taken within one (1) year of the placement of the child. ***See parental leave policy above*
- To care for a child, spouse, or parent having a serious health condition.
- To care for the employee's own serious health condition, which renders them unable to perform the functions of the job.
- For a "qualifying exigency" for an employee whose spouse, son, daughter, or parent (the military member) is on covered active duty or call to covered active duty status (or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty).

An employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin to a covered service member is entitled to a total of twenty-six (26) weeks of unpaid leave during a single 12-month period (beginning on the date that an employee first takes leave under this provision) for the following reason:

- To care for a covered service member who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness (“military caregiver leave”).

Because FMLA leave time is limited to a total of twelve (12) weeks per rolling year or up to twenty-six (26) weeks in a single year for military caregiver leave, an employee should coordinate their medical and family leave time if the employee plans to take both types of leave in the same 12-month period. Any employee who is eligible for and takes any period of family and medical leave will have that leave designated as family and medical leave and counted against their total allotment. Any employee who is eligible for and takes a portion of their twenty-six (26) weeks of military caregiver leave, but not the entire twenty-six (26) weeks, forfeits the remaining portion of the leave that is not used within one (1) year.

Notice of Leave

To request FMLA leave, an employee must submit a written request to human resources. An FMLA leave of absence request form is available from with human resources. Requests should be accompanied by proper certification (see below for more information).

When the employee’s need for leave is foreseeable, they must give thirty (30) days advance notice before the leave is to begin or give notice as soon as practicable (within one (1) or two (2) business days of learning of the need for leave). Additionally, when foreseeable leave is planned for medical treatment, an employee should consult with the Superintendent and make a reasonable effort to schedule the treatment to avoid unduly disrupting the work operations.

When the need for leave is not foreseeable, an employee must give notice as soon as practicable. “As soon as practicable” generally means the same day the employee learns of the need for leave or on the next business day. Additionally, once the employee’s leave begins, they must notify the School in writing every thirty (30) days regarding the status of their leave and intention to return to work at the end of the leave period.

All notices provided by employees pursuant to requests for FMLA leave must fully explain the reasons for leave to allow the School to determine whether the leave actually qualifies under the FMLA. If an employee refuses or fails to give reasons for requesting FMLA leave or refuses or fails to provide a certification, the School may deny leave until such information is provided.

Certification of Need for Leave

If an employee requests leave because of their own or a covered relative’s serious health condition, the employee and the relevant health care provider must supply appropriate medical certification. Employees may obtain Medical Certification forms from the Superintendent.

When an employee requests leave, the School will notify the employee of the requirement for medical certification and when it is due (at least 15 days after the employee requests leave). If the employee provides at least 30 days notice of medical leave, the employee should also provide the medical certification before leave begins. Failure to provide requested medical certification in a timely manner may result in denial of FMLA-covered leave until such certification is provided.

The School, at its expense, may require an examination by a second health care provider designated by the School. If the second health care provider's opinion conflicts with the original medical certification, the School, at its expense, may require a third, mutually agreeable, health care provider to conduct an examination and provide a final and binding opinion. The School may require subsequent medical recertification. Failure to provide requested certification within fifteen (15) days, if such is practicable, may result in delay of further leave until such certification is provided.

The School also reserves the right to require certification from a covered military member's health care provider if an employee is requesting military caregiver leave and certification in connection with military exigency leave.

Reporting While on Leave

If you take leave because of your own serious health condition or to care for a covered relative, you must contact the School as soon as is practicable if there is any change in the status of your condition that will affect your leave duration or your ability or intention to return to work.

Intermittent or Reduced Schedule Leave

Employees may take FMLA leave on an "intermittent" or "reduced schedule" basis under certain circumstances. "Intermittent leave" is leave taken in separate blocks of time due to a single illness or injury, rather than one continuous period of time. A "reduced schedule" reduces an employee's usual number of working hours per workweek or work day. Employees needing intermittent or reduced leave are expected to schedule their leave so as not to disrupt School operations.

When leave is taken because of the birth or placement of a child for adoption or foster care, an employee may take intermittent leave or leave on a reduced work schedule basis if the employee's plan for leave is approved by the School. When FMLA leave is taken to care for a sick family member, for the employee's own serious health condition, to care for a covered service member, or a qualifying exigency, leave may be taken intermittently or on a reduced schedule basis (assuming such leave is certified as medically necessary by a healthcare provider).

The School may, at its option, temporarily transfer an employee to an available alternative position with equivalent pay and benefits if they requests intermittent leave or a reduced work schedule and the need for leave is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, provided

the employee is qualified for that alternate position and it better accommodates recurring periods of leave than their regular position.

FMLA Leave and Use of Available Benefits

FMLA leave is unpaid. During FMLA leave, however, employees must use all available PTO. Concurrent use of PTO during FMLA leave will be counted against the employee's 12-week (or 26-week, if applicable) entitlement to leave under the FMLA. Unpaid leave will commence after PTO has been exhausted.

While an employee is on FMLA leave, the School will continue the employee's health benefits at the same level and under the same conditions as if the employee had continued to work. If the School changes its health benefits during an employee's leave, the change will apply to the employee as if the employee were still on the job.

Employees are responsible for ensuring that their portion of health insurance premiums is paid, even while on unpaid leave. If the payment is more than thirty (30) days late, the employee's health coverage may be discontinued for the duration of the leave. Other accumulated benefits shall be preserved at the level accrued as of commencement of the leave, but shall not accrue further during such leave period.

If an employee does not return to work after the expiration of the leave, the employee may be required to reimburse the School for payments of health insurance premiums during the leave, unless the employee does not return because of a serious health condition that prevents the employee from performing the employee's job, or for other circumstances beyond the control of the employee.

Any applicable disability benefits such as workers' compensation will run concurrently with FMLA leave. The employee may then be required to use PTO, as appropriate, during the remainder of their FMLA leave. PTO will be applied to exhaustion after disability or workers compensation benefits cease.

Returning From Leave

To facilitate the return to work, the School asks that employees provide two (2) weeks advance notice of their intended return date. Failure to do so may delay the return date. Employees must also provide a return-to-work certification from a health care provider.

Employees returning from FMLA leave will be reinstated to their former positions or to positions with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions. Employees have no greater right to reinstatement or other benefits and conditions of employment than if the employee had not taken the leave (e.g., if, due to economic or other business conditions, the employee would have lost his or her job regardless of whether the employee went on leave, the employee will not be entitled to reinstatement). Certain "key" employees, who are among the

highest paid employees of the School might not be reinstated to any position. “Key” employees will be notified of their status when they apply for FMLA leave.

Failure to return timely from FMLA leave generally will be treated as a voluntary termination of employment.

If the School learns that an employee is not returning to work, the employee is no longer entitled to leave time, and the School no longer has an obligation to provide health benefits (except as provided under COBRA) or to restore the employee to work.

Military Leave

The School recognizes that employees may need to be absent from work to serve in the U.S. military. The School provides military service leaves of absence to all regular full-time, part-time, and probationary employees in compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (“USERRA”) and applicable state laws.

Procedures

If an employee needs to take military service leave, they or an authorized military service officer should provide advance notice to the Superintendent. When possible, at least thirty (30) days notice of the request for leave should be provided. If thirty (30) days notice is not possible because of military necessity or for other reasons, as much advance notice as possible should be provided to the School.

Written notice is preferred, but not required. Where possible, employees should submit a copy of their military orders, training notice, or order to active duty, along with a Request for Leave of Absence Form, to the Superintendent.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible Employees. All regular full-time, part-time, and probationary employees are eligible for military service leave if they are absent from work because of eligible military service. [Independent contractors and employees who were only employed for a brief, non-recurrent (one-time only) period before the start of military service are not eligible for leave under this policy.]

Eligible Military Service. For purposes of this policy, eligible military service means certain types of service (listed below) in the following branches of the U.S. military:

- Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard), including the Reserves
- National Guard, including the Army National Guard and Air National Guard, when the employee is engaged under federal authority in active duty for training, inactive duty training, or full-time National Guard duty
- Commissioned corps of the Public Health Service

- Any other category of persons designated by the President in time of war or national emergency.

Eligible employees may take leave under this policy for the following types of military service:

- Active duty
- Active duty for training
- Initial active duty for training
- Inactive duty training
- Full-time National Guard duty
- Submitting to an examination to determine your fitness for any of these services
- Funeral honors duty performed by National Guard or Reserve members
- Service as an intermittent disaster response appointee of the National Disaster Medical System when employees are:
 - activated under federal authority; or
 - attending authorized training in support of a federal mission.

Compensation During Leave

Military service leave is unpaid. Employees may use any or all of their available PTO during their military service leave.

Benefits During Leave

Individuals performing military duty of more than thirty (30) days may elect to continue employer sponsored health care for up to twenty-four (24) months; however, they may be required to pay the full premium. For military services of fewer than thirty-one (31) days, health care coverage is provided as if the service member had remained employed. Benefit accruals, such as PTO or holiday benefits, are suspended during military leave and will resume upon the employee's return to active employment.

Reemployment and Seniority

Employees may be eligible for reemployment after their military service leave. Any employees who would like to return to work must report to work or submit an application for reemployment to the Superintendent, including their military discharge documentation, if available, as follows:

- If their military service was for less than 31 days, they must report to work on the first regularly scheduled workday that is at least eight hours after they return home from military service.
- If their military service was for 31 to 180 days, they must apply for reemployment within 14 days following completion of military service.
- If their military service was for more than 180 days, they must apply for reemployment within 90 days following completion of military service.

If any employees are unable to comply with this schedule through no fault of their own, or if they are injured or recovering from an injury, they should speak with the Superintendent as soon as possible to determine if they are eligible for a reasonable accommodation or additional time to apply for reemployment. Employees who do not report to work or apply for reemployment within the applicable time frame will be subject to the School's policies concerning unexcused absences.

Nothing in this policy requires the School to reemploy individuals who are not eligible for reemployment rights under applicable law.

Discrimination and Retaliation Prohibited

The School prohibits and will not tolerate discrimination or retaliation against any employee or applicant because of that person's membership in or obligation to perform service for any branch of the U.S. military. Specifically, no one will be denied employment, reemployment, promotion, or any other benefit of employment, or be subjected to any adverse employment action based on that person's membership in or service for any branch of the U.S. military. In addition, no one will be disciplined, intimidated, or otherwise retaliated against because that person exercised rights under this policy or applicable law.

The School is committed to enforcing this policy against discrimination and retaliation. If employees feel that they or someone else may have been subjected to conduct that violates this policy, they should report it immediately.

For any questions concerning the School's military leave policy, please contact the Superintendent.

Additional Notices Concerning Leaves of Absence

During any leave of absence, including FMLA leave, outside employment is prohibited.

Medical and Other Benefits

During an approved FMLA leave, KCGPA will continue to pay for its share of a Team Member's group health insurance. If a Team Member's leave is approved FMLA Leave that is paid leave, then KCGPA will deduct the Team Member's portion of the group health premium as a regular payroll deduction. If any portion of a Team Member's leave is not paid FMLA time and is considered unpaid time off, then the Team Member is responsible for sending into the Human Resources Department his/her monthly health premiums by the 15th of each month for that month.

Planning for Leave

KCGPA requests that employees prepare a basic plan prior to their parental leave that covers the following elements within 6-8 weeks before their leave date.

- Time off window. When the employee expects the baby to be due or the adoption to occur, how much time off she or he will take beforehand, and how much after. This is not a commitment, it's an intention to help the employee and manager plan.
- Communication plan with manager while away. How the employee and manager intend to communicate, how often, and about what? This will vary greatly depending on the employee's role and intended duration of leave.
- Communication plan with team while away. How the employee and her or his team intend to communicate, how often, and about what? An individual contributor may only need to communicate with the person covering for them. A manager may need to be more available, especially if the person covering doesn't have as much experience. In this case, a much more robust training program beforehand will be necessary.
- Naming and training of a #2. Decide on a number 2, even if you're an individual contributor. A strong plan will include a recommendation, a plan to train them, and what the employee thinks can be dropped or put on hold.
- Existing work review - project status, plans for work during, etc. This need not cover every last detail, but should highlight important workstreams. The intent is to help your manager and/or team make decisions on your plan and whether it makes sense in terms of your chosen number 2 and training plan.
- Brief team member review - If the employee is a manager, they should note pending actions or issues with anyone on her/his team -- anything the manager or number 2 might need to know in terms of personnel issues.

Return to Work

A Team Member should provide at least two (2) days advance notice of his/her intent to return to work, if such Team Member wishes to return earlier than expected. If the Team Member does not intend to return to work, KCGPA requires that the Team Member provide a written statement to this effect.

Prohibited Interference and Discrimination

KCGPA will not interfere with, restrict, or deny Team Members any right provided by the FMLA. Moreover, KCGPA shall not discriminate against Team Members as a result of the approved use of family care or medical leave or a proper request for such leave. Request for family care and medical leave will be considered without regard to race, color, citizenship status, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, creed, physical or mental disability, marital status or veteran status.

Remote Work Policy

Remote Work Policy

Purpose

KCGPA is proud to provide flexible work schedules to its 12 month employees when possible. KCGPA allows most employees the option of working remotely up to twice a month. KCGPA's Remote Working Arrangements (RWA) Program provides employees the flexibility to work in a way that maximizes the ability to focus for sustained periods of time and generate results for the organization. KCGPA considers RWA to be a viable work option when both the employee and the job are suited to such an arrangement.

RWA may be appropriate for some employees and jobs but not for others. The RWA Program is not an entitlement and it in no way changes the terms and conditions of employment with KCGPA. Employees need not apply for a RWA if the request is caused by circumstances that will last fewer than four weeks. Employees needing temporary arrangements should seek approval from their supervisor.

Program

Employees must apply for a RWA if they intend to work at a **Remote Location** one or more days each week. KCGPA will not approve a RWA that requests a **Remote Location** outside the United States. Employees approved for a RWA remain subject to all company policies and procedures, including those regarding attendance, core hours, flex time, and overtime.

The specific parameters of a RWA are subject to approval, disapproval, and/or modification by management at any time for any reason.

Application, Approval, and Review Procedures

Employees interested in participating in an RWA Program must submit a completed Remote Working Arrangement Application to their supervisor.

KCGPA will grant eligible employees a remote work arrangement on a case-by-case basis, at KCGPA's discretion. Applications will be evaluated by KCGPA leadership and the employee's manager according to the Evaluation Criteria described below. If the Application is approved, the employee and manager will sign this RWA Policy and Agreement. The executed RWA Policy and Agreement will become a part of the employee's personnel file.

Once approved, every RWA Agreement will be reviewed according to the Evaluation Criteria described below. Evaluations will occur every quarter that a RWA is in use and then, at a minimum, every twelve (12) months as part of the employee's annual review.

Evaluation Criteria

The employee's supervisor will evaluate, among other things, the following areas:

- Employee suitability by comparing the needs and work habits of the employee to traits customarily recognized as appropriate for successful employees, including:
 - The employee's maintenance of regular or predictable working hours and the communication of any changes in these hours to the employee's colleagues and supervisor;
 - The employee's performance must be satisfactory with no current performance concerns;
 - Ability of the employee to maintain contact with colleagues on a reasonable basis via videoconferencing, phone, email, and internal instant messaging; and
 - Ability of the employee to come to KCGPA when needed.
- Job responsibilities, including whether the duties of the job are appropriate for RWA.
- Business needs, including the impact of the employee's RWA Agreement on overall school operations, whether the employee's absence will burden others, and whether there are enough staff to handle matters that are best suited for face-to-face or in-office attention.
- Equipment needs and workspace design considerations, specifically, the employee must be able to demonstrate that they have the ability, at no expense to KCGPA, to maintain consistent access to:
 - reliable high-speed Internet sufficient to allow the employee to do their job without interruption or delay;
 - It is highly recommended that you plug your laptop into your router with an ethernet cable to avoid wireless interference and that you secure high speed broadband with a minimum of 50mbps download and 20mbps upload
 - adequate business tools deemed necessary to fully perform the employee's job functions (suitable designated workspace, and any other pieces of office furniture, software, and office supplies required for adequate performance of employee's duties);
 - a workplace free from distractions

- a workplace that complies with all school policies

Modification and Termination of RWA and Disciplinary Action

KCGPA reserves the right to modify and terminate any RWA Agreement at any time and for any reason. Employees can also terminate their RWA Agreement at any time for any reason. KCGPA will not be held responsible for costs, damages, or losses resulting from modification or termination of an RWA Agreement, regardless of which party terminates the RWA Agreement.

Disciplinary action for breach of the RWA Agreement will be imposed in accordance with KCGPA's policies and procedures and could result in immediate termination of the RWA Agreement or other actions, up to and including termination of employment. Breaches may include but are not limited to: non-compliance with this Policy, falsification of time records, tardiness and absences from work without prior approval from a supervisor, and participation in non-work activities during working hours.

Accessibility and Communication Requirements

Accessibility is critical to the success of every RWA Agreement. The RWA Agreement should not compromise the quality of the employees' relationships with their students or colleagues. All calls and emails should be returned as promptly as would occur if the employee were working at KCGPA.

Employees planning to split their time between a **Remote Location** and KCGPA must specify in their application which days of the week they plan to work in each location and must maintain a reliable and predictable schedule and must seek supervisor approval for any deviations.

Regardless of work location, employees must be as accessible (via videoconference, email, telephone, and instant message) as their in-school counterparts. KCGPA retains the right to require an employee to return to KCGPA at any time for any reason.

Accessibility in the event of an emergency is of special importance. Remote work does not provide the ability to turn off or ignore instant messaging, text, or phone that are needed for emergency communications during working hours.

Regardless of work location, employees will be required to accurately record all hours worked.

Dependent Adult and Child Care and Pet Requirements

The RWA Programs are not a replacement for appropriate dependent adult or child care. Employees are not permitted to act as primary caregiver for dependent adults or children during working hours.

Pets must be kept away from the employee's **Remote Workspace** if they become a distraction to the employee, students or colleagues.

Equipment and Workspace Requirements

KCGPA provides standard equipment for all employees. Employees who split their time between KCGPA and/or a **Remote Workspace** will be provided equipment for only one workspace.

Employees are required to travel to KCGPA to pick up equipment. Equipment supplied by KCGPA will be maintained by KCGPA and is to be used for business purposes only. Employees must sign an inventory of all KCGPA property they receive and agree to take appropriate action to protect the items from damage or theft. Upon termination of employment, all school property must be returned to KCGPA.

Equipment supplied by the employee will be maintained by the employee. KCGPA accepts no responsibility for damage or repairs to employee-owned equipment.

KCGPA will reimburse the employee for school-related expenses subject to normal expense reimbursement procedures. *Non-reimbursable* expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Any cost related to insuring, remodeling, and furnishing the employee's **Remote Workspace**;
- Household expenses or incidental residential utility costs, including but not limited to heat, electricity, internet and telephone service; and
- Any cost related to storage, rent/mortgage, equipment or office supplies.

Commuting expenses between an employee's home and KCGPA will not be reimbursed. Likewise, commuting time is generally not compensable and should not be reported on timesheets.

The employee must establish and maintain, at no cost to KCGPA, a designated **Remote Workspace** that is clean, safe, and free from distractions. KCGPA will not be responsible for costs associated with (1) initial set-up of the employee's **Remote Workspace**, such as remodeling, furniture, or lighting, or (2) repairs or modifications made to the **Remote Workspace**.

- **Safety and Security Requirements**

Employees are expected to maintain their **Remote Workspace** in a safe manner, free from safety hazards. Injuries sustained by employees **Off-site**, and which arise out of and occur in the course of performing their regular work duties, are normally covered by workers' compensation insurance. Employees are responsible for notifying KCGPA of such injuries as soon as practicable.

KCGPA is not responsible for any injuries sustained by visitors to any employee's **Remote Workspace**. Employees will not hold business meetings with clients or customers, colleagues, the public, or vendors at their **Remote Workspace**.

- **Additional Requirements**

Professional conduct while performing KCGPA's business from a **Remote Location** will be held to the same standard as if the employee was working from KCGPA. While working from a **Remote Location**, the employee remains obligated to comply with all job requirements and responsibilities, in addition to all of KCGPA's rules, policies, and procedures, whether specifically referenced in this Policy or not.

- **Tax and Other Legal Implications**

Employees must consider all federal, state, and local government regulations implicated by their RWA Agreement. It is the employee's responsibility to determine any legal implications of RWA, including tax consequences. KCGPA will not provide tax or legal guidance, nor will it assume any additional liability for employees participating in any RWA Program. Employees are advised to consult with their insurance agent and a tax consultant for information regarding their **Remote Workspace**. Individual tax implications, auto and residential insurance (i.e., homeowners or renters), and incidental residential utility costs are the responsibility of the employee.

KCGPA is entitled to, and does, rely on the information employees provide in RWA applications to determine its obligations regarding tax withholding and other compliance issues. KCGPA is not liable for any tax or other legal liability employees incur because of inaccurate information contained in a RWA application. For instance, if an employee represents that they are working in a location with no state income tax, but are in fact working in a different state with income tax, KCGPA accepts no responsibility for failing to withhold state income taxes. If any of the information provided on an employee's RWA application becomes inaccurate – including but not limited to the location from which the employee is working – they must complete a new RWA application.

FAQ

- Would these 2 days be the same days of the week each week or would it vary?
 - Ideally same days but at the discretion of manager.

STUDENT HEALTH

Bathroom Age Restrictions and Accessibility

Staff members and adults should use the adult-only restrooms in the main office area, nursing mother's room, or second floor at all times when students are in the building.

Staff members identifying as the gender of a particular bathroom should take responsibility to enter that restroom to manage student behavior or if there is any concern for student safety.

Adult and student bathrooms at the front of the building are accessible for individuals with disabilities.

Gender Inclusive Bathrooms

All students should have access to bathrooms and changing facilities that are safe, comfortable, and convenient. Upon request, single-user, gender-inclusive facilities or other reasonable alternatives shall be made available to any student who seeks privacy. Any options offered shall be non-stigmatizing and minimize lost instructional time.

If private or separate facilities are requested by any student, the student will be provided with those facilities. A student cannot be required to use a restroom for which they do not identify.

KCGPA provides the following bathroom facility options for students during the school day. Because of the cost of removal, urinals are present in some bathrooms in the middle school facility. These urinals should not be used and are not functional.

- All student bathrooms - students identifying as female, transgender, or non-binary
- Adult restrooms in the main office area, nursing mother's room, or second floor - gender neutral and should be used by staff and students who request access

During family or community events only, KCGPA covers the permanent bathroom signage at the restroom next to the 5th grade STE classroom in the southeast corner of the building. This bathroom is to be used for visitors identifying as male.

Medication

In an effort to provide for the health and safety of students by avoiding the misuse of medication, the following procedures apply for administering medications at KCGPA. School

personnel will not give medication to students except under these conditions. These policies are intended to promote the well-being and safety of all students.

Transportation of Medication to KCGPA

Students may not transport any medication, including prescription, over-the-counter, or herbal medication, to KCGPA. All medication must be transported to KCGPA by a parent/ guardian, and delivered to a staff member. Controlled medication (such as Adderall) must be brought to the School Nurse's office by a parent/guardian and will be counted by both the School Nurse and parent. Pill counts will be done once a week by the School Nurse.

All medications must be picked up by a parent/ guardian within one (1) calendar week of the last day of school. All medications not picked up or scheduled for pick up will be disposed of the following day.

Over-the-Counter Medications

Over-the-counter ("OTC") medications will be administered sparingly when deemed necessary by the School Nurse. All OTC medication will be kept in the School Nurse's office. Parents/ guardians must provide a signed Parent Authorization for OTC Medication Administration form that includes the student's full name and date of birth for the administration of OTC medications. If the authorization form is not provided, KCGPA personnel will not administer OTC medication to the student. All OTC medications delivered to the School Nurse's office must be in the original, unopened bottle.

Prescription Medication

Prescription medication will be administered during school hours only if it has been deemed necessary by the student's physician. All prescription medication will be kept in the School Nurse's office. Prescription medication must be delivered to the School Nurse's office by a parent/guardian in the labeled bottle from the pharmacy. Inhalers must be in the original box with the pharmacy label. A signed Parent Authorization for Prescription Medication Administration form must be on file that includes the student's full name and date of birth, name of medication, and dose of medication.

A copy of written instructions from a physician stating the name of the student, name of the medication, the dosage to be administered, the times to be administered, and the current date must be brought with the medication. The medication label provided by the pharmacy at the physician's directions will be sufficient if the prescription was prescribed for the student and a current date is on the label. Any prescription medications, including inhalers, that don't have a prescription label, will require a written note from the prescribing physician. KCGPA does not allow students to take medication with another family member's name on the label.

Administration of Medication

The first dose of any prescription medication should be given at home whenever possible. The School Nurse can decide not to administer the first dose of a medication if, in his/her clinical judgment, it may compromise the safety of the student while attending school. In that instance, parents/guardians will be notified. The School Nurse, using his/her own professional judgment and in consultation with the parent/guardian, may allow select students to carry their own inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors. A physician will need to provide a written treatment plan and authorization for select students to carry their own inhalers or epinephrine. A written parental authorization form is required for self-administration of medication.

Medications Requiring Injection

- If a medical condition exists requiring injectable medication, whenever possible the student should self-administer the medication.
- If the School Nurse is unavailable, the parent/guardian will be responsible for making other arrangements.
- If the injectable medication is required in an emergency and the School Nurse is unavailable, KCGPA personnel will call 911.
- A prescription label or written order from the prescribing physician and a signed medication authorization form is required for the administration of all injectable medication.

Emergency Medication

KCGPA is equipped with an epinephrine auto-injector, more commonly known as an EpiPen. In the event of anaphylaxis (a life-threatening allergic reaction that may be triggered by a food allergy, insect bite, or drug allergy), the Epi-Pen will be used by school personnel and 911 will be notified. The stock epinephrine is available for students with no prior diagnosis of anaphylaxis or in cases of known anaphylaxis where personal medication on hand is found to be flawed.

Emergency Medication for Field Trips

Students' personal emergency medications such as an epinephrine auto injector (Epi-Pen) must accompany the student on all scheduled field trips. This includes only those emergency medications that the Missouri State Board of Nursing has deemed allowable to delegate its administration by a nonhealth provider such as a teacher. The parent/guardian is responsible for providing emergency medications to KCGPA. If the emergency medication has not been provided or is expired, the student may not attend the field trip.

Student Allergy Prevention and Response

KCGPA will attempt to identify students with life-threatening allergies, including food allergies. At enrollment, the person enrolling the student will be asked to provide information on any allergies the student may have.

Students with allergies that rise to the level of a disability as defined by law will be accommodated in accordance with KCGPA policies and procedures pertaining to the identification and accommodation of students with disabilities. All KCGPA staff members are required to follow any 504 Plan or IHP/EAP developed for a student by KCGPA.

KCGPA staff members may use air fresheners, oils, or other such items intended to add fragrance in any KCGPA facilities, but shall desist from such use at the direction of the Chief Executive Officer. This provision will not be construed to prohibit the use of personal care items that contain added fragrance, but the Chief Executive Officer may require staff members to refrain from the use of personal care items with added fragrance under particular circumstances. Staff members are prohibited from using cleaning materials, disinfectants, pesticides or other chemicals except those provided by KCGPA.

Prepackaged items used in concessions, fundraisers and classroom activities must include a list of ingredients on the package. If the package does not contain a list of ingredients, the list of ingredients must be available at the location where the package is sold or provided.

All staff members will be trained on the causes and symptoms of and responses to allergic reactions. Training will include instruction on the use and/or location and procedures associated with epinephrine premeasured auto-injection devices. Age-appropriate education on allergies and allergic reactions will be provided to students as such education aligns with state Grade-Level Expectations (GLEs) for health education.

Information about individual students with allergies will be provided to all staff members and others who need to know the information to provide a safe learning environment for the student. Information about individual students with allergies will be shared with students and others who do not have a legitimate educational interest in the information only to the extent authorized by the parent/guardian or as otherwise permitted by law, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Response to an allergic reaction shall be in accordance with established procedures, including application of the student's 504 Plan or IHP/EAP. Information about known allergies will be shared in accordance with FERPA. Each building will maintain an adequate supply of epinephrine premeasured auto-injection devices to be administered in accordance with KCGPA Board policy.

Illness and Injury Response and Prevention

KCGPA personnel will provide appropriate first aid and emergency treatment, and contact emergency medical services (“EMS”) when appropriate, for any individual who is injured or becomes ill while on KCGPA property, on KCGPA transportation, or at a KCGPA activity. Further medical attention, including the cost of services provided by EMS, is the responsibility of the individual unless otherwise required by law.

KCGPA does not provide medical insurance to automatically pay for medical expenses when students are injured at school. This is the responsibility of the parents/guardians or legal liability insurance. Parents/Guardians should be prepared to pay for their child's possible medical expenses.

Crisis Response

KCGPA provides each team member with a separate binder outlining procedures and protocols associated with fires, tornadoes, intruders, and other situations requiring extraordinary responses.

KCGPA will review this material with team members annually.

Please contact the Chief Executive Officer to request a copy of the crisis response materials.

Mandated Reporting: Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

All KCGPA team members are mandated reporters of suspected abuse and/or neglect.

Mandated reporters are required to report suspected child maltreatment immediately when they have "reasonable cause to believe that a child who is 17 years of age or younger and known to them in a professional or official capacity has been harmed or is in danger of being harmed -- physically, sexually, or through neglect -- and that a caregiver either committed the harm or should have taken steps to prevent the child from harm."

Once you become aware that a student may be the victim of abuse or neglect, you must:

- Notify the Dean of Culture, Social Worker, and School Leader of the situation.
- Complete the [KCGPA Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting Form](#).
- Call the Missouri Department of Social Services Children's Division Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline Unit
 - (800) 392-3738
 - <https://dss.mo.gov/cd/keeping-kids-safe/can.htm>

Team members are encouraged to discuss situations with the School Leader if there are any questions, concerns, or doubts regarding a particular student or circumstance.

For training, you can access the [Missouri Kids First free online training](#).

When calling the hotline, you must have the following information (or as much as is known): the name, birth date, and address of the alleged victim; the name, address, age or birth date, and

relationship of the alleged perpetrator; what type of injury or harm was allegedly done to the victim; and a description of the incident (time/date, place in which it occurred, and indication of intention to harm).

If a report is taken (the intake worker will inform you of this over the phone), the report must be confirmed in writing to the local investigation unit within 48 hours of the hotline call.

Physical abuse is defined as occurring when a parent or person responsible for the child's welfare inflicts or allows to be inflicted upon such child physical injury, by other than accidental means. Common injuries include bruises, human bite marks, bone fractures, and burns. Physical abuse also occurs when the caregiver or parent creates a substantial risk of physical injury by shaking, throwing, choking, smothering, or pushing the child into fixed objects. Acts of torture include acts that are defined as deliberately or systematically inflicting cruel or unusual punishment which results in physical or mental suffering. When reporting physical abuse, it is important to document the presence of any injuries, as a report may not be taken unless evidence of harm exists.

Sexual abuse is defined as occurring when a person responsible for the child's welfare commits sexual penetration, sexual exploitation, sexual molestation, or when a young child contracts a sexually transmitted disease. A child's disclosure of sexual abuse must be handled sensitively. When a student attempts to disclose sexual abuse, observe the child closely and listen attentively while maintaining a calm demeanor. The mandated reporter must pay very careful attention to the disclosure of sexual abuse, but should not encourage the student to disclose information in addition to what is being given voluntarily. Take very careful notes, writing the student's words verbatim as much as possible. Refer the student immediately to the School Leader.

Neglect occurs when a person responsible for the child deprives or fails to provide the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment, or when an adult provides inadequate supervision of a child (particularly small children).

Amy Hestir Student Protection Act

KCGPA will abide by the provisions of the Amy Hestir Student Protection Act (R.S.Mo. 160.261, 162.068, 162.069), including:

- Annual training for staff regarding sexual abuse, abusive relationships, and obligations to report, including up-to-date and reliable information on identifying signs of sexual abuse in children and danger signals of potentially abusive relationships between children and adults;
- Provision of references to other schools/districts regarding team members, both certificated and non-certificated, leaving the school under allegations of sexual misconduct. This information includes disclosure that an employee has been dismissed for sexual misconduct or suspended where Children's Division has substantiated a claim of sexual misconduct with a student.

- Prohibition against registered sex offenders serving on KCGPA's Board of Directors;

Required reporting of allegations of sexual misconduct by the Chief Executive Officer per the Amy Hestir Student Protection Act and KCGPA Personnel Policies, including that no person may impede or inhibit reporting, and no person making a report may be subjected to sanction or adverse employment action.

Title IX and Criminal Activity Reporting

[Per RsMO 167.117](#), all employees are to report all criminal activity immediately to the appropriate authority.

Per [KCGPA's Title IX Policies](#), all employees are to report all instances of sexual discrimination and/or harrasment immediately.

Transporting Students

KCGPA team members are not permitted to transport students in their personal vehicles or via any other mode of transportation in which the staff member is the vehicle operator. This policy includes the use of car services such as Uber, Lyft, taxis, and similar services.

This policy does not apply in the case of an employee who is transporting students under the auspices of an approved car service vendor such as Assist Services.

In cases of emergency where the well-being of the student is at risk, students may be transported by designated, approved staff in the KCGPA van as long as there are no fewer than two staff people in the child's presence at all times.

Written justification for the use of the KCGPA van to transport students must be provided to the Chief Executive Officer immediately following any such incidents.

To reserve the KCGPA van for school functions (i.e. field trips, sporting events), team members must be approved and submit request a minimum of 2 weeks prior to event. Requests can be submitted to lsheppard@kcgpa.org.

HR AND EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

References to Team Members: The terms employees, associate, staff member, personnel, intern, trainee, and teacher may all be used in this document to refer to either full or part-time team members of Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy.

Benefits

Eligibility

Team members that are compensated by KCGPA for an average of 30 or more hours per week in a calendar year are eligible for benefits. Trainees and interns are not benefit eligible. Team members are eligible for benefits as of the first of the month following the employee's date of hire.

Benefits Summary

KCGPA provides individual team members with personal health, dental, and vision coverage. For details regarding KCGPA's health and benefit plans, or to make changes to your coverage, please contact Human Resources.

Retirement Plans

Required Kansas City Public School Retirement System (KCPSRS)

- Kansas Missouri statute requires all charter schools to participate in the retirement system of the district in which their charter school is located (R.S.Mo 160.420).
- KCGPA team members are required to participate in the Kansas City Public School Retirement System (KCPSRS) – which includes a mandatory contribution to the KCPSRS by the team member, and a matching contribution by the school.

Optional 403b

- KCGPA offers an additional investment opportunity under an [optional 403\(b\) Plan](#).
- Under this plan, team members may save their own money on a before-tax basis with a traditional 403(b) contribution.
- Please contact Renea Simpson at Renea.Simpson@aig.com or [schedule a virtual meeting or phone appointment](#) for more information.

Employee Assistance Program

KCGPA is pleased to offer team members the opportunity to participate in the [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\) through Lincoln Financial](#). This confidential program provides professional counseling services.

All full-time and part-time benefits eligible team members of KCGPA are eligible for this program, which includes online tools, in-person options, and remote 24/7 assistance.

For more information, please contact Heather Hodes, our HR representative, at hhodes@bukaty.com.

Benefits End Date for Departing Employees

Benefits will end on June 30 of a school year for team members who are leaving at the end of a school year, unless the employee departs prior to the end of their contract.

Employment Policies

At Will Employment

Employment at KCGPA is voluntary and at will. "At will" means that you are free to resign at any time, with or without notice, and with or without reason. Likewise, "at will" means KCGPA may terminate your employment at any time, with or without cause or advance notice, as long as we do not violate any applicable federal, state, or local law.

Though not required due to the nature of an "at will" contract, KCGPA requests any team member intending to resign his/her position at the school to submit written notification no less than two weeks prior to the desired date of termination.

Employment Status and Categories

Exempt and non-exempt team members fall into at least one of the following four employment categories: Full-Time, Part-Time, Trainee or Intern.

Full-time team members are those who work at least 40 hours each week.

Part-time team members work 39 or fewer hours each week. If a team member averages 30 hours per week in a calendar year, or works at least 50% of Full-Time annually, he/she is eligible for benefits. For information on benefits, see KCGPA Benefits section.

Trainees can be full-time or part-time for a limited term training period which is generally shorter than 2 months and is not to last longer than 4 months or a maximum of 900 hours after which time it is anticipated that they will become full- or part-time team members if they

complete the trainee period. Trainees are not benefit-eligible until they transition to their regular status.

Interns can be full-time or part-time for a limited term period which is generally shorter than 3 months and is not to last longer than 4 months or a maximum of 900 hours after which time they will no longer be employed by the School. Interns are not benefits eligible.

Team members may also be categorized as 10.5-month or 12-month:

- 10.5-month team members are directly associated with classroom instruction and typically do not perform their regular duties or activities during the “out of session” period between their last day of work for the current school year (approximately two (2) to three (3) weeks following the last day of school in which students are present) and their first day of work for the new school year. The “out of session” period will be determined by the Chief Executive Officer.
- 12-month team members hold non-instructional or administrative positions, perform their regular duties and activities for 12 months, and are not eligible for the “out of session” period.

Certain policies in this Handbook apply uniquely to team members in either the 10.5-month or 12-month category and are identified as such.

A consultant/independent contractor is not employed by KCGPA and therefore is not eligible for benefits through KCGPA.

Exempt/Non-Exempt

Exempt team members are those who are paid a salary, and because of their job responsibilities are not eligible for overtime pay. Non-exempt team members are eligible for overtime pay for hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a standard work week. Each non-exempt team member is responsible for completing a time card approved by their manager indicating hours worked. All overtime must be approved in advance by the team member’s manager.

Exempt employees are expected to work the hours necessary to perform their jobs, including time necessary to maintain an efficient operation. In addition to mandatory deductions or deductions authorized or otherwise required by applicable law, KCGPA will not make deductions from salary except under the following circumstances:

- Deductions from pay may be made when an exempt employee is absent from work for one or more full days for personal reasons, other than sickness or disability, provided the employee does not have any PTO or other approved leave available.
- Deductions from pay may be made when an exempt employee is absent from work for one or more full day due to illness or disability, provided the employee does not have any PTO available or other approved leave available.
- Deductions from pay may be made for unpaid disciplinary suspensions of one or more full days imposed for violation of a workplace conduct rule (e.g., anti-discrimination/

anti-harassment policy, workplace violence policy, or other similar workplace conduct rules applicable to employees).

- Deductions from pay may be made for FMLA-related absences when the employee does not have any paid leave time available.

Any employee, who believes that his or her deductions are incorrect for any pay period, or on Form W-2, should check with the Human Resources Department immediately. Human Resources will promptly investigate the concern and make any corrections necessary. No employee will be retaliated against for raising any questions under this policy.

Resolution of Financial Issues/Rebiling

All financial issues must be completed within 90 days of termination.

Overtime

Non-exempt team members receive overtime pay for hours worked in excess of 40 hours of a standard work week. It is the responsibility of the team member's manager to pre-approve overtime hours. Exempt team members are not eligible for overtime pay.

Equal Employment Opportunity

KCGPA is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer and makes all employment decisions based on qualifications to perform the work without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, marital status, gender identity, or sexual orientation, or any other status protected by applicable law. Employment decisions include:

- Hiring, placement, upgrading, promotion, or demotion;
- Recruitment, advertising, or solicitations for positions of employment;
- Treatment during employment;
- Compensation or other forms of remuneration;
- Layoff or termination.

If you are disabled and need a reasonable accommodation in order to perform the essential functions of your job, you may request such accommodation. The school will provide reasonable accommodations for the known disability or a qualified individual to allow him/her to perform essential job functions.

Any questions concerning equal employment opportunity and all requests for reasonable accommodation should be directed to Human Resources.

Paychecks/Direct Deposits

All team members receive pay through direct deposits to their personal bank or savings account on the 15th and the last day of each month. Pay stubs are distributed via email by EdOps.

When a payday falls on a weekend or bank holiday, funds are deposited the last business day prior to the weekend or bank holiday. When a payday falls on a KCGPA holiday that is not a bank holiday, funds will be deposited on the normal pay date.

Conflict of Interest

Team members have an obligation to avoid actual or potential conflicts of interest. An actual or potential conflict of interest occurs when a team member is in a position to influence a decision that may result in a personal gain for that team member, or for a relative, as a result of KCGPA's business dealings. For the purposes of this policy, a relative is any person who is related by blood or marriage, or whose relationship with the team member is similar to that of persons who are related by blood or marriage.

If a team member has any influence on transactions involving purchases, contracts, or leases, it is imperative that he or she disclose the existence of any actual or potential conflict of interest to the Chief Executive Officer as soon as possible so that safeguards can be established to protect all parties.

Personal gain may result not only in cases where a team member or relative has a significant ownership in a firm with which KCGPA does business, but also when a team member or relative receives any gift or special consideration as a result of any transaction or business dealings involving KCGPA.

The materials, products, designs, plans, ideas, and data of KCGPA are the property of the school and should never be given to an outside firm or individual except through normal channels and with appropriate authorization. Any improper transfer of material or disclosure of information, even if it is not apparent that a team member has personally gained by such action, constitutes unacceptable conduct. Any team member who participates in such a practice will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

Disclosure Statement

A team member with an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest shall inform the Chief Executive Officer, who shall report to the Board Secretary. Such team member shall not be involved with considering or evaluating the activity, unless the person has unique information or perspective requested by the Chief Executive Officer.

Each team member also shall annually submit information about all affiliations with current and potential organizations and persons with which KCGPA does or is likely to do business. Examples include, but are not limited to, organizations for which the team member or a family member is a director, officer, trustee, partner, team member or agent; organizations in which they have a direct financial interest; or vendors, contractors, etc. they have contracted with individually on special terms. The team member is also responsible for updating this information by submitting a revised Conflict of Interest Form if circumstances change. (See Appendix A for Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement).

Confidentiality

In the course of working for KCGPA, team members often have access to information that is and should be treated as confidential, whether communicated verbally, electronically, or in writing. We all share a common interest in and responsibility for respecting the character of such information as confidential and for ensuring that such information is not improperly disclosed or used. While public accountability and transparency are essential to KCGPA, there are times when circumstances dictate that certain information not be disclosed or used.

Examples of confidential information include, but are not limited to the following, to the extent not otherwise generally made known by others outside KCGPA:

- information that the law classifies as confidential, such as certain employment, health, or medical information about School team members or identifying information about minors;
- KCGPA financial information;
- certain communications with the School's legal counsel, whether internal or external;
- information obtained about employees of organizations with which the School contracts;
- student data;
- student and parent lists;
- information specifically identified as confidential or the inherent nature of which unambiguously suggests that confidentiality is expected;
- information about positions taken by individual team members with regard to a potential program strategy or partner;
- information provided in such a way that the circumstances of disclosure suggest confidential treatment, including when KCGPA informs others that the information will be treated as confidential;
- Conversations, letters, or memos regarding students, team members, parents, alumni, etc.; and
- Any conversation regarding the above that may have been inadvertently overheard.

Accordingly, except as required in the normal course of their responsibilities to KCGPA, team members may not disclose confidential information to third parties or knowingly allow others to disclose such information, without prior written consent from KCGPA's Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee. Team members may not inappropriately use or knowingly allow others to use any confidential information, including but not limited to advancing any private interest (their own or another's) or otherwise for personal gain.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record.

All KCGPA team members must comply with the requirements of FERPA.

Any team member who discloses confidential KCGPA or student information will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. Maintaining the confidentiality of KCGPA's student and School information is an obligation which also continues after a team member's termination.

Before disclosing any student information outside of the school, please contact the Chief Executive Officer.

Student Health Records

Student health information shall be protected from unauthorized, illegal or inappropriate disclosure by universal adherence to the principles of confidentiality and privacy by all employees and volunteers. The information shall be protected regardless of source, i.e., oral, printed or electronic means, and regardless of type of record, record keeping or method of storage. These requirements of confidentiality shall apply to all student information including, but not limited to academic, family, social, economic and health. Health services personnel shall be knowledgeable about KCGPA's implementation of FERPA, i.e., who can access health records, under what circumstances, and when information may be disclosed appropriately. Only team members who have a legitimate reason to know the identity and condition of students will be informed. Willful or negligent disclosure of confidential information about a student's medical condition by team members will be cause for disciplinary action.

Team Member Conduct

Every team member deserves a respectful, cooperative and safe working environment. To accomplish this goal, we must adhere to certain standards of behavior in the best interests of our students and colleagues. KCGPA expects all team members to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of professional behavior and will treat others with dignity, courtesy, and respect, and to act in accordance with School Board Policy 4140 – Personnel Code of Ethics.

Team members are expected to exemplify KCGPA's values and to encourage students and colleagues to do the same. We will provide each other with appropriate feedback and address

our concerns with each other, or with our direct managers, not through gossip and unproductive conversation.

Corrective Action

KCGPA administers a fair and consistent corrective action for unsatisfactory conduct. It is important that all associates are treated fairly and that corrective actions are prompt, consistent, and impartial. The major purpose of a corrective action is to correct a problem, prevent it from happening again, and prepare the associate for satisfactory performance in the future. In that regard and although employment is based on mutual consent and both associates and the school have the right to terminate employment at will, with or without cause or advance notice, the school may use progressive corrective action at its discretion.

Corrective action may include any of the following: 1) verbal warning, 2) written warning, 3) suspension with or without pay, or 4) termination of employment. When deciding which step to take, Supervisors and Human Resources will look at the severity of the offense and what action will place a stop to it, the existence of prior performance concerns, and knowledge of the School's policies among other things.

Attire

KCGPA believes that all team members should reflect a professional image in both conduct and appearance. When performing regular duties during scheduled days in which students are present or the presence of parents/guardians is expected, all team members shall observe the following standards regarding personal appearance:

- Business casual
- KCGPA logoed shirts and other school logo-apparel may be worn at any time with business casual bottoms.
- Be physically clean and neat.
- Wear appropriately professional attire; clothing that is torn or wrinkled is not appropriate.
- The school's PE teacher (or substitute team member) may always wear clothing appropriate to the PE curriculum

Questions about the appropriateness of an article of clothing should be directed to the School Leader, as an alternative, a good rule of thumb is to wear only clothing that a team member is sure is appropriate. KCGPA reserves the right in all situations to make the determination as to whether a team member is in violation of this policy. Violation of this policy may lead to a request from a manager to address the issue.

Professional Development

Team members are required to participate in appropriate professional development activities identified by the Chief Executive Officer or School Leader. Team members are encouraged to present ideas regarding professional development opportunities to school leadership, but all decisions regarding participation in professional development reside with the Chief Executive Officer and School Leader.

Relay National School Leaders Academy Fellowship

Certain teachers and/or leaders of KCGPA may be invited to participate in the Relay National School Leaders Academy Fellowship ("Relay) (the " Relay Fellowship") if that training would maintain or improve the skills required by the teacher's current position with KCGPA. Relay is a national, accredited, nonprofit institution of higher education serving over 1,500 students across eight campuses and is institutionally accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). Relay also has programmatic accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the agency recognized by the United States Department of Education as the professional accrediting agency for teacher-preparation programs. Relay Fellowship participants will undertake coursework based on six "Elements of Effective Leadership." Taken together, these six elements represent the set of knowledge, skills, and mindsets that leaders who have led their PK-12 students to profound growth and achievement often have, and the teachers would then utilize these elements in his or her current position with KCGPA.

KCGPA will pay the Relay Fellowship tuition for team members who successfully complete the Relay Fellowship and continue employment with KCGPA for at least two (2) years after completion. However, upon acceptance into the Relay Fellowship, team members will be required to sign a tuition repayment agreement. Additional information will be provided to team members who are invited to participate in the Relay Fellowship.

Participation in the Relay Fellowship is by invitation only and is limited to teachers selected by KCGPA. A teacher who has not met the minimum educational requirements of his or her current position with KCGPA will not be eligible to participate in the Relay Fellowship.

Other Professional Development Programs

Depending on the school's needs and staff member's development priorities, staff may participate in a variety of additional professional development programs, some of which may require overnight travel. These programs include, but are not limited to, the following. Staff are encouraged to identify and share additional learning opportunities that would advance their professional learning and our shared mission.

- Travel for learning visits to the Young Women's Leadership Network and other high-performing urban schools
- Achievement Network
- Consultants with content-specific expertise (e.g. a math curriculum consultant)

- EL Education
- The Fellowship for Race and Equity in Education
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
- Promise54
- Relay Graduate School of Education
- Student Achievement Partners
- Teach like a Champion's Train the Trainer programming
- UnboundEd
- UChicago STEP Literacy Programming

Duties as Assigned

Team members will be assigned a variety of tasks and duties throughout the school year. KCGPA expects all team members to approach those duties with appropriate regard. Team members should be on time and ready for their assigned tasks before, during, and after school.

These duties may include breakfast or lunch monitoring, arrival or dismissal of students, morning meeting coordination, all school meeting preparation, detention supervision, FOCUS instruction, and hallway monitoring.

Any questions or concerns regarding duties as assigned should be directed to the team member's Supervisor.

Educational Work Performed Outside of the School

Any educational work performed by a KCGPA team member for an organization other than KCGPA, whether paid or unpaid, must be described in writing and submitted for approval to the Chief Executive Officer.

Performing educational work without prior written approval by the Chief Executive Officer may result in corrective action at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer and Human Resources.

Tobacco-Free School

To promote the health and safety of all students and staff and to promote the cleanliness of school property, the school prohibits all team members, students and patrons from smoking or using tobacco products in all school facilities, on school transportation, and on all school grounds at all times. This prohibition extends to all facilities the school owns, contracts for, or leases to provide educational services, routine health care, daycare or early childhood development services to children, as well as facilities in which services are not provided to children. This prohibition does not apply to any private residence or any portion of a facility that is used for in-patient hospital treatment of individuals dependent on, or addicted to, drugs or alcohol in which the school provides services. Students who possess or use tobacco products

on school grounds, school transportation or at school activities will be disciplined in accordance with school policy.

Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace

It is the policy of KCGPA to create a drug-free workplace in keeping with the spirit and intent of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, as that Act may be amended from time to time. The non-prescription use of controlled substances is inconsistent with the behavior expected of team members, subjects all students, team members and visitors to our school to unacceptable safety risks, and undermines KCGPA's ability to operate effectively and efficiently.

Accordingly, the following activities are strictly prohibited:

- The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, sale or non-prescription use of either a controlled substance or alcohol on KCGPA premises (including the parking lot), when on job assignments off school grounds, at school-sponsored functions and activities, and when engaged in any other KCGPA- or work-related activity whether on or off KCGPA premises;
- The use of alcohol on KCGPA premises (including the parking lot), when on job assignments off school grounds, at school-sponsored functions and activities, and when engaged in any other KCGPA or work-related activity whether on or off KCGPA premises, provided, however, KCGPA may host certain off school grounds special events at venues where alcohol may be served;
- Having illegal drugs, or any other controlled substance (not specifically prescribed by the team member's medical provider) in your system while on KCGPA premises, operating a vehicle leased or owned by KCGPA, or performing services for or on behalf of KCGPA; and
- Having alcohol in your system during school hours or at any time in which a team member is interacting with students of KCGPA.

Off-the-job illegal drug use or activities, or post-hiring convictions relating to such illegal drug use or activities is also a violation of this policy. Team members convicted of controlled substance-related violations (including pleas of nolo contendere, i.e., no contest) must inform Human Resources within five (5) days of such conviction or plea.

“Therapeutic drugs” include legally obtained prescription drugs, controlled substances, and over-the counter drugs used in accordance with the related prescription and/or directions. Any team member whose use of any therapeutic drug(s) may affect his/her capacity to properly and safely perform job duties or may create a danger to himself/herself or to others in the work place should report the therapeutic drug use to the Human Resources department. KCGPA reserves the right to require a team member to take a leave of absence or comply with other appropriate action determined by KCGPA.

Team members who violate any aspect of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. At its discretion, KCGPA may require team members who

violate this policy to successfully complete a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program as a condition of continued employment.

Work-Related Injuries

KCGPA is committed to providing a safe working environment, equipment and facilities for all team members. Nevertheless, from time to time work-related accidents occur. To ensure team members receive prompt treatment and avoid any unnecessary delay in benefits to which they may otherwise be entitled, any team member who experiences a work-related injury should do the following:

- Immediately inform his or her manager of any work-related injury.
- Team member or manager notifies Human Resources or Security within 24 hours of the injury.
- Team member determines the need for medical attention in conjunction with Human Resources or Security.
- Failure to notify the manager and/or Human Resources at or about the time an injury occurs, may result in a delay or a denial of benefits.

Human Resources in conjunction with KCGPA's workers compensation insurance provider will assign a medical provider for non-emergency care.

If an emergency occurs and immediate medical attention is needed, immediately call Security at extension 1099 so that 911 may be called. Human Resources should be notified as soon as possible thereafter.

If a work-related injury occurs outside normal working hours, team members should go to the nearest emergency facility for treatment and care. The injury and treatment must then be reported to Human Resources the following workday.

Finally, to avoid any work-related accidents, any team member who becomes aware of an unsafe working condition or hazard should notify Human Resources immediately so that appropriate action may be taken.

Teacher Workroom

In order for the Teacher Workroom to be an effective working environment for teachers, there are some expectations to which all team members are asked to adhere:

- Students should not work in the Teacher Workroom, even with a teacher.
- Students should only access the Teacher Workroom with a pass during breaks and before/after school.
- Teachers should not send students to the Teacher Workroom during class.
- Please "leave it cleaner than you found it"

All food must be stored in sealed containers in the kitchen area. Teachers must keep their space clean and belongings off the floor as much as possible. The atmosphere in the Teacher Workroom should be collegial and professional.

Conflict Resolution and Complaints

It is the practice of KCGPA to treat team members in as fair and impartial a manner as possible. The school strives to practice a feedback model whereby disputes, disagreements, and problems can be addressed and resolved directly before they erode staff culture and impact our ability to best serve students. KCGPA has established the following system to address problems in a fair and expeditious manner with the intent of limiting distractions and damage.

A complaint is a concern with a team member or practice that does not rise to the level of an alleged breach or violation of personnel or school policy. A grievance is any significant team member concern that arises in the alleged violation of personnel practices either between team members and their colleagues, or between team members and school leadership. A grievance is treated as more serious than a complaint or concern where a solution or decision is more readily apparent. Team members who seek resolution of employment situations by using established procedures are assured that they will not be subjected to discrimination or retaliation, or be penalized in any way for their use of these procedures.

General Complaints Involving another Team Member

Team members are strongly encouraged to address complaints involving a fellow team member directly with that person for discussion and resolution (e-mail should not be used for this purpose). If the team members are not able to resolve their differences, they may at any time request a mediation meeting with their Supervisor(s) where both team members are present. The resolution of the matter by Supervisor(s), in consultation with the Human Resources, will be considered final. Team members are expected to avoid gossip and open discussion of complaints against team members or the school.

Complaints by Parents/Guardians

If the parent/guardian of an enrolled student wishes to make a complaint, team members should advise them to follow the reporting procedure set forth in the Student & Family Handbook if the issue cannot immediately be addressed by the team member.

Grievance against KCGPA by a Team Member

The grievance resolution procedure is intended to serve as a means for amicable settlement of disputes that arise between team members and KCGPA before the success of students is adversely impacted. Time extensions beyond the timelines indicated herein may be secured through mutual written agreement of the parties involved. Failure by the team member to comply with any limitations shall constitute withdrawal of the grievance. Failure by school

leadership to comply with the time limitations shall constitute the right of the team member to proceed to the next step of the grievance procedure.

- In the event a team member believes he/she has been treated unfairly, or that the school condones a practice that seriously jeopardizes the health, safety, or success of its school community, the team member shall discuss the situation with the School Leader in an effort to resolve the issue.
- If a resolution has not been reached through the discussion, or if the grievance concerns the School Leader directly, the grievance should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer. If the grievance involves the Chief Executive Officer directly, the team member should present a written summary of the grievance and any response already received to the [Board Chair](#) within three (3) days of receiving the Chief Executive Officer's response.
- The Board Chair will respond to both parties within three (3) business days of receiving the written summary, or will respond only to the team member if the issue involves the Chief Executive Officer or Chief School Leader Officer.
- If the grievance cannot be resolved by the Board Chair (or their designee), the Board Chair will present the complaint and his/her recommendations concerning it at the next regularly scheduled board meeting for resolution.
- The Chair or Board Secretary will respond to all parties in writing within five (5) business days of receiving the decision of the Board. The decisions of the Board are final.
- There will be no retaliation of any kind against a team member for bringing up complaints under this procedure.
- At his/her own expense, team members may seek outside guidance in order to articulate a grievance as clearly as possible.

Exceptions to the Grievance Procedure

KCGPA recognizes that circumstances may make it inappropriate for team members to pursue the resolution of a problem in the sequence described above. The following exceptions are instances where a team member may bypass steps to seek resolution of a situation by the next higher authority. Team members who are uncertain as to the proper authority or the method are to discuss the matter confidentially with the Chairman.

- If the complaint or problem involves a known or suspected violation of the law;
- If the complaint or problem is clearly not within the authority of the School Leader or Chief Executive Officer to resolve;
- If the team member and School Leader or Chief Executive Officer mutually agree to bypass a given step;
- If the nature of the complaint, problem, or dispute involves or has been caused by the School Leader or Chief Executive Officer and the team member has reason to believe the School Leader or Chief Executive Officer may be less than impartial.

Anti-Harassment

KCGPA recognizes its obligations to ensure that personnel are not subjected to unlawful discrimination and/or harassment in any term or condition of employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender, age, religion, disability, pregnancy status, sexual orientation, veteran status, or other status protected by law. It is the School's goal to ensure conduct never rises to the level of unlawful behavior. Accordingly, KCGPA prohibits conduct that is inconsistent with KCGPA's values and beliefs even though it may not violate the law.

It is KCGPA's policy to prohibit any unwelcome verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an associate because of his or her race, color, sex, gender, religion, age, national origin, disability, pregnancy status, veteran status, sexual orientation or any other protected status. The prohibition applies to all individuals who work for or with the School, including managers, personnel (whether employed, contracted, or volunteered), directors, officers, program participants, contractors, vendors, and/or suppliers.

Some examples of prohibited conduct include but are not limited to:

- Offensive, sexist, off-color or sexual remarks, jokes, slurs or propositions or comments that disparage a person or group on the basis of race, color, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, gender, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ethnic background, military service or citizenship.
- Derogatory or suggestive posters, cartoons, photographs, calendars, graffiti, drawings, other materials, or gestures.
- Inappropriate touching, hitting, pushing or other aggressive physical contact or threats to take such action.
- Unsolicited sexual advances, requests, or demands, explicit or implicit, for sexual favors.

Any associate who has a question, concern, or complaint of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, sex, gender, religion, age, national origin, disability, pregnancy status, veteran status, sexual orientation, or other protected status is encouraged to bring the matter to the immediate attention of his or her manager, a member of KCGPA leadership, a Board member, or outside counsel. Any manager or member of KCGPA leadership who becomes aware of potential violations of this policy is required to contact the Board Chairman or the Secretary immediately.

KCGPA prohibits retaliation against anyone for reporting discrimination or harassment, assisting in making a discrimination or harassment complaint or cooperating in a discrimination or harassment investigation. Any person who believes he/she has experienced or witnessed retaliation should immediately notify Human Resources per established policy, or KCGPA's Legal Counsel (816-932-1293), or the Chairman as appropriate.

All reports of inappropriate conduct will be promptly and thoroughly investigated, and the School will act to ensure that any improper conduct ceases immediately and corrective action is taken to prevent a recurrence. Any person, whether managery, non-managery, or member of

management, who violates this policy will be subject to the full range of corrective action, up to and including termination of employment or engagement. KCGPA will inform the complaining person of the resolution of the complaint as appropriate.

All complaints will be treated confidentially to the extent practicable for an effective resolution. No individual will suffer adverse employment consequences as a result of making a good faith complaint or taking part in the investigation of a complaint. An individual who knowingly alleges a false claim against another will be subject to the full range of corrective action, up to and including termination.

Hazing and Bullying

KCGPA will not tolerate hazing or bullying in any form. KCGPA staff, coaches, sponsors and volunteers shall not permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing or bullying or plan, direct, encourage, assist, engage or participate in any activity that involves hazing or bullying. KCGPA School team members shall report incidents of hazing and bullying to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall promptly investigate all complaints of hazing and bullying and shall administer appropriate discipline to all individuals who violate this policy. KCGPA team members who violate this policy may be disciplined or terminated. The School Leader will provide for appropriate training designed to assist staff, coaches, sponsors and volunteers in identifying, preventing and responding to incidents of hazing and bullying. KCGPA shall annually inform students, parents/guardians, school staff, and volunteers that hazing and bullying is prohibited. This notification may occur through the distribution of the written policy, publication in handbooks, presentations at assemblies or verbal instructions at the start of an activity period or program.

Sexual Misconduct Involving a Team Member

The School takes all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously, regardless of the source. When an allegation is made, School team members will immediately take appropriate action to protect students and other children, which will include reporting to the CD in accordance with Board policy and notifying the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer or designee will contact law enforcement and begin an investigation.

In accordance with law, if a student reports alleged sexual misconduct on the part of a teacher or other team member of the School to a School team member, the team member who receives the report shall notify the Chief Executive Officer immediately and report the allegation to the CD. If the allegation of sexual misconduct involves the Chief Executive Officer, the team member shall report to the Board of Directors Chairman. The CD will investigate all allegations of sexual misconduct involving School team members. When a claim against a team member of sexual misconduct is substantiated by the CD, the School will suspend employment of the team member. If a court clears the claim, the School may reinstate the team member. The School may investigate the allegations for the purpose of making employment decisions.

No one in the workplace, including the Chief Executive Officer, is permitted to exercise any control, restraint, modification or other change in the report or the forwarding of such report to the hotline. A mandated reporter who willfully fails to report suspected incidents of child abuse or neglect is subject to license suspension or revocation, and commits a misdemeanor.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact the Chief Executive Officer.

Human Resources and Business Services Contacts

For day-to-day operational and human resources questions, please contact Kiana Brown, Director of Operations:

- Kiana Brown
- 913-5687885

For questions regarding benefits and payroll, **Kiana Brown serves as KCGPA's point of contact** to connect with EdOps. EdOps is an organization that contracts with KCGPA for business and operations services so that school leadership can remain focused on supporting culture and academics. Kiana can be reached at:

- kbrown1@kcgpa.org

For questions regarding specific benefits options, contact your benefits provider (typically listed on the back of your membership card) or contact Heather Hodes, our HR representative, at hhodes@bukaty.com.

Equipment, Technology, and Internet Use

Care of Equipment

When materials and equipment are issued for use in the classroom, the staff member is responsible to assure the items are not misused or mistreated. If an item is damaged, the staff member shall be responsible for reporting the condition to the Director of Operations or his/her designee. If an item is stolen the staff member shall notify the Director of Operations or his/her designee that the item is missing and the Director of Operations or his/her designee shall, with information supplied by the staff member, make a formal police report. When the report has been made it shall be turned over to the Director of Operations or his/her designee for appropriate action regarding inventory adjustments as well as determining if an insurance claim should be filed.

All KCGPA systems equipment and material (i.e. laptops, mobile phones, monitors, etc.) should be used in a manner which protects the equipment, systems, and data from being lost, damaged, destroyed, or otherwise misused. Such equipment is to be used only to conduct

KCGPA business. Team members will be expected to return equipment or software at any time as requested by the Chief Executive Officer.

All computer hardware, software, and information supplied to team members are the property of and licensed by KCGPA. Team members should follow all software licensing agreements, and contact the Chief Executive Officer with any questions or concerns regarding licensing. KCGPA reserves the right, at any time, to search and inspect KCGPA systems, equipment, or material. Please see the full Equipment, Technology, and Internet Use policies set forth herein.

E-mail

All KCGPA e-mail is public domain. Do not e-mail anything which you would not consider public. For confidentiality purposes, do not e-mail specifics regarding student IEPs, student performance, personal situations, or other detailed concerns.

Use of Equipment

To ensure that KCGPA's electronic equipment is used only for lawful and appropriate purposes and to further its business interests, KCGPA has adopted the following Policy which applies to all team members. Each team member and student having access to the electronic equipment of KCGPA is required to abide by this Policy. KCGPA will strictly enforce this Policy.

All users are expected to be responsible, courteous and thoughtful when using Technology and the Internet. Common sense should prevail. The use of KCGPA computer network system should be in support of education and research, consistent with the educational mission or objectives of KCGPA and in accordance with federal law, Missouri law and all school policies.

Staff members should have no expectation of privacy with respect to the use of Technology, the Internet, intranet or e-mail. Maintenance and monitoring of KCGPA network system may lead to the discovery that an individual has or is violating KCGPA policy or the law.

KCGPA makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through KCGPA technology system will be error-free or without defect. KCGPA will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data, interruptions of service, or computer viruses. KCGPA is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on KCGPA system. KCGPA will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the authorized use of the system.

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA"), KCGPA has placed a filter on its Internet access as one step to help protect its users from intentionally or unintentionally viewing inappropriate material. KCGPA blocks the categories that are determined to be potentially inappropriate. However, families must be aware that some material accessible via the Internet contains illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive language and/or images. While the goal of KCGPA is to use Internet resources to achieve educational goals, there is always a risk of students accessing other materials. Staff should be aware of these risks.

Acceptable Uses of KCGPA's Equipment

Software and business equipment, including telephones, facsimile machines, computers, iPads or similar tablets, cell phones and laptops and KCGPA's electronic mail system, KCGPA's Internet access, and copy machines (collectively, the "Equipment") are intended to be used for business purposes only. The Equipment is the exclusive property of KCGPA, and its sole purpose is to facilitate the business of the School. Each student and team member has the responsibility to use the Equipment in a productive and appropriate manner.

Unacceptable Uses of KCGPA's Equipment

KCGPA's Equipment may not be used for transmitting, receiving, or storage of any communications of a defamatory, discriminatory, or harassing nature, or materials that are sexually explicit, pornographic, or obscene. Harassment of any kind is prohibited. No messages with derogatory or inflammatory remarks about an individual's race, sex, age, disability, religion, national origin, or physical attributes shall be transmitted through KCGPA's Equipment. KCGPA will not tolerate actions that may create a hostile environment. Equipment may not be used for any purpose which is illegal or against KCGPA's policies or contrary to KCGPA's best interest.

Sensitive or confidential information respecting KCGPA or its students or vendors should not be transmitted via the Internet or over facsimile machines without the consent of KCGPA. Solicitation of non-KCGPA business, or any use of KCGPA's Equipment for personal gain, is prohibited.

Electronic Communications

All computers, electronic and telephonic communications systems, including internet access and all communication and information transmitted by, received from, or stored in these systems is the property of KCGPA. As such, they are intended to be used for job-related and business purposes only.

KCGPA is a public institution. Both internal and external communication is public domain. As such, we should all remind ourselves that anything written or documented here can be requested by any member of the public.

KCGPA reserves the right to monitor or review any information stored or transmitted on its equipment.

Internet Communications

Students and team members are responsible for the content of all information that they transmit over KCGPA's equipment. All electronic communications must correctly identify the student or team member responsible for the communication. Any information sent to an individual outside of KCGPA via KCGPA's Equipment is considered a statement that reflects on

KCGPA. All communications sent by students and team members via KCGPA's Equipment must comply with this and other KCGPA policies.

Intellectual Property

KCGPA is excited to share its work and documentation with other schools. It is important, however, that any public documents that may be readily accessible to a wide audience are properly marked to ensure there is no illegal profit or unethical use of the school's work.

The document containing appropriate copyright and intellectual property identification information is available electronically on the S: drive under Communications / Proprietary Information.

Any staff member intending to distribute information created at or for KCGPA must receive approval for the distribution from the Chief Executive Officer (or his/her designee).

In addition, the following practices should be observed regarding information created at the school:

- Post and distribute items as PDFs unless Adobe conversion presents insurmountable technical difficulties.
- Include the copyright line and watermark on all documents proprietary to KCGPA.
- Check with the School Leader or Chief Executive Officer if there is any question of whether a document should have the copyright footer and/or the watermark.
- This document with proprietary language is located on the S: drive under Communications/Proprietary Information
- Any work product resulting from employment including any curriculum lesson plans, handouts, study presentations or similar material is the property of KCGPA.

Software and Copyright Issues

To prevent computer viruses from being transmitted through KCGPA's Equipment, there will be no downloading or copying of any software onto KCGPA's Equipment without prior approval of KCGPA. No files of any kind will be downloaded from the Internet without prior approval of KCGPA. License agreements relating to any software, whether individually owned or owned by KCGPA, will be strictly complied with.

Any student or team member desiring to reproduce or store information of any sort downloaded from the Internet should contact the Director of Operations or his/her designee to determine whether the intended use is permissible. Copyright laws are very complex and can apply even to information that appears to be freely available for any use. No copyrighted material will be copied illegally on KCGPA's Equipment or transmitted through KCGPA's Equipment.

The Board encourages teachers and staff assigned to KCGPA to make judicious use of appropriate printed materials, sound recordings, and electronic programs in the curriculum but

recognizes that Federal law, applicable to public schools, protects authors and composers from the unauthorized use of their copyrighted work.

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, USC) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials. According to the copyright law, it is illegal to copy or reproduce on disk or paper, by use of school equipment or any other means, materials for which the person reproducing or KCGPA does not own the copyright, unless the written permission of the copyright owner has been obtained, or unless the activity is within some of the limited exceptions to the copyright laws. Copyright infringement carries with it serious civil and criminal penalties under law.

Title 17, Section 107, regarding the Fair Use of copyrighted work, reads in pertinent part:

. . . [T]he fair use of a copyrighted work, including such use by reproduction in copies or photo-records or by any other means specified by that section, for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include:

- the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

Additional Copyright and Fair Use Guidelines

- Respect copyright and fair use guidelines. See <http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html>
- Hyperlinking to outside sources is recommended. Do not plagiarize and give credit where it is due. The re-posting of photos, videos, poems, music, text, artwork or other copyrightable material should only be done if the creator of the materials is identified to the extent reasonably possible.
- When hyperlinking to other sites and media, be sure that the content to which links are included is appropriate and consistent with these guidelines.
- Be aware that photographs taken by professional photographers cannot be scanned and used on the internet without the photographer's permission — even if they are photos of you and for which you paid. Most photographers will charge a little extra for "digital rights" to photos.

AI and Generative Technology

- AI may be used ethically and responsibly under a teacher's direction. Any attempt to use AI algorithms to replicate, imitate, or plagiarize violates academic standards. Under no

circumstances should AI be used to complete quizzes, tests, and/or any projects/activities used to assess student learning or current levels.

Social Media Policy

KCGPA recognizes the proliferation and usefulness of online resources to inform its school community of activities and to recruit talented teachers and staff to the school. Due to the nature of social networking sites, there exists a risk that the lines between one's professional life and personal life may be blurred.

KCGPA staff is prohibited from communicating with students and families via social media unless specifically approved by KCGPA's Chief Executive Officer or School Leader. KCGPA team members should communicate with students and families via face-to-face meetings, phone calls, and text messages.

KCGPA will maintain an official website and may also employ school-sanctioned social media outlets to further the aims of KCGPA, recruit future team members, or better inform the public. The Chief Executive Officer and School Leader may assign a team member to maintain and populate the website or social media pages.

Because of KCGPA's close affiliation with the Student Leadership Network (SLN), the pros and cons of our use of social media are also likely to affect the SLN and its reputation and work, which is why you may see references throughout this policy (and in other policies) to the SLN.

By accessing, creating or contributing to Facebook, Twitter, blogs, discussion forums, wikis, podcasts or other social media for program use, you agree to abide by these guidelines. Please read them carefully before making use of such social media. If you have any doubts or concerns about how these guidelines apply to you or your situation, or how they might apply to some new form of social media in the future, please err on the side of caution and direct your questions and concerns to the Chief Executive Officer or School Leader before you make use of such media.

This policy is not intended to infringe upon a team member's right to speak publicly on matters of public concern, so long as such communication:

- adheres to appropriate time, place and manner restrictions
- does not interfere with the performance of job duties
- does not explicitly or implicitly state that the view is an official view of KCGPA unless the team member is expressly authorized by KCGPA Chief Executive Officer or School Leader to make an official statement on behalf of KCGPA
- does not violate laws applicable to communications with or about students
- does not disclose proprietary or confidential information of KCGPA
- does not disclose personal information about associates or students or information protected by law

Team members should be mindful that actions that are not permissible when not on social media are similarly not permissible on social media, and KCGPA reserves the right to discipline for impermissible behavior that utilizes social media.

Additionally, KCGPA may place certain restrictions on a team member's use of social media to preserve student confidentiality and to ensure policy is followed.

General Guidelines

Be aware that all existing policies and behavior guidelines extend to KCGPA-related activities in the online environment as well as during one-on-one interaction and KCGPA-sponsored events.

Personal & Professional Accounts

Personal social media accounts and activities should focus on personal life as distinguished from professional life. Postings to purely personal accounts could reflect poorly on KCGPA and/or on a team member, especially (but not limited to) if that team member identifies his/her relationship to KCGPA. Communicating as a team member of KCGPA in online communications may be interpreted by readers as a communication on behalf of KCGPA.

If information is posted, the team member must disclose his/her relationship to KCGPA in the bio or post. This helps the team member's network understand why he/she is sharing this news in addition to the other content of personal interest that is shared.

While we recommend that team members disclose their relationship to KCGPA in their personal social media bio sections, associates are prohibited from using the "KCGPA" name or any of its iterations, brands, programs, or marks as part of their social media usernames, handles, background designs or other name and identification of personal social media accounts.

Authorized Representatives & Official Accounts

Under no circumstance may someone officially present views or positions of KCGPA unless they have been formally authorized to do so by KCGPA Chief Executive Officer or School Leader. If contacted for information or an interview, refer the inquirer to KCGPA Chief Executive Officer.

If, on behalf of KCGPA, a team member is interested in creating branded social media accounts for marketing purposes, he or she should receive explicit permission from KCGPA's Chief Executive Officer or School Leader.

Use Good Judgment

Each team member should be mindful about the image being conveyed about the team member and how a statement may reflect on KCGPA when posting to social networks and social media sites. Remember that what is posted will be viewed and archived permanently online

once the "publish" button is hit. On sites where a professional affiliation is posted, the team member must make sure that the profile adheres to the requirements of this policy.

Provide Value

Team members should think about what they have to offer the community, whether it is thoughtful, relevant blog posts, newsy tweets, or homework help, and focus on providing that consistently. They can look for opportunities on these social sites to offer recommendations or services to engage students and provide value to the community.

Inappropriate Communication

If at any time a team member receives communication from a student which is deemed to be inappropriate, offensive, sexually explicit, or threatening to the team member, the student, or another student in the program, that communication should be stopped immediately and a transcript of the communication should be forwarded to KCGPA's School Leader and Chief Executive Officer, who will consult with legal counsel for additional guidance.

Team Member Privacy

Before endeavoring to establish any social networking account, team members should familiarize themselves with the features of any account they choose to use. For example, Facebook requires account holders to take specific steps to "privatize" the information they place online. Team members must be aware of these features of Facebook or any other social networking site and they are responsible for the publication of information that is intended to be "private" regardless of their level of familiarity with these features.

Team members should also be aware that information shared privately with a recipient could be redistributed by the recipient without the sharer's knowledge or consent. The same principles applied to in-person communication should be applied to online conversation: use discretion, and do not place trust in individuals who have not proven themselves trustworthy. Nothing posted online is ever truly "private."

Student Privacy

At all times, and in the use of any form of communications, staff members shall always adhere to student privacy rights and the rights of team members to have their educational, personnel and medical information kept confidential (FERPA). Information that is protected by law from disclosure to third parties shall not be communicated online in any way that exposes such information to retrieval by those third parties.

For example, through a Facebook account, a team member shall not post confidential student information on the "wall," the "information" section, or through any part of that Facebook account that would be accessible to the team member's Facebook "friends" associated with that account. A team member should be similarly aware of information that is posted on an official or sanctioned KCGPA Facebook account and ensure that no confidential student

information is posted on the "wall," the "information" section, or through any part of that Facebook account that would be accessible to any third party.

Communication with KCGPA Students

KCGPA staff is prohibited from communicating with students and families via social media or other forms of communication not specifically approved by KCGPA's Chief Executive Officer or School Leader. School staff should communicate with students and families via face-to-face meetings, phone calls, and text messages. Under no circumstances shall staff engage in social media activity with any minor. Any conduct, whether online or not, that is inappropriate, undermines authority with students, compromises objectivity, or harms students, or is prohibited by KCGPA Policy may subject a team member to discipline up to and including termination of employment.

A team member may also face individual liability for inappropriate online communications with students and/or parents and guardians, as well as exposing KCGPA to liability in certain instances. KCGPA reserves the right to audit all communication between staff and students, including but not limited to email, text messages, and chat history and personal accounts used to interact with students.

KCGPA-Sponsored Social Media Sites

It is the intention of KCGPA to create certain social media sites to disseminate pertinent information to our broad base of students, their families, and other interested stakeholders, as well as to recruit potential teachers and other staff to the school. All social media accounts officially recognized by KCGPA will be maintained by two (2) staff members as administrators, and will be updated regularly with general event and programmatic information. The guidelines listed above will be observed in all KCGPA-related social media activity. KCGPA will consider establishing accounts to include (but not limited to):

- Twitter: When deemed appropriate by KCGPA administration, a main KCGPA Twitter account will be created to broadcast messages, deadlines, etc. to followers. The account will only respond to Direct Messages regarding KCGPA content or information.
- Facebook: KCGPA currently maintains an active page that is monitored daily and will only accept comments or wall postings that have been approved by the account administrators.

References to specific social media outlets are not included to limit application of their policy to use of that program. All online, electronic or computerized means of communication are subject to this policy. Given the rapid pace of technological change it is not possible to identify all proprietary or commonly named or identified means of such communications.

Inquiries from the Public or the Media

We want to build our reputation and share our successes and challenges with a broad audience. To do so, we must speak with a consistent voice to all external constituencies.

Any questions, requests, or solicitations from the public or from any media source should be referred to the Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee. Team members should not provide any information, comments, or feedback to the public or to the media regarding KCGPA at any time unless directed to do so by the Chief Executive Officer.

All press releases and other promotional material must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer prior to dissemination.

COMPENSATION

Student Loan Support

Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

[PSLF](#) forgives the remaining balance on some loan types after a participant has made 120 qualifying monthly payments (10 years) under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer. KCGPA is a qualifying employer.

PSLF qualifications are here and should be reviewed in detail, as eligibility depends on what type of government loan a team member has and how they have been doing income-based repayments.

Note that only about 1% of the first wave of applicants who were eligible after 10 years had their loans repaid because of fine print issues. It's important to collect employment documentation yearly and carefully review all information.

Federal TEACH Grants

The [TEACH Grant Program](#) provides grants of up to \$4,000 a year to students who are completing or plan to complete coursework needed to begin a career in teaching. Eligibility and application information is available on their website. KC Girls Prep is a [TEACH Grant eligible school](#).

Please note that this grant requires teaching in a TEACH grant eligible school for 4 years, or participants would have to pay back the money plus interest (converts to a loan). Participants have 8 years to complete this service obligation. It does not need to be done all at once or at the same school or in the same city/state location.

Leadership and Stipend Opportunities

To develop leadership across the school, KCGPA encourages team members to take on leadership and stretch roles. At the same time, team members should ensure they have an excellent foundation in their current responsibilities before adding additional time commitments. Team members are also encouraged to pursue no more than one teacher-leadership role at a time to preserve balance and focus.

Stipend amounts are located in the [teacher salary schedule](#).

The first half of stipends are paid on January 31 of each school year, and the second half on June 30.

If a team member is unable to fulfill their duties for the year, stipends are prorated for the proportion of time the role is filled.

Team members can fill only one role at a time (e.g. KCTR mentor teacher *or* Grade Level Chair).

To Apply

Team members should confer with their manager prior to applying for a stipend opportunity. Prior manager approval is required.

Please email your manager, the School Leader, and the CEO to ensure they see and review the application.

After applying, the School Leader will schedule an interview with you, potentially including your manager as well as other relevant stakeholders.

Note that team members in teacher leader roles will be required to attend meetings and some collaborative work time during the summer break to prepare for the coming year.

Promotions and Lateral Transitions

Interviewing for Promotions and Lateral Transitions

We seek to grow our team's capacity in order to achieve results for families and students we serve, and so want to have a clear path to promotion that all team members can discuss with their manager.

We also seek to ensure that every person who receives a lateral transition or promotion is crystal clear on the core competencies and responsibilities of their new role.

An internal interview process allows hiring managers and team members to engage in a shared experience of exploring the work of the new role so that they can ensure a mutual fit.

Confidentiality is maintained for team members who apply for an internal promotion.

What should I expect from the interviewing process?

The responsibilities inherent in a new role – whether a promotion or a lateral transition – are often different than the role a team member currently inhabits. For this reason, we require a competency-based interview process for both lateral transitions and promotions.

Knowing that everyone does better when they can see the test in advance, we want to offer guidance for managers and their teams on the process for developing towards and interviewing for promotions.

Process overview

- CEO notifies all staff of open positions available for promotion or lateral transition.
- Internal candidates discuss applying for a promotion with their manager and notify the CEO, Cc'ing the School Leader and their manager.
- The default is that an internal candidate follows the same interview process as external candidates, except for the phone screen and any administrative questions.
- Hiring managers
 - should gather input from the team member's current manager
 - have latitude to make reasonable adjustments to the normal interviewing process on the basis of prior evidence of strong performance in competency areas that the external interview process would normally select for. This may include adjusting a project or performance task or adapting interview protocols to target specific competencies.
- Privacy is paramount, as there may be multiple applicants for an open position. In addition, internal candidates may be declined, asked to engage in additional performance tasks to probe more deeply into specific competencies, or asked to re-apply after a specific development plan is implemented to grow their capacity.

Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reserved for exemplary performers ● Requires a competency-based interview process which accounts for prior work in relevant competencies and areas of performance
Lateral Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reserved for extremely strong performers with a particular aptitude or long-term career interest that would allow them to contribute at the same title/role level on a different team ● Requires a competency-based interview process which accounts for prior work in relevant competencies and areas of performance
Vertical Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For someone remaining in the same role ● More responsibility in the areas they are already working ● May mean manager delegating more work to them and/or giving them leadership tasks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually this happens after they’ve already done some horizontal growth • Very job dependent
Horizontal Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For someone remaining in the same role • Broaden responsibilities and give additional tasks in areas they are not presently active in • May mean asking them to cross-train with another team member to strengthen the team overall • Usually the first step on the path to promotion
No Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For someone remaining in the same role • Does not indicate a performance judgment as this is often dependent on factors outside of employee performance, such as existing workstreams, org-wide priorities, team structures, etc.

Travel and Expense Reimbursement

Purpose and Enforcement

This policy establishes guidelines governing the reimbursement of expenses incurred during the conduct of KCGPA business and outlines the reimbursement process.

Reimbursement Procedure

Please remember that KC Girls Prep is a tax exempt, nonprofit organization. **Sales tax is not reimbursed.** Use this [tax-exempt form](#) whenever making purchases.

Steps to request a reimbursement are [here](#).

Key Terms

“Associate” refers to any KCGPA team member.

“Travelers” refers to any and all associates, non-associates and consultants working for KCGPA.

“Organization” refers to KCGPA.

The “Card” refers to an approved, KCGPA-issued credit card.

Responsibilities

The Travelers are expected to be prudent in their expenditures while traveling on business. The Organization will reimburse actual, reasonable, and documented business expenses when

conducting business on behalf of the Organization. Reasonable expenses are those expenditures incurred while conducting the business of the Organization that are considered ordinary and necessary relative to expenses incurred by others in similar conditions and circumstances. When requesting reimbursement of business expenses, Travelers are not expected to gain or lose financially. As with all expenditures, Travelers are responsible for the stewardship of the Organization's assets, being ever mindful that we must use our resources in ways that achieve our charitable goals most efficiently and are consistent with the law. Any travel expenses deemed unreasonable are the Traveler's personal responsibility. Exceptions to this policy may be made only upon approval by an Organization officer, limited to the Treasurer, Secretary, or Chief Executive Officer, when accompanied by a written explanation of reasonableness.

It is the Traveler's responsibility to comply with the policy. Supervisors have responsibility for reviewing expense reports for reasonableness, accuracy, compliance with policies, and timely submission. The Supervisor must verify that expenses and expense reports meet the following criteria:

- The travel expense was incurred while conducting official Organization business.
- The information contained on the expense report and in the attached documentation is accurate and in accordance with the Policy.

The Travel & Expense Policy meets the IRS definition of an "accountable plan". As a result, reimbursements do not have to be reported as income to the Traveler. Under the accountable plan, travel advances and reimbursement of expenses must meet two requirements:

- Advances and reimbursements must be made for business expenses only and must be reasonably related to the expenses the Traveler is expected to incur. Requests for advances of actual expenditures may be made no more than thirty (30) days before payment for the expense is due and must be approved by an officer of the Organization.
- Travelers must provide an expense report substantiating the amount, time, use, and business purpose of expenses within a reasonable time after the expenses are incurred (in no case later than sixty (60) days after incurring the expense). Receipts must be attached to the expense report. It is the Traveler's responsibility to retain submitted receipts, until payment for expenses have been received. Expense forms received after sixty (60) days will be rejected and remain un-reimbursed.

Corporate Credit Card

The approved, KCGPA-issued credit card (the "Card") has been chosen as the exclusive provider to pay Organization business-related travel expenses, and should be used for all reimbursable business expenses. Each cardholder is required to sign a cardholder agreement upon receipt of the credit card. The appropriate Supervisor, as determined by Human Resources, for the cardholder will also sign the agreement. The agreement states the Card is strictly limited to

business purchases by the associate in whose name the Card is issued, and personal use of the Card is prohibited.

The Card is available to associates who routinely travel on Organization business and/or frequently need credit for business purchases. The card will be ordered after Human Resources receives approval from the Chief Executive Officer.

Expense Limits

Corporate card expense limits are established by the Chief Executive Officer based on expenditure authority, business requirements and usage. If an expense limit change is required for a cardholder, the cardholder or manager should contact the Chief Executive Officer for the change.

Expense limits can be increased temporarily to accommodate special requirements, such as a conference event or meeting. In such cases, the increase must be requested as stated above. The expense limit will be returned to the original level immediately after the event expenses have been posted and the monthly billing date has passed.

Lost/Stolen Cards

A lost or stolen Card or charge card number shall be reported as soon as the Associate discovers it. The risk of unauthorized use of stolen cards and accounts is greatest in the first few hours after the theft. Please notify the Chief Executive Officer and Kiana Brown immediately. If after business hours, please notify First National Bank to close the Card.

Expense Reporting

Expenses directly related to Organization business are reimbursed by the Organization based on submission of a properly completed Expense Report or, for Board members, other appropriate expense documentation. Detailed instructions are [here](#). In addition, the following safeguards are in place to ensure assets are properly used in a manner consistent with the Organization's mission and vision, and in compliance with external regulatory requirements and internal fiscal control policies and procedures:

All expenditure information must be appropriately documented and coded on the Expense Report. Receipts supporting the reported expenses must be attached for all purchases on the Card over \$50. All out-of-pocket expenditures not charged on the Card must have an appropriate original receipt, in order for the expense to be reimbursed.

Receipts must show the itemized detail of what was purchased. Restaurant tear tabs or receipts that include only the total and tip are not acceptable.

All receipts for business expenses regardless of the receipt submission requirements must include the name of the vendor, location, date and dollar amount.

Out-of-pocket expenses not submitted for reimbursement within **sixty (60) days** from the date the expense was incurred **will not be reimbursed**.

All team member Expense Reports require their manager's approval.

All Expense Reports and expense documentation are reviewed by the Finance Department for accuracy, appropriate authorizations, proper budget coding, appropriate supporting documentation, and general reasonability.

Concur reports are to be submitted weekly, on Fridays, using Concur, if charges have been incurred. All expense reports and Card transactions are subject to audit. Random audits, using electronic audit programs, will be performed.

Concur reports that are incorrect or incomplete will be returned to the Preparer for corrective action and may result in delay or non-reimbursement of specific items.

Disregard for Organization policy or falsifying expense reports can result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Corporate Travel

Air Travel

All air travel should be booked at least 1 month in advance, and earlier if possible.

Reservations: If traveling by air, reservations should be made as far in advance as possible in order to secure possible discounts. Travelers are expected to book the lowest-priced, non-stop coach class airfare available. Generally, only coach class airfare will be reimbursed, exceptions include one class above coach for international and domestic travel if in-flight time is over 6 hours.

Fees charged to reserve airline seats in the front of the aircraft or emergency row seats will not be reimbursed.

Cancellations, Voided, Unused or Stolen Tickets: Contact the travel management provider immediately for any cancellations. If travel plans change, unused airline tickets or credit slips must be used for future business-related travel.

Baggage: The Organization will reimburse baggage fees up to two checked bags (within normal weight limits). Baggage is the responsibility of the Traveler and the transportation service provider. The Organization will not reimburse the traveler for personal items lost while traveling on business. Always carry laptop computers, cameras, etc. on board the aircraft. When possible, carry important and/or confidential documents on board the aircraft.

Airport Parking: Travelers are encouraged to utilize the most cost-effective airport parking options, while considering safety, at the airport when traveling for business. Mileage and

parking will be reimbursed for transportation to and from the airport when using a personal vehicle (see Personal Car Usage for details on mileage reimbursement).

Car Service: For trips longer than three (3) days, a taxi or car service may be used if the cost is substantially the same as or less than driving a personal vehicle.

Lodging

- Reservations: Travelers should reserve hotel rooms through the travel management provider, and are expected to stay in reasonably priced hotels typical of the area and in reasonably close proximity to the business or function attending. Business needs rarely justify the use of suites or luxury accommodations, and any excessive room rate expense will not be reimbursed. Expense for a suite or luxury accommodation will be presumed excessive unless approved by the Chief Executive Officer in advance.
- Use of rooms: The Organization presumes that rooms will be used for the Traveler's reasonable comfort, rather than socializing, while fulfilling the Organization's business purposes.
- Conferences: If attending a conference or seminar, the sponsoring organization may have reserved a block of rooms in a designated hotel at a discounted price. Travelers should take advantage of these lower rates.

Personal expenses incurred will not be reimbursed, including laundry, movies, toiletries, in-room alcoholic beverages or other mini-bar charges.

Ground Transportation

Car Rental

Best Practice: Rental cars should be used a minimum of one time per day to justify the rental expense. When circumstances require car rental, a mid-size, intermediate, or full-size car is considered reasonable, unless more room is required to accommodate several passengers.

Authorized Drivers: Only associates are covered under the Organization's insurance plan for rental vehicles. Drivers other than an associate must either be covered under their own insurance or purchase insurance from the rental agency.

Rental Car Insurance: For team members, insurance add-ons such as Collision Damage Waiver or

Personal Accident Insurance for vehicles rented for domestic business travel should be declined as the Organization's automobile liability policy²⁰ covers the use of rented vehicles by team members for business purposes. When traveling internationally, insurance add-ons for vehicles rented should be accepted as the Organization's automobile liability policy does not cover the use of rented vehicles outside of the United States.

²⁰ If you need to show proof of this insurance to the rental car agencies you can pick up an insurance card from Finance.

Rental Car Fuel: Travelers should refuel the rental car prior to returning the car to the rental car counter.

Taxi or Other Local Transportation

The cost of taxis to and from places of business, hotels, or airports in connection with business activities is reimbursable. Taxis should be chosen only when more economical services (hotel vans, shuttles, etc.) are not available. Travelers are encouraged to use public transportation when feasible.

Non-Reimbursable Ground Transportation Expenses

The Organization will not reimburse travelers for items such as, but not limited to, satellite radio, car repairs, tickets, fines, and traffic violations.

Personal Car Usage

Frequent use of personal vehicles for business is not encouraged. It is the personal responsibility of the owner of a vehicle being used for Organization business to carry adequate insurance coverage for their protection and for the protection of any passengers.

Travelers should drive a car to their destination when:

- Driving is more cost-effective than air travel;
- Distance to the destination is less than 120 miles;
- Travel time by car is less than two hours, or less than the total elapsed time for air travel.

Travelers should rent a car if the cost of the rental would be less than the personal mileage reimbursement to the traveler.

Mileage Reimbursement: Miles driven in a personal vehicle for Organization business will be reimbursed at the IRS standard rate established annually. For team members, the allowable mileage for reimbursement is determined based on actual mileage in excess of the roundtrip mileage between their home and the school.

Meals

Personal meals are defined as food and beverage expenses incurred by the Traveler when on an out of town business trip. Expenses for personal meals vary greatly depending on the destination and choice of dining establishment. Travelers are expected to use their best judgment in incurring reasonable costs regarding this expense. Finance will use [governmental per diem rates](#) as a guideline to determine whether this expense is excessive.

Business meals are defined as meals taken with guests or other team members, during which a specific business discussion takes place. Travelers will be reimbursed for business meal expenses according to actual and reasonable cost. When more than one Traveler is present at a

business meal, the most senior level team member should pay the bill and submit it on their Expense Report.

Travelers who incur or approve expenses for alcoholic beverages shall exercise prudent judgment to ensure the purpose of the occasion directly supports the Organization's mission and that consumption is at all times in moderation and in no way to the point of impaired judgment or behavior. The

Organization will not cover alcohol expenses for Travelers or others who exceed that threshold nor will it pay for consumption in large quantities (e.g. running a tab) that is not itself a formal event. These provisions are not limited to meals. Alcohol cannot be purchased with public dollars, thus any expense or meal including alcohol must be identified to ensure only other private grant funds are used.

Tips for meals should not exceed 20% of the bill. Any tips considered excessive will not be reimbursed. As a general rule, Travelers shall not tip more than they would on a personal trip.

All business meals require an explanation on the Expense Report stating the business purpose of the meeting, the attendees, and their organizations. Personal meals are only reimbursed for Travelers during business travel.

Telephone/Internet Expenses

While traveling on business, Travelers will be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary: business phone calls, personal telephone calls, and internet access fees. Travelers are encouraged to request a data card from IT prior to traveling to avoid internet access fees.

Spousal Travel

Travel expenses of an accompanying spouse/partner are considered personal expenses, should not be charged against the Card, and will not be reimbursed. In extenuating circumstances, the reimbursement of these travel expenses may be allowed. However, unless certain tax law requirements are met, the expenses attributable to the spouse/partner will be considered additional income reportable on the team members Form W-2 or Form 1099, as applicable.

Team Members Traveling Together

In situations where traveling team members dine together, share a taxi or otherwise incur shared expenses, the most senior level associate should pay for the expenditure and submit it on their Expense Report.

Insurance

Domestic Travel Insurance/Rental Car Insurance

The Organization provides all necessary travel and auto insurance. The insurance coverage offered by the rental car company should be declined since the Organization self-insures the risk. Travelers involved in an accident while on business should contact the Legal Department.

International Travel Insurance

International travel insurance is provided to Travelers who travel to certain foreign countries. This insurance provides coverage for any injury or accident and assistance with returning the Traveler to the United States. In the event a Traveler requires medical attention in a foreign country, a Traveler may use the Card (or personal credit card) to pay for the health care charges. The Traveler should obtain a copy of the medical invoice and provide that invoice to Human Resources upon return to the United States.

Other Non-Reimbursable Expenses

Out of pocket expenses more than 60 days old will not be reimbursed. The following expenses are not reimbursable:

- Air telephone and rental car telephone usage;
- Airfare above coach or discounted fares available when the trip was booked;
- Airline seat reservation fees or emergency row seat fees (Early Bird check in for Southwest Airlines will be reimbursed);
- Airline club memberships or dues;
- Annual fees for personal charge or credit cards;
- Barbers and hairdressers;
- Car washes/car repairs or maintenance;
- Child care;
- Clothing, toiletries and personal items;
- Collision insurance on rental cars;
- Computer supplies (these should be ordered through IT);
- Country club (or other social club) dues;
- Expenses for travel companions/family members;
- Expenses related to vacation or personal days while on a business trip;
- Financial Planning;
- Furniture;
- Golf fees;
- Health club facility fees, saunas, massages, etc.;
- Helicopter services for airport transfers;
- Laundry expenses on trips of short duration;
- Loss/theft of personal funds or property;
- Lost baggage;

- Luggage and brief cases;
- “No show” charges for hotel or car service;
- Non-business related entertainment, such as in-room/in-flight movies, fitness center expenses, site-seeing or tourist expenses, etc.;
- Optional baggage insurance;
- Personal insurance, entertainment, telephone calls in excess of reasonable limit;
- Pet care;
- Postage (non-business related);
- Satellite radio on car rentals;
- Shoeshine;
- Souvenirs/personal gifts;
- Theft of cash/travel advance money or company-paid airline tickets;
- Tobacco products;
- Traffic or parking violations;
- Upgrades on hotel room or rental vehicle;

Any exceptions to the policies above must be approved in advance by an organization officer and accompanied by a written explanation on the expense report.

Those who violate this Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy and its guidelines are subject to appropriate discipline up to and including termination of their relationship/employment with the Organization.

Procurement and Petty Cash

In accordance with Board Policy 3430, School staff shall be prohibited from committing the School to any expenditure or using a credit card to make purchases without prior authorization from the Chief Executive Officer, School Leader, Director of Finance and Operations, or Treasurer.

Procurement Standards

Procurement procedures reflect State and local laws and regulations, conforming to Federal law 2 C.F.R. 200.318 when using federal funds. Procurement procedures will be maintained in written form.

Procurement Overview

Procurement requests must be submitted via the procurement tracker that can be found by clicking this [link](#). Staff must add all relevant details before tagging managers for approval. Managers must then approve and tag their operations team member for ordering.

Procurement Deadlines

Procurement requests must be submitted at least 2 weeks in advance. If submitted less than two weeks prior, procurement cannot be guaranteed.

Conflict of Interest and Gratuity Violation

The School will maintain a contract administration system which ensures contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders. No employee, officer or agent of the grantee or subgrantee shall participate in the selection, or in the award or administration of a contract if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved. The School will not purchase supplies or materials from a staff member of the School, nor from a parent, child or member of the household of the staff member. Neither will the School purchase supplies, materials or services from a member of the Board or from a member of his/her household, or from a firm in which he/she holds a major interest.

The School will review all proposed purchases over \$10,000 to avoid unnecessary or duplicative items, and maintain records sufficient to detail the significant history of procurements. These records will include: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price.

The Board members, officers, and employees of the School may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. The School shall disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the federal or state agency awarding funding all violations of federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the federal funding.

Questions, concerns or complaints regarding procurement may be made to the School's Treasurer or to the ethics hotline maintained by Ethics Point, a third party service provider, at (844) 420-9062. The person to whom the complaint is made will respond within 10 days. Where a School employee or Board member has violated this procurement process or constitutes a gratuity violation, discipline may follow up to and including termination of employee or removal from the Board. The Board will contact law enforcement and file a report or sign a complaint on behalf of the School in situations where a crime may have occurred.

To prevent restriction on competition, procurement transactions will ensure that all solicitations incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description shall not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition, but shall identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.

Required Contract Provisions

As required by 2 C.F.R. 326, certain contract provisions must be included when using federal funds. The required provisions may be found in Addendum A.

Endorsements

Employees of the School will not endorse products or services in such a manner that will identify the employee as an employee of the School.

Solicitation/Distribution

The advertising of sale or distribution of any goods or service on School property, for any School activity, shall have prior approval from the Chief Executive Officer. This includes but is not limited to: School personnel, students, parents/guardians, relatives, general public and commercial businesses.

Solicitations of School Staff

In any purchasing activities all employees shall refrain from soliciting, discourage the offer of, and decline gifts if offered by any vendor wishing to do business with, or who is doing business with the School. Instead of making an offer of gifts, the vendor should be encouraged to discount the price of the goods to the School. Agents, solicitors, and salespersons will be denied the privilege of seeing the School staff during the School day except with permission of the administration.

Procurement Procedures

Definitions:

- Competitive Bidding – A process of obtaining products or services where the School contacts providers or advertises, and interested providers submit quotes, offers, bids or sealed bids from which the School chooses. Competitive bidding may include the solicitation and submission of offers electronically or through a web-based system. The requirement for providers to submit sealed bids is one type of competitive bidding.
- Competitive Negotiation – A process of obtaining a contract for products or services where the School contacts providers or advertises a request for proposals (RFP) detailing the scope, specifications, terms and conditions of the proposed contract and the criteria on which the proposals will be analyzed, then negotiates separately with each responsive provider to award the contract.
- Debarred – Exclusion from state or federal government contracting and subcontracting for products or services.
- Lowest or Best Bid or Offer – The provider with the best product or service based on School criteria that may include price, value, quality of product, history of performance, recommendations and other qualities important to the School.

- Products – All physical property other than real estate including, but not limited to, supplies, books, furniture, machinery and equipment.
- Provider – A vendor of products or an independent contractor providing services to the School.
- Purchase – Obtaining or procuring products or services for the School in exchange for money or anything of value.
- Purchasing Card – A credit card in the School's name on which the School has placed automatic restrictions such as the amount that can be charged per day, where the card may be used or the type of purchases that can be made with the card.
- Quote – A pricing offer by a provider regarding the supply of materials or performance of services subject to specified conditions.
- Services – All providers of labor or professional expertise other than that provided by School employees in the scope of their duties including, but not limited to, services such as construction, auditing, bond underwriting, consulting, janitorial services and food services.

Purchasing Supervision

Director of Finance and Operations will serve as the School's Purchasing Officer or will designate a Purchasing Officer. The School Purchasing Officer will supervise School purchasing and will ensure that purchases are made on behalf of the School that conform to the Board-adopted budget.

General Rules

- 1) All funds received by School staff on behalf of the School shall be deposited in School accounts. All funds deposited with the School, regardless of source, are considered School funds. Any purchases made with these funds must comply with School policies and procedures.
- 2) No contract will be entered into or bill paid without proper documentation and approved spending authority of the staff person handling such responsibilities on behalf of the School.
- 3) Regardless of the purchase method used, the School will select the lowest or best bid or offer unless there is written justification for accepting another offer. The School reserves the right to waive minor technical defects in a bid, reject any and all bids, reject any part of a bid, advertise for new bids, or make the purchase on the open market if the product or service can be obtained at a better price. If the scope of the purchase changes substantially, the School will rebid the product or service unless otherwise provided in this procedure.
- 4) Purchases may only be made through a contract, credit or purchasing card, or through petty cash, when appropriate. In rare circumstances when one of these methods of payment is not available, the School may reimburse an employee for a purchase made

with the employee's personal funds. Employees should contact the Purchasing Officer prior to making a purchase outside the authorized methods to ensure reimbursement.

- 5) All purchases must be attributed to a budget code, and funds must be available in that code prior to making the purchase.
- 6) If the requested expenditure does not fit into a budget code or would go beyond the approved amount in that budget code, the request will be forwarded to the Treasurer for review. If the Treasurer determines that the request is reasonable but will require an amendment to the current budget, the Treasurer will include the request as an agenda item at the next Board meeting.
- 7) All purchases must be appropriately documented consistent with auditing guidelines.
- 8) School staff will provide the School's tax-exempt letter to vendors before making any purchase that may be taxed.

Procurement Methods

School staff will research all purchases and compare prices prior to making decisions regarding the expenditure of School funds. To ensure a diverse pipeline of potential vendors, priority during the research phase will be given to vendors certified as Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and/or Women's Business Enterprise (WBE).

Micro-Purchasing: Employees are expected to utilize the Approved Providers List (see below) maintained by the Purchasing Officer when making a purchasing decision under \$10,000, and the purchase may be awarded without the solicitation of competitive bids.

Small Purchasing: If the estimated expenditure is more than \$10,00 but less than \$250,000, the employee authorized to make the purchase must:

- 1) Notify the Purchasing Officer of the needed purchase. The Purchasing Officer may send electronic notices of the proposed purchase to all providers on the School provider list. The Purchasing Officer may decide to directly conduct or oversee the purchase or allow the authorized employee to conduct the purchase.
- 2) Obtain at least two (2) quotes or offers from providers. The employee may solicit bids, quotes or offers directly from providers and may utilize bids received by fax, telephone, e-mail and catalog comparison.
- 3) If fewer than two (2) providers sell or provide the service or product, document that fact and consult the available provider(s).
- 4) Provide the Purchasing Officer with the proper documentation, including documentation of which provider was chosen and the reasons for selecting that provider.

Competitive Purchasing: If the estimated expenditure is \$250,000 or more, the purchase will be made through competitive negotiation or competitive bidding.

A. Competitive Negotiation:

- 1) Requests for proposals will be advertised on the School's website and solicitations will be mailed or sent by electronic notice to potential providers.
- 2) The School will select the lowest or best offer as determined by the evaluation criteria established in the RFP and any subsequent negotiations. In determining the lowest or best offer, negotiations may be conducted with responsive providers for the purpose of understanding and clarifying the proposal and verifying that the proposal responds to the School's needs. All providers submitting proposals shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for negotiation and subsequent revision of proposals.
- 3) Revisions may be permitted after submission and before award for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers. The Purchasing Officer shall have the right to reject any or all proposals and advertise for new proposals or purchase the required products or services on the open market if they can be obtained at a better price.

B. Competitive Bidding

- 1) The School employee authorized to make the purchase must first notify the Purchasing Officer of the purchasing need. The Purchasing Officer will directly conduct or oversee the purchase.
- 2) The Purchasing Officer may also solicit sealed bids directly from providers.
- 3) It is the provider's responsibility to ensure that bids are received no later than the appointed date and hour. Late bids will not be considered and will be returned unopened to the bidder.
- 4) The Purchasing Officer or designee will publicly open all bids received and will maintain all documentation of the purchase, including which provider was chosen and the reasons for selecting that provider.
- 5) If after having received bids in accordance with this procedure the Purchasing Officer finds the same product or service at a lower cost through a catalog or an online vendor that did not submit a bid, the Purchasing Officer may advise the Chief Executive Officer to reject all sealed bids and purchase through the catalog or online vendor, unless formal or sealed bidding is required by law.
- 6) Except as prohibited by law, the School may change the scope of the purchase and accept a provider's offer without rebidding the purchase when bids received are unreasonable, have unacceptable terms and conditions, are noncompetitive, or when the low bid exceeds available funds. The Purchasing Officer must first determine in writing that time or other circumstances will not permit the delay required to resolicit competitive bids. Each responsive bidder who submitted a bid under the original solicitation must be notified of the change and given a reasonable opportunity to modify his or her bid and submit a best and final bid. In cases where the bids received are noncompetitive or the low bid exceeds available funds, the ultimate amount agreed upon must be lower than the lowest rejected bid of any responsive bidder under the original solicitation

Exceptions to the Regular Competitive Purchasing Process

1) Single Source or Unique Circumstance Purchases

The Purchasing Officer may waive the requirement of competitive proposals when he or she determines in writing that there is only a single feasible source for the purchase. Immediately upon discovering that other feasible sources exist, the Purchasing Officer shall rescind the waiver and proceed to procure the products or services through the competitive process as described in this procedure. A single feasible source exists in any of the following circumstances:

- Products or services are proprietary and only available from the manufacturer or a single distributor.
- Based on past procurement experience, it is determined that only one distributor services the region in which the products or services are needed.
- Purchases are available at a discount from a single distributor for a limited period of time, and the discount is significant based on the current market price and/or the last price paid for the product or service.
- Specific parts or authorized maintenance must be utilized to maintain validity of a warranty.
- The services of a particular provider are unique, such as speakers on a particular topic or authors.

2) Approved Providers

In some circumstances where products and services are routinely needed, the Purchasing Officer may competitively negotiate for the product or service for use throughout the school year, based on past usage of the product or service. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to, the purchase of textbooks, office supplies or other maintenance services. The Purchasing Officer will use the single source purchasing process for unique products or services. Once a provider has been approved, School employees may purchase the designated products or services from the approved providers without additional competitive bidding.

Before designating approved providers, the Purchasing Officer will first determine that the School will receive quality products and services from the providers at a reasonable cost to the School. The Purchasing Officer will review and re-designate approved providers annually to ensure that the prices of the products and services provided remain competitive. Textbook providers will only be designated as approved providers if all statutory requirements are met. Approved providers may be designated at any time.

3) Cooperative Purchasing

Cooperative purchasing should be utilized when it is determined to be to the financial advantage of the School. Before joining a cooperative purchasing program, the Purchasing Officer will conduct an analysis to determine whether the cooperative purchasing program will

result in a cost savings to the School based on the School's history of expenditures. This analysis will be conducted on an annual basis to determine whether the School should continue to participate in the program.

4) Real Estate Brokers and Other Real Estate Services

In situations where the School will discuss or make decisions regarding the lease, purchase or sale of real estate in closed session as allowed by law, the School is not required to publicly advertise and seek sealed bids for the services of a licensed real estate broker or other services incident to the sale, regardless of the ultimate cost of the service provided. Instead, the Purchasing Officer will contact at least two (2) service providers to obtain bids or quotes for services and make a recommendation to the Board, or the School may contract with a real estate broker or other service provider that has previously provided services to the School. This exception does not apply to services required to be publicly bid by law, such as construction services, or other services for which there is a specified selection process in law or policy, such as architectural, engineering and land surveying services.

5) Emergency Situations

Unless prohibited by law, the Chief Executive Officer may waive the requirement of competitive bids or proposals when he or she determines that there exists a threat to life, property, public health, or public safety or when immediate expenditure is necessary in order to protect against further loss of or damage to property, or to prevent or minimize serious disruption in services. If an employee utilizes this exception, he or she will contact the School's Purchasing Officer and the Chief Executive Officer immediately to explain the situation. Emergency purchases shall be made with as much competition as is practical under the circumstances, which may include calling known providers to obtain a quote or e-mailing vendors on the provider list and requiring an immediate response. Emergency purchases will only be utilized to purchase those products or services that are necessary to alleviate the emergency.

Legal Compliance

In addition to the bidding requirements of this procedure, the School will comply with all laws with respect to acquiring products and services including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) The School must competitively bid auditing services and select an auditor who meets the qualifications set by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). See 5 C.S.R. 30-4.030.
- 2) The selection of food service management companies will be made in accordance with bidding requirements in state and federal law. See 7 C.F.R. § 210.16; 5 C.S.R. § 30-680.010.
- 3) When purchasing services using federal E-Rate Funds, the School will comply with federal law detailing the competitive bidding process. See 47 C.F.R. § 54.503.
- 4) Transactions with School Board members or employees, or businesses they own, will only be conducted as required by law and Board policy. See RSMo §§ 105.454, .458.

Criminal Background and Family Care Safety Registry Checks

No contracted workers or service providers will be employed until the School obtains a clear criminal record check as required by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and a clear check of the Child Abuse/Neglect Registry maintained by the Missouri Department of Social Services. The administration may also conduct random background checks after employment.

Provider Lists

The Purchasing Officer or designee will maintain lists of providers interested in receiving electronic notices of proposed School purchases. Any provider may request to be added to the list. It is the provider's responsibility to update contact information. The Purchasing Officer will not include providers who have been suspended or debarred at the state or federal level, and the Purchasing Officer will remove providers when the School discovers that the provider has been suspended or debarred. The Purchasing Officer may remove providers from the provider list if they have not submitted a bid or proposal in more than one year or have proven to be unreliable or unqualified. The Purchasing Officer will attempt to notify removed vendors using the last known e-mail address.

Debarred or Suspended Providers

The School will not do business with providers who have been suspended or debarred on a state or federal level, unless the Chief Executive Officer authorizes the transaction and provides the Board written justification. If the School is currently under contract with a provider who becomes suspended or debarred, the School will comply with all legal obligations to the provider, but will not do business with the provider in the future until the provider is no longer suspended or debarred or the superintendent approves the purchase in writing. The Purchasing Officer will monitor the state and federal information regarding suspension and debarment and will immediately notify staff members if a provider with whom the School regularly does business is suspended or debarred. Before making purchasing decisions, School staff will consult the Purchasing Officer for confirmation that the desired provider is in good standing. An employee may make a written request to the Treasurer to purchase from a suspended or debarred provider if the provider is a single-source provider or there are other extenuating circumstances. The written request must include the specific reasons the School should continue to do business with the provider.

Petty Cash

A petty cash fund is a small amount of money (\$300.00 or less) that is managed by an administrator in order to purchase small amounts of supplies or cover unanticipated small

expenses, such as materials or refreshments for emergency meetings or unexpected guests. The petty cash fund may have been obtained with a requisition to the School Finance Office, raised by a P.T.O., or from a student or community fund-raising event. The designated administrator is accountable for this fund. Funds collected in excess of \$100.00 must be processed immediately for proper deposit and are not to be held at a school site.

The petty cash fund must be used for school purposes (purchase of emergency supplies) and must be documented with receipts. If an administrator accrues out-of-pocket expenses, a requisition for reimbursement should be submitted on a monthly basis with back-up information and receipts.

Teachers may not make petty cash purchases without the prior approval of an administrator.

Petty cash should not be used as a shortcut to obtain supplies except in an emergency or in cases where very small items make it impractical to order through channels.

Payroll Deductions

Accurate & Timely Payroll

The Director of Operations shall ensure that school employees are paid accurately and timely in accordance with applicable laws and rules.

School employees shall be paid:

- In United States currency;
- By a written instrument (e.g. check) issued by the employer that is negotiable on demand at full face value for United State currency; or
- By the electronic transfer of funds to the employee's bank pursuant to a direct deposit agreement signed by the employee.

Paydays

- Exempt Employees. The paydays for exempt employees shall be on the 15th and final day of the month.
- Non-exempt Employees. The paydays for non-exempt employees shall be on 15th and final day of the month.

Withholding of Wages

The Director of Operations shall ensure that the wages of school employees are not withheld except in the following situations as permitted by applicable laws and rules.

- The school is ordered to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- The school is authorized to do so by state or federal law; or
- The school has written authorization from the employee to deduct part of the wages for a lawful purpose.

Teachers Retirement System

As prescribed by Statute, all teachers at KCGPA shall be members of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System and subject to its requirements. The Board shall expend for teacher retirement and compensation for instructional staff an amount that reflects the requirements as outlined in Missouri State Statute and Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regulation.

Early Resignation

Given the time, expense, and challenges in replacing a staff member outside of the annual hiring cycle, which oftentimes is difficult to fully quantify, team members who resign prior to

fulfilling their 24-25 commitment to KCGPA will be subject to the following assessment of liquidated damages:

- Resignation notification after April 1, 2023 will result in \$1,000 in liquidated damages
- Resignation notification after May 1, 2023 will result in \$1,500 in liquidated damages
- Resignation notification after June 1, 2023 will result in \$2,000 in liquidated damages

Exceptions for All Team Members

Liquidated damages will not be assessed in the event of a team member's or immediate family member's serious health condition. For the purposes of this policy, a "serious health condition" is defined as any illness, injury, impairment or physical or mental condition that involves either an overnight stay in a medical care facility, or continuing treatment by a healthcare provider for a condition that either prevents the Team Member from performing the functions of the Team Member's job, or prevents the qualified family member from participating in school or other daily activities. Documentation of the serious health condition is required.

Exceptions for Teachers

Liquidated damages will not be assessed for teachers whose grade and/or content assignment is substantially changed after March 31, 2023. A substantial change includes teaching a new grade or content area. A substantial change does not include changing a teacher's intervention group assignment, their bell schedule (e.g. teaching period 1 instead of period 2), or similar changes.

Exceptions for Non-Teaching Roles

Given the wide range of responsibilities covered by non-teaching roles, team members in non-teaching roles who have a substantial change in job responsibilities may request in writing that liquidated damages not be assessed. This written request must be submitted to the manager, School Leader, and the CEO a minimum of 10 business days prior to the date of resignation. The early resignation fee may be waived only with CEO approval.

Appendix A: KCGPA Team Member Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

- 1) I have received and read, understand, and agree to abide by [KCGPA’s Team Member Conflict of Interest Policy](#).

- 2) Please answer yes or no: To the best of my knowledge, there are circumstances involving me, or a member of my family, that are or may be perceived as a conflict or potential conflict of interest within the meaning of the Policy, including affiliations such as relationships with grantees or potential grantees, contractors, or others with whom KCGPA does or is likely to do business. _____

- 3) If answering yes to #2, please complete the following:

Organization Name	Person with Conflict	Relation to Team Member	Nature of Affiliation

Team Member’s Signature

Team Member’s Name (Printed)

Date

Appendix B: KCGPA Personnel Policies Acknowledgement of Receipt

I have on my computer or in my possession a copy of the [KCGPA Team Handbook](#).

My signature below indicates that I have received this information and understand it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained in this handbook and any revisions made to it.

This handbook contains statements of KCGPA's current philosophies, policies and guidelines regarding the treatment of and actions by our team members. These philosophies and guidelines do not in any way constitute a contract. Nothing in this handbook (or in the specific benefits, philosophies or procedures referred to in this handbook) enhances employment rights or establishes any specific duration of employment. Employment is at-will and may be terminated by either the team member or KCGPA at any time.

Team Member's Signature

Team Member's Name (Printed)

Date