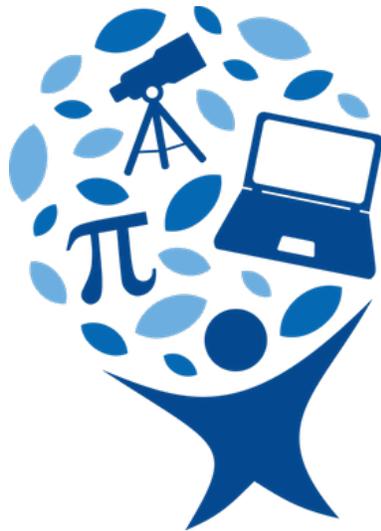


MaST Community Charter School



Family Handbook

Grades K through 12
2014 - 2015

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THE CONTENT OF THIS HANDBOOK HAS BEEN WRITTEN IN STRAIGHTFORWARD, SIMPLE LANGUAGE. IF A PERSON DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS HANDBOOK, HE OR SHE SHOULD ASK THE CEO OF THE SCHOOL FOR AN EXPLANATION. THE SCHOOL WILL ARRANGE FOR AN INTERPRETER FOR PARENTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY. IF A PARENT IS DEAF OR BLIND OR HAS NO WRITTEN LANGUAGE, THE SCHOOL WILL ARRANGE FOR COMMUNICATION OF THIS NOTICE IN THE MODE NORMALLY USED BY THE PARENT (E.G., SIGN LANGUAGE, BRAILLE, OR ORAL COMMUNICATION). IF A STUDENT HAS A DISABILITY, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL'S ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS AND RIGHTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.

Math, Science & Technology Community Charter School
1800 E. Byberry Road
Philadelphia, PA19116
Telephone: 267-348-1100 Fax: 267-348-1217
<http://mastccs.org>
School #111 (for emergency closings)

Introduction

This handbook has been prepared to answer some of the questions most frequently asked about the organization and the operation of MaST Community Charter School. It is by no means exhaustive, but includes academic, social, and general information helpful to each student and parent. We expect students and parents to familiarize themselves with and adhere to the rules and regulations contained in this handbook.

The administration solicits parent and student support and assistance in making our programs more responsive to the needs of all. Parents are welcome to visit the school and become better acquainted with the staff members and the programs we are providing for our students. In addition, parents are encouraged to volunteer time, services and/or resources to the school community.

MaST Community Charter School is a dynamic institution, constantly changing to meet more effectively the needs of its students. Cooperatively, we shall meet the needs of our present and future students with quality programs. We urge our students to take advantage of the opportunities available at MaST Community Charter School.

Welcome to MaST Community Charter School

On behalf of the Board, administration, faculty, and staff, we would like to welcome you. We are a community of people who, together, can create a school environment that will foster an atmosphere of respect and caring conducive to learning. The academic programs are extensive and challenging. You can choose to participate in many different and exciting extracurricular activities. Your contributions to this “mix” will be through your exemplary conduct and your committed and thoughtful involvement in all that we offer. You can only enrich your school experience the more you become involved.

Please review this handbook carefully. It contains essential information about our programs, policies, and procedures. Some policies are currently under review by the Board of Trustees and may result in further policy changes.

Our goal is to work with you so that every student has a successful experience at MaST Community Charter School. We strive to help all students become productive and responsible members of our learning community now and our society in the future. Please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns that you might have. We look forward to working with you this year.

John F. Swoyer, III
Chief Executive Officer

Karen DelGuercio
President, Board of Trustees

Philosophy

MaST Community Charter School is a comprehensive school that emphasizes intellectual curiosity, academic accomplishments, personal growth, good citizenship, and healthy and industrious living. A MaST Community Charter School education prepares students to function in and contribute to our society and to continue learning throughout their lives.

The staff, students, and parents of the MaST community share responsibility in the educational process. The staff is dedicated to high expectations for students, while acknowledging the students' diverse backgrounds, distinct capacities, and varied interests. Students must commit themselves to learning, to appropriate educational standards, and self-discipline. Parents will provide support so that their children can achieve their educational goals. By promoting an atmosphere conducive to and supportive of individual attainment and maturation, the staff challenges the students to maximize their potential.

MaST Community Charter School encourages self-development, fosters cooperation with the group, and promotes life-long learning. The individual should continually determine and assess personal values and goals in the context of society's values and expectations. It is the responsibility of MaST Community Charter School to provide the proper curriculum, personnel, facilities, and atmosphere to realize these ends.

Mission

The MaST Community Charter School creates innovative pathways for students pursuing knowledge focused on Mathematics, Science, and Technology.

Goals

The following goals have been established in keeping with the school's philosophy.

Facilities of MaST Community Charter School will provide:

1. An orderly, healthful, and barrier-free environment.
2. A place where students and staff can work, study, and participate in school-sponsored activities.

Staff of MaST Community Charter School:

1. Will enunciate expectations and encourage students to fully develop their individual gifts and talents.
2. Are committed to high expectations for all students.
3. As adult role models, are professionals and student oriented.
4. Recognize diverse socio-economic backgrounds and abilities.
5. Are an integral component in the design and implementation of curriculum and other issues.
6. Are provided opportunities for professional growth.
7. Are provided parental and community support to foster educational programs.
8. Will treat parents as partners in the children's education.

Curriculum of MaST Community Charter School will provide:

1. A program of skill development and mastery in all subject areas suited to the students' needs and abilities, as well as opportunities to participate in rigorous and challenging academic programs.
2. Opportunities for appropriate intellectual, artistic, and practical challenge.
3. Encouragement of student attitudes which enhance the pleasure of learning.
4. A diversity of teaching methods and materials, providing a stimulating learning atmosphere with the necessary flexibility to meet individual student needs.
5. Activities which expand the basic curriculum: social, athletic, and artistic programs and events; field trips, career and educational seminars; contact with community resources; opportunities for participation in school and community service programs; and linkages to colleges and universities.

Parents of MaST Community Charter School will:

1. Jointly plan, with faculty and administration, toward common academic and civic goals.
2. Participate as part of the school community at all levels, from participating in management teams and serving as exhibition mentors to supporting classroom work at home.
3. Work with staff, teachers, and educators to support the most positive educational experience possible for all students.
4. Honor the terms of the parent compact.

Community of the MaST Community Charter School expects reciprocity between the school and community it serves. Our relationship with the community will include:

1. Respect for and attention to values and expectations of the community.
2. Opportunities for the contributions of the interested community members to school activities.
3. Involvement in public relations through the news media and community organizations.
4. Awareness of community resources relevant to our students.

Board of Trustees

Karen DelGuercio, President (kdelguercio@mastccs.org)

William Nolan, Vice President (wnolan@mastccs.org)

Linda Ringer Deas, Co-Vice President (lringerdeas@mastccs.org)

Mark Spector, Treasurer (mspector@mastccs.org)

Glenn Devitt (gdevitt@mastccs.org)

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Kathy Mulray (kmulray@mastccs.org)

Kelly Rahill (krahill@mastccs.org)

Tamara Robinson (trobinson@mastccs.org)

Parents are encouraged to attend monthly Board of Trustees meetings. Meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. at MaST Community Charter School, in the Board Conference Room in the Library/Media Center, 1st Floor, 1800 E. Byberry Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116 as follows:

Board of Trustees

Meeting Schedule – 2014/15

Wednesday, July 16, 2014 (if needed)

Wednesday, August 20, 2014

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Saturday, October 4, 2014 (9:00 a.m.)

Wednesday, October 15, 2014

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Wednesday, January 21, 2014

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Wednesday, July 15, 2015 (if needed)

Wednesday, August 19, 2015

***Math, Science & Technology Community Charter School
2014/15 Calendar***

Staff Development	Monday, August 25, 2014 and Tuesday, August 26, 2014
Kindergarten Parent Orientation	Monday, August 25, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.
First Day of School (Grades 1 through 12)	Wednesday, August 27, 2014
Kindergarten Open House (A to L)	Wednesday, August 27, 2014 – 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
Kindergarten Open House (M to Z)	Wednesday, August 27, 2014 – 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Kindergarten (Half Day – M to Z)	Thursday, August 28, 2014 – 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Kindergarten (Half Day – A to L)	Thursday, August 28, 2014 – 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
First Full Day of School (Kindergarten)	Friday, August 29, 2014
Parent Conferences (Grades 1 to 12)	Monday, November 10, 2014 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
School Lottery	Tuesday, February 17, 2015
Staff Development	Saturday, February 28, 2015
Staff Development	Saturday, March 7, 2015
Parent Conferences (Grades K to 12)	Thursday, April 9, 2015 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

MaST Community Charter School will be closed on the following days during the 2014/15 school year:

Labor Day	Monday, September 1, 2014
Rosh Hashanah	Thursday, September 25, 2014 Friday, September 26, 2014
Columbus Day (Staff Development)	Monday, October 13, 2014
Parent Conferences (Grades 1 to 12) /	Monday, November 10, 2014 (PM) – 1-3pm/ 5-7pm
Staff Development	Monday, November 10, 2014 (AM)
Veterans' Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2014
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 27, 2014 and Friday, November 28, 2014
Winter Recess	Wednesday, December 24, 2014 through Friday, January 2, 2015
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 19, 2015
Presidents' Day	Monday, February 16, 2015
Spring Break	Thursday, April 2, 2015 (possible snow- make up) Friday, April 3, 2015 Monday, April 6, 2015
	Memorial Day Friday, May 22, 2015 (possible snow make- up day)
	Monday, May 25, 2015
Last Day for Kindergarten	Thursday, June 11, 2015 (tentative)
Last Day for Students (Grades 1 to 12)	Friday, June 12, 2015 (tentative)
High School Graduation Exercises	Friday, June 12, 2015 (tentative) Possible Snow Make up Monday, June 15, 2015 through Friday June 19, 2015

- For Kindergarten, the school day will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 2:00p.m. Half-day early dismissals will be at 11:50 a.m.
- For grades 1 through 8, the school day will begin at 8:15 a.m. and end at 2:55 p.m. Half-day early dismissal will be at 12:00 p.m. Parent pick-up is at 12:10 p.m.
- For grades 9 through 12, the school day will begin at 7:40 a.m. and end at 2:19 p.m. Regular half-day early dismissals will be at 11:40 a.m. Early dismissals for exams will be at 12:00 p.m.

MaST Community Charter School will have half-day early dismissals on the following days:

Wednesday, November 26, 2014 (Grades K to 12)

Grades 9 to 12 – 11:40 a.m.
 Grades 1 to 8 Bus Dismissal – 12:00 p.m.
 Kindergarten and Siblings – 11:50 a.m.
 Parent Pick-Up – 12:10 p.m.

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Grades 9 to 12 – 11:40 a.m.
 Grades 1 to 8 Bus Dismissal – 12:00 p.m.
 Kindergarten and Siblings – 11:50 a.m.
 Parent Pick-Up – 12:10 p.m.

Wednesday, April 1, 2015 (tentative)

Grades 9 to 12 – 11:40 a.m.
 Grades 1 to 8 Bus Dismissal – 12:00 p.m.
 Kindergarten and Siblings – 11:50 a.m.
 Parent Pick-Up – 12:10 p.m.

Thursday, June 11, 2015

Grades 9 to 12-11:40 a.m.
 Grades 1 to 8 Bus Dismissal-12:00 p.m.
 Parent Pick-Up-12:10 p.m.

Friday, June 12, 2015

Grades 9 to 12-11:40 p.m.
 Grades 1 to 8-Bus Dismissal-12:00 p.m.
 Parent Pick-Up-12:10 p.m.

Thursday, January 22, 2015 – (final exams) – 12:00 p.m. dismissal (grades 9 through 12 only)

Friday, January 23, 2015– (final exams) – 12:00 p.m. dismissal (grades 9 through 12 only)

Monday, November 10, 2014 (Parent Conferences for Grades 1-12),

Thursday, April 9, 2015 (Parent Conferences for Grades 1-12)

Thursday, June 4, 2015 – (final exams) – 12:00 p.m. dismissal (grades 9 through 12 only)

Friday, June 5, 2015 – (final exams) – 12:00 p.m. dismissal (grades 9 through 12 only)

MaST's Grading Policy Grades 1-12

The MaST community believes in world-class standards, instruction, and assessment. Our grading policy reflects these high expectations, as well as honors the process and product of students' efforts and achievements. The grading scale is as follows:

98-100	A+
93-97	A
90-92	A-
88-89	B+
83-87	B
80-82	B-
78-79	C+
73-77	C
70-72	C-
0-69	F

Online High School Courses/Non-Accredited Courses/Recovery Courses

Pass	P
Fail	F

Specialist Grading Scale -- Grades K to 8

Pass	P
Fail	F

Kindergarten

O	Outstanding
S	Satisfactory
D	Developing
N	Needs Improvement

Grades 1 through 6 – Behaviors and Skills

O	Outstanding
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement

Where applicable, special education students will be graded according to their IEPs.

Graduation Project

In accordance with Pennsylvania Curriculum Regulations, in order to graduate from high school, a student shall complete a culminating project. The Graduation Project is intended to assure that students are able to apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and communicate significant knowledge and understanding. Graduation project shall be presented within a Technology Elective.

Honors

To receive first honors on a report card, a student must have an average of between 90 to 100 in every subject. To receive second honors, a student must have an average of between 85 to 89 in every subject.

*Honors, Pre-AP, and AP courses are weighted as follows:

83-87 -Second Honors

88-100 -First Honors

Late arrivals and early dismissals remove students from eligibility for perfect attendance awards at the conclusion of the school year.

Guidelines for Computation of Grade Point Averages for Grades 9 through 12

In recognition of varied course requirements, grade point averages shall be weighted to reflect this variation as follows:

Pre AP Courses	1.15
AP Courses	1.2
Colleges Courses (2 and 4 year institutions)	1.5

Students may not receive duplicate credit for the same course. If a student withdraws from an AP class, a “W” (withdrawn) remains on the student’s transcript.

Ranking and Honors for Seniors

Latin Honors – In lieu of ranking, students will receive special academic distinction upon completion of credit requirements. Students who receive a final Grade Point Average of 3.9 or higher will receive Summa Cum Laude recognition. Students receiving a final GPA between 3.61 and 3.89 will be classified as Magna Cum Laude. Those students with a GPA between 3.4 and 3.6 will be classified as Cum Laude.

The Mathematics, Science and Technology Community Charter School does not officially rank. Numerical calculations upon transcripts can only be provided with administrative approval.

Retention

Elementary/Middle School – Students who are failing two or more core subjects (math, language arts, social studies and/or science) will be retained in that grade. Teachers are required to notify the parent/guardian when the student is identified as in danger of failing.

High School – Students who are failing three subjects at the conclusion of the school year will be retained in that current grade’s homeroom for the upcoming year. Teachers are required to notify the parent/guardian when the student is identified as in danger of failing.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is the act of using another person’s ideas or expressions in your writing without acknowledging the source. Plagiarism, (or intellectual theft) includes “the reproduction, in whole or essential part, of a literary, artistic, or musical work by one who falsely claims to be its creator.” *Encyclopedia Americana*, 2003. “The unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one’s own original work.” *Dictionary.com*

Some examples might include but are not limited to:

- Downloading a paper from a “paper-mill”
- Submitting another student’s work
- Copying a portion of another’s work without citing it
- Copying material, supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotes or indents
- Paraphrasing ideas without documentation

Plagiarism is regarded as a very serious offense. Many institutions of higher education expel students found guilty of plagiarism. In our effort to educate all MaST students about the issue of academic dishonesty and to prepare our students for the future, we have established the following guidelines:

Rules and Procedures

When plagiarism takes place in an academic setting, it is most often handled by the individual teacher and administrator involved. The following procedures and consequences have been established for handling issues related to plagiarism at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

VIOLATION PROCEDURE PENALTY

Violation	Procedure	Penalty
First Offense	Teacher notes the plagiarism and contacts the parent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “0” credit for the assignment • Document plagiarism offense • Teacher contacts Parent
Second Offense	The teacher notes the plagiarism and refers the student to the Principal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “0” credit for the assignment • Report in discipline file • Principal/Parent Conference
Third Offense	Teacher reports incident. Principal immediately notifies parents in order to conduct meeting with parent, principal, school psychologist and guidance counselor. Also, possible expulsion from course may be considered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student is referred to counselor who will ultimately recommend training and courses in Ethics • Student is withdrawn, FAILING this class.

In order to deter and detect plagiarism, students may be requested to submit assignments to a plagiarism detection website or the teacher may conduct an internet search relevant to the paper.

Cheating

Cheating is defined to be the copying of someone’s work and representing it as your own, allowing someone to copy work, or taking a test, quiz or exam in a dishonest way. Students caught cheating on a test, quiz, midyear or final exam, term paper, book report, etc. will receive a zero for their part in that activity.

Attendance Guidelines

MaST Community Charter School is committed to supporting all students in gaining the skills and knowledge they need to be successful. In order to accomplish this goal, all students are expected to attend school daily. Each day a student misses is a lost day of valuable instruction. Even a few days absent can cause a student to fall behind in schoolwork.

The following are recognized as legitimate reasons for an excused absence:

1. Illness, health condition, or physical injury
2. Recovery from accident.
3. Mandated quarantine.
4. Required court attendance.
5. Religious observations
6. Family emergency
7. Death in family
8. Hazardous travel and severe weather conditions as determined by the charter school.
9. Pre-approved family educational trips.
10. Seniors and juniors will be permitted one (2) day absence per year for the purpose of college visitations providing they have notified the guidance counselor, have received

advance permission from the CEO or designee, and have provided written verification from the parent/guardian.

Absence Notification

If your child is ill and unable to attend school, please call the school no later than 8:00 AM. Parents/guardians must include the following information:

1. Student's name
2. Student's homeroom/teacher
3. Reason for absence
4. Name and relationship of caller
5. Phone number where caller can be reached for verification

Categories of Absences

There are three (3) categories of absences at MaST Community Charter School:

“Excused” Absences: MaST may excuse the absences of students under certain circumstances with original documentation. Those circumstances are for illness, emergency (non-routine) doctors' appointments, court subpoenas, or funeral notices only. (Routine medical and dental appointments should be made outside of school hours.) Students who are involved with the Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) or are required to leave school for the purposes of attending court hearings related to their involvement with these agencies will also be excused.

“Unexcused” Absences: Parents/guardians and students are to submit a written explanation of the reason(s) for an absence within three calendar days of the absence. If they provide a written excuse within three days of the absence, the absence is counted simply as “Unexcused.”

“Unlawful” Absences: All absences are treated as unlawful until MaST Community Charter School receives a written explanation of the reason(s) for an absence. If parents/guardians and students fail to provide a written explanation within three days of the absence, the absence is permanently counted as “Unlawful.”

If a student is absent from school for three (3) or more school days without a valid excuse, MaST Community Charter School is required to report the student's absence to his/her district of residence for truancy proceedings. All absences beyond ten cumulative days requires an excuse from a physician.

If a student is absent with or without notification to the school, a phone call may be made to the parent/guardian via our automated phone system.

Health Care

Upon receiving a written note from parent/guardian, the CEO may excuse a student during school hours for the purpose of obtaining professional health care or therapy service only if the following requirements are met:

- The health care provider or therapeutic services are rendered by a Commonwealth licensed practitioner in accordance with the Public School Code.
- It is not possible for the student to receive the services outside of school hours.
- The time of necessary absence from school involves a minimum interference with the pupil’s regular program of studies.
- The student must make up all schoolwork from this absence.

Requests for Family Vacations

In order to promote a consistent educational process throughout the school year, parents/guardians should **not** schedule family vacations during the school year. If it is imperative that a vacation must be taken, please note the following:

Notify the CEO or designee, in writing, at least two weeks in advance if a student is to be taken out of school.

- Time lost will count toward the total number of cumulative absences of the student.
- Absences taken during mid-terms, finals, and standardized testing are strongly discouraged.
- Students absent because of a family vacation are accountable for all work missed.

Consequences for Excessive Absences and Tardies

Every parent or guardian of a school-age child is responsible for the child’s attendance at school. Failure for a child to attend school has certain legal consequences for parents and, possibly, for the student. In Pennsylvania, truancy is defined as when a child of compulsory school age is absent from school for three (3) or more days without a valid excuse meaning three or more “Unlawful” absences. If a child is found to be habitually truant, his or her parent or guardian can be referred to truancy court.

Occurrences/Year	Absences
3 consecutive	Homeroom teacher phone call
5 cumulative	Excessive absence notification
8 cumulative unexcused	Truancy Elimination Plan and/or Student Assistance Team Referral
10 cumulative	Letter: Notice that physician notes are required and further absences are considered unlawful.
12 cumulative	Meeting with the Attendance Officer
15 cumulative	Informal Truancy Hearing with Board Subcommittee
20 cumulative absences	2nd Informal Truancy Hearing with Board Subcommittee

In addition to the procedures outlined in the table, a student with 15 or more cumulative absence may be subject to any or all of the following consequences:

- Attendance probation for the remainder of the school year
- Exclusion or suspension from participation in extra-curricular activities
- Exclusion or suspension from participating in school sponsored activities (athletic teams, dances, trips, etc.)
- Hearing before the Discipline Committee of the Board of Trustees
- Student Assistance Program (SAP).
- Referred to Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Referred for prosecution under the Compulsory School Attendance Law.

All decisions made by the Committee of the Board of Trustees shall be communicated in writing.

Students with 10 consecutive days of unexcused absence may be removed from enrollment at MaST. Students who are under 17 years of age are still subject to the compulsory school attendance law and should register with their school district of residence.

A child terminated from enrollment at MaST for unexcused absences may re-enroll at MaST under the discretion of the school administration in communication with a committee of the Board of Trustees.

Lateness

The Board of Trustees and the administration of MaST Community Charter School believe that arriving on time for school establishes a pattern that students will carry with them throughout their educational career and beyond.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that this example is set for their child by making sure that he/she is on time for school each day. Parents and students who drive to school must take into consideration the heavy traffic conditions that surround MaST and plan their drive to school accordingly.

In the event that your child is late for school, the student must report immediately to the front desk in the lobby and receive a pass to enter their classroom. Students in grades 1 through 8 who travel on school district of residence provided school buses will **not** be marked late if the school bus arrives late to MaST.

Transportation is not provided by MaST for students in grades 9 through 12. These students are required to arrive at school on time. The tripper buses are provided by SEPTA as a courtesy to MaST. If the tripper bus does not stop for your child or is too crowded to pick up your child, this is not an excuse for the non-attendance of your child at school. It is the responsibility of both the parent/guardian and the child to see that he/she gets to school.

Excessive Lateness

Parents/guardians may receive a message via our automated phone system each time your child is late to school without a valid excuse. Excessive lateness to school (without a valid doctor's note) may result in the following:

- After-school detention (high school)
- Parent/guardian notification letter (K to 12)
- Meeting with the Principal, Attendance Officer, Disciplinarian or Counselor.
- In-school suspension.
- Referred to a committee of the Board of Trustees and subject to consequences the Code of Student Conduct.

Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

See Appendix 1 attached.

Attendance Officer

The MaST Community Charter School Attendance Officer will be monitoring student absences. This individual will **make home visits**, if the administration believes there is a need for contact due to excessive absences.

Early Dismissal

Special dismissal of students during the school day will be granted only by the Chief Executive Officer or authorized representatives. Whenever possible, all appointments and activities should be scheduled after-school hours. If someone other than the child's parent/guardian is picking up the child for an early dismissal, said parent/guardian must obtain prior approval for this arrangement. Only students 16 years or older may leave the building alone for an early dismissal; however, students must present a written note from the parent/guardian authorizing the early dismissal. When requesting an early dismissal parents must:

- Send a note in with your child at least twenty-four hours in advance.
- Report to the front entrance of the building to sign your child out of the school with proper identification.
- Report to the office to sign your child back in to school.

Early dismissals will not be approved beyond 1:30 p.m. Minors may not be signed out of school by other minors, including siblings.

Inclement Weather

Our school closing number is 111. MaST Community Charter School will close on the same days as the School District of Philadelphia due to inclement weather or other citywide emergency. In the event of bad weather, please listen to KYW News Radio, NBC Channel 10 TV, WPVI Channel 6, and KYW Channel 3 for information. If the School District of Philadelphia announces an early closing, MaST will also close early.

In addition, MaST Community Charter School utilizes a SMA marketing platform called TextMarks that allows us to notify parents via a text message within minutes of any emergency situation at our school, including school closings and delayed openings. In order to subscribe to receive messages, please text **MASTCCS** to **41411**.

Two-Hour Delay

If MaST is identified as a school following a two-hour delay, kindergarten students will begin the school day at 10:30 a.m. Grades 1 to 8 will begin the school day at 10:15 a.m., and, and grades 9 to 12 will begin the school day at 9:40 a.m. Students will not be granted entry into the school building until 9:00 a.m.

For children riding the yellow buses to school (grades 1 to 8) -If we are following a two-hour delay and your child's normal pick-up time is 7:00 a.m., the pick-up time would then change to 9:00 a.m.

Health Office

Our school's nurse handles a variety of student medical concerns each day as well as maintaining medical records on each student. Please inform the nurse of any special health problems. When the school nurse is not in school, the Chief Executive Officer or designee may administer medication under the guidelines established by the Pennsylvania Health Services Commission.

If a child becomes ill during the school day, s/he will be given immediate attention. You will be called if your child is too ill to return to class. Please advise your child that s/he cannot personally call home if they feel ill but must go to the nurse's office.

Children are not to bring any kind of medication or to self-administer any kind of medication. Should the occasion arise that a student must take medication during the school day, the medication must be prescribed by a physician and arrangements must be made through the nurse's office. The physician must send written orders which include: diagnosis, dosage, and the time to be given during the school day. All medications and prescriptions are to be brought in their original bottles to the nurse and kept in the health office. Over-the-counter drugs – including cough medicine, aspirin, etc. – must also be accompanied by a doctor's note. If the need arises that you must administer the medication to your child personally during the school day, please go directly to the nurse's office. Your child will be called to receive his/her medication. Medication cannot be dispensed at any location other than the nurse's office unless an emergency exists. Asthma inhalers may be self administered, if the student has provided the nurse with a note from the doctor approving self-administration. However, the nurse must be notified immediately by the student when a student has self-administered asthma medication. MaST Community Charter School follows the CDC recommendations regarding infectious diseases.

Homework

It is recognized that all learning cannot be accomplished within the limited amount of time allotted for classroom instruction; therefore, homework is routinely assigned to students. As the word implies, homework is to be completed outside the regular class period.

Teachers are required to give homework on a regular basis. Teachers are also responsible for checking for completion and accuracy of the given assignments. Feedback should be given to the student. If a teacher feels that a student has repeatedly neglected homework assignments or receives an unsatisfactory homework grade, he/she may be assigned an In-Service School Day¹ with the approval of their respective principal.

Students' daily homework assignments will be posted by teachers on their school eChalk page which can be accessed by going to the MaST website, <http://www.mastccs.org> and clicking on teacher pages on the left menu. You can then search down for the student's teacher and click on the link to take you to the updated page. Teachers are required to update their eChalk page weekly.

¹ Student will be required to attend school on a day when school is not in regular session.

The Role of the Student – The student has the responsibility to:

1. Be responsible for having a copy of the assignments and making sure assignments are clearly understood.
2. Take home necessary texts and materials.
3. Complete assignments neatly and on time.
4. Note any questions about homework to be asked in the next class.
5. Return assignments and books to school when due.

The Role of the Parent – The school encourages the parent to:

1. Provide a quiet place for the student to study.
2. Encourage the student to study at a regular time in the afternoon and/or evening.
3. Check the student's assignments each evening and sign, if needed.
4. Encourage independence in completion of the assignments.
6. Review and sign tests, where applicable.

Make-Up Work

Students are required and expected to make up assignments, assessments, and projects missed, when absent or otherwise not in school. Students have a number of days equal to the number of days absent to complete the missed assignments, assessments, and/or projects. If a student has been absent for an extended period, s/he should request the assistance of his/her teacher in creating a schedule to complete the missed work.

Anti-Bullying Policy

The Board of Trustees of MaST adopted an Anti-Bullying Policy at its meeting of November 19, 2008 and amended the policy on August 20, 2014. The Anti-Bullying Policy is attached as Appendix 2.

Extra Curricular Policies

See Appendix 3.

School Bus Behavior (Grades 1 through 8)

Students in grades 1 through 8 are expected to follow the Bus Riders' Rules and Regulations that have been distributed to all students. Students who do not comply with the rules and regulations will incur consequences as indicated. (See Bus Riders' Rules and Regulations, Appendix 4.)

Students must ride home on their regularly assigned bus route. Requests to have students ride home on a bus route other than their own will not be granted.

For your information, a person who enters a school bus without prior authorization of the driver with intent to commit a crime or disrupt or interfere with the driver or a person who enters a school bus without prior authorization of the driver who refuses to disembark, after being ordered to do so by the driver, commits a misdemeanor of the third-degree. This is a criminal offense under 18 Pa.C.S.A. §5517. If a person is found guilty of illegally boarding a school bus, they are subject to a fine and imprisonment. Drivers can bring charges against parents or parents of children who violate this law.

Student Parking

There will be no student parking on the school premises for the entire 2014/15 school year. Any student who parks in the school parking lot or garage will have his/her vehicle towed at their expense. However, there will be parking available at the Fellowship Bible Church on Worthington Road (at Lindenhurst Rd.). Any high school student who would like to use the school van service or off-site parking must apply for and be issued a pass. Students without a pass will be denied entry to the school van. All students taking the school van should arrive no later than 7:20 a.m. at the church parking lot. The school vans will not return to pick up students who have arrived late to the off-site pick up location. Any student who does not arrive to the off-site location on time is prohibited from walking on the CSX Railroad bridge on Byberry Road, at any time, when travelling to and from school. Students who are late for the school van may not park in the school parking lot or parking garage. It is the parent's responsibility to see that the student gets to school safely. Lateness will not be excused.

Railroad Bridge on Byberry Road

Students are prohibited from using the CSX railroad bridge on Byberry Road, at any time, when walking to and/or from MaST Community Charter School.

Emergency Drills

Students will participate in emergency drills at least twice monthly throughout the school year, except in December, January, and February, when one drill is required. These drills are to prepare students and staff for any emergency that may ensue requiring the building to be evacuated.

Opening Exercises

Pupils attending MaST, on every school day, will be asked to salute the United States flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, which salute and Pledge of Allegiance shall be rendered with the right hand over the heart.

If a student has conscientious objections which interfere with full participation in the flag salute or Pledge of Allegiance, the student shall maintain a respectful attitude throughout the ceremony.

Parent/Teacher Communications

Parent/Teacher communication is vital to the educational success and experience of your child. Together we form a team that focuses on your child's needs, concerns, and growth. We invite you to participate in the process by your inquiries. We will also communicate with you through the following:

- Scheduled parent/teacher conferences
- Report Cards
- Newsletters
- Notes or telephone calls to parents
- Board meetings
- E-mail/Web Domain (<http://mastccs.org>) and voice-mail boxes

Please do not hesitate to contact the school or classroom teacher with questions you may have.

Association of MaST Parents (“AMP”)

Mission Statement: The mission of the Association of MaST Parents is to support MaST Community Charter School in partnership with the CEO and Board of Trustees.

The Purpose of the AMP shall be:

- (a) To work collaboratively with the CEO and The Board of Trustees
- (b) To raise monies through activities coordinated and approved by the CEO and/or the MaST Board of Trustees
- (c) To sponsor special school activities at the request of the CEO and/or the MaST Board of Trustees

Parents/guardians can apply for vacancies on the 21-member Council and are interviewed by a committee of the Board of Trustees and the CEO. All parents/guardians are part of the general membership and encouraged to attend these open monthly meetings and participate on committees. Meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Please check the web site for dates.

Parent Liaison Committee (“PLC”)

The MaST Parent Liaison Committee (PLC) is a collaborative parent and administration committee that addresses general concerns raised by MaST parents/guardians, discusses solutions, and pursues productive responses to matters, which influence the overall educational experience of our children. The PLC serves as a link connecting parents and school administration and works to strengthen the communication within the MaST school community. The Parent Liaison Committee hosts quarterly Parent Q&A Forums at 6:30 PM in the LGI and invites parents/guardians to attend, offer ideas and ask questions. The PLC is comprised of nine parent representatives and is organized into three teams that reflect the school divisions: Elementary (Kindergarten through 4th grade), Middle School (5th through 8th grades) and High School (grades 9 through 12) with three parent representatives assigned to serve each school division.

Parents and guardians can send parent liaison messages through the MaST web site via e-mail: liaison@mastccs.org.

PLC members will also be available at select MaST events and programs to help in person. Parent liaisons wear MaST PLC photo ID badges to easily identify themselves to parents/guardians.

Parent Volunteer Hours

Parents/guardians are an important part of our school community. The participation and commitment of our families helps to make MaST Community Charter School a rich and wonderful learning environment for our students. In addition to volunteering in your child’s classroom, the Association of MaST Parents (“AMP”) provides opportunities for parents/guardians to achieve their 20 hours per family of suggested volunteer commitment to the school through social events, fundraising events and sales, and the school store. Volunteer opportunity information is sent home and/or can be accessed on the AMP link of the school’s website.

Parents/Visitors/Volunteers

In order to maintain safety for all of our students, and to protect valuable instructional time, **all visitors must report directly to the front desk in the main lobby and provide a non-driver’s/driver’s license, or military ID for RAPTOR background search.** The administrator has the right to refuse admission to the school for those who fail to make advance arrangements or whose presence conflicts with other school activities. Parents/Visitors/Volunteers shall not go directly to classrooms or interrupt staff members in the performance of duties. All visitors must sign in and out of the building and carry a visitor’s pass or identification badge. Visitors are prohibited from carrying weapons into the school building. Only on-duty law enforcement officers are permitted to carry their weapons in the building. **Please note:** If the school is in a lockdown procedure or a drill, parents are **not** permitted in the school and communication will be done through the text alert system and email alerts, as well as website posting.

MaST Community Charter School NHS Selection Criteria

Any student in grades 11 and 12 in a school with both an official charter of the National Honor Society and an affiliation with the NASSP Department of Student Activities is eligible for consideration for membership in the National Honor Society. All membership selection is handled through the local school chapter.

NHS is more than just an honor roll. The MaST Charter National Honor Society establishes rules for membership that are based upon a student's outstanding performance in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. These four criteria for selection form the foundation upon which the organization and its activities are built.

- **Scholarship:** Students who have a cumulative grade point average of 90 percent or higher with no final failing grades meet the scholarship requirement for membership. These students are then eligible for consideration on the basis of service, leadership, and character.
- **Service:** This quality is defined through the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit. A minimum of ten hours of community service is required for induction into the MaST Charter National Honor Society.
- **Leadership:** Student leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem solvers, promoters of school activities, idea contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences can be drawn from school or community activities while working with or for others. Students who meet the academic criteria for acceptance to the MaST Charter National Honor Society will be provided with leadership/character reference checklists to be completed by three teachers.
- **Character:** The student of good character upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others and generally maintains a good and clean lifestyle. Students must have no suspensions in order to meet acceptance criteria.

Graduation and Promotion Requirements

The Board of Trustees shall award a high school diploma to every student who meets the requirements for graduation. Such requirements shall include the successful completion of courses of study for a four-year high school approved by the Board of Trustees and which meet the standards set by Commonwealth laws and regulations. All students without IEPs and 504 accommodations must achieve proficient in the PSSA/Keystone test or its equivalent in order to graduate and earn a high school diploma. (See Graduation Requirements, Appendix 5).

A student who has completed the requirements for graduation may not be denied a diploma for disciplinary purposes but may be denied participation in graduation ceremonies upon the decision of the Chief Executive Officer.

All students in grades 3-12 must achieve basic or better in PSSA/Keystone or its equivalent in order to participate in extra-curricular activities.² Students failing to meet these criteria may participate providing they:

- Participate in a mandatory support/remediation program and
- Submit a weekly report to the sponsor/coach certifying that the student has performed passing work in all classes.

Project-Based Assessments

As per the PA Department of Education

“Students who are unable to meet Chapter 4 requirements relating to high school graduation requirements through the **Keystone Exam** may qualify to complete a project based assessment.”

In compliance with the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s graduation requirements, all MaST students in the graduating classes of 2017 and beyond must score proficient or advanced in the state-administered Keystone tests. These tests include Biology, Literature, and Algebra I. Students who have not passed the Keystone tests may qualify for the state’s Project-Based Assessment. Students who pass the Project-Based Assessment are eligible for graduation. The Project-Based Assessment will be offered during the second semester of 11th Grade for all eligible students who have not passed the Keystone tests.

Telephone Usage

The school telephones are not available for students’ use, unless it is an emergency as determined by the school. Forgetting notes or assignments are not emergencies. Our goal is to help the students develop more responsibility for gathering the necessary daily materials required prior to coming to school. Students will not be interrupted from their classrooms to receive telephone calls. **Messages will be given in emergency situations only.**

Cell Phones/iPods/Other Electronic Devices

Students may only use cell phones during lunch and non-instructional times; otherwise, a student’s cell phone/iPod is to be turned off. Any student using a cell phone/iPod during school hours other than during lunch and non-instructional times will have it confiscated. A first offense will result in a demerit/detention and the device will be returned at the end of the day. For each additional offense, parents/guardians must pick up the confiscated cell phone/iPod. Further, for each offense beyond the second, students will serve a suspension. MaST Community Charter School will not assume responsibility for the loss or theft of cell phones/iPods.

² Academic clubs, Math 24, Astronomy, and Yearbook are exempt.

Textbooks

All textbooks must be covered. No adhesive covers, such as contact paper, may be used directly on textbooks. Parents and students are responsible to pay for damaged and lost books.

Class Trips/Activities

Teachers who have planned and will be chaperoning trips have the ability to deny students the right to attend trips for cause and with administrative approval, and are responsible for informing the parents/guardians of the denial with an in-person meeting.

Corridor and Stairway Use

Students who are in the corridors during class periods must have an Agenda Planner. Students are asked to follow directions in using the corridors and stairways. Please keep to the right in order to facilitate the movement of traffic.

ID Cards

ID Cards will be issued to all students and must be worn in plain sight by the student at all times including all school-related activities. Students must produce the ID card upon request. If lost, a replacement must be obtained from the office at a cost of \$5.00 per lost card.

Dress Code

A student will always be neat, clean, and well groomed. All parts of the uniform must be clean, pressed, and in good repair. Uniforms must be worn to school and students must leave school in uniform – this includes shoes. A student's hair color should not be disruptive to the school environment. MaST students must adhere to the uniform policy that requires the following standards:

Shirts

Grades K-4: Powder blue golf shirt with navy blue MaST logo.

Grades 5-8: Gray golf shirt with MaST logo.

Grades 9-12: Navy blue golf shirt with white MaST logo.

Golf shirts may be long or short sleeve. All shirts must fit the student, not be undersized or oversized, and will be worn tucked inside pants or skirts. No underclothing will be allowed to show. Navy blue sweaters or any black, white, blue or gray sweatshirt with the MaST logo, are acceptable during the colder months.

Pants

The only acceptable pants are khaki slacks and khaki walking shorts. Khaki skirts, skorts, and jumpers are also acceptable for the girls. They should be no shorter than 3" above the knee. They must fit the student, not be undersized or oversized. Pants will be worn at the waist with a brown leather belt. Cuffs will not be bunched at the ankles. Fad pants such as capri and cargo pants are not acceptable. Leggings and jeans are also unacceptable. Jeans and other pants cannot be worn under the khaki pants.

Shoes

Any brown, black, or tan shoe with a back and hard sole is acceptable. “Heelies”, Timberland or similar boots, slippers, slipper moccasins, flip-flops, high tops, and Uggs are not acceptable. White and/or cream shoes are also not acceptable. Any shoe stripes, logos, laces, and soles must be brown, black, or tan. Dress sneakers are acceptable.

Jewelry

Earrings are permitted but should be of appropriate size – no larger than the size of a quarter. Other visible piercings including, but not limited to, nose, eyebrows, lips, or chin are not permitted. Clear inserts to maintain a piercing are acceptable, but should not be visible or draw attention. Also, key chains hanging from a pocket and heavy neck chains are not permitted.

Purses

Students are permitted to carry a purse during school hours. The purse must be no larger than 8½ by 11 inches. Purses may not advertise or be decorated with derogatory or inappropriate messages or images.

Lockers

Each student is assigned a locker and s/he is responsible for that locker only. Any student tampering with a locker other than his/her own is subject to serious disciplinary action. A student is never permitted to trade lockers or locks with another student, nor is s/he permitted to occupy an unused locker. Lockers may be used before the first class in the morning, the first five minutes of the lunch period, and after the student’s last class. Unfortunately, lockers are not absolutely safe and the following suggestions should be heeded:

- Valuable items should not be stored in them;
- Students should not give combinations to other students, no matter how good the friend;
- Make sure the locker doors are completely shut and the lock is secured; and
- Jackets and coats should be marked discreetly so they can be identified.

Only school locks will be permitted on lockers. Because the lockers are located in classroom corridors, students should be careful about the noise made while at their lockers. Lockers are the property of the school and may be inspected at any time by proper school authority. The cost to replace a lock is \$5.00. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen property.

Search and Seizure

All lockers are and shall remain the property of MaST Community Charter School. Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers or cabinets closed and locked against incursion by other students, but no student may use a locker as a depository for illegal or dangerous substances or objects which is prohibited by the Code of Conduct or substances or objects which constitute a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the student body or pose a threat to the building itself.

MaST Community Charter School is committed to maintaining a safe and educational environment for its students. To that end, school employees may, in the appropriate circumstances, legally search a student, a student’s personal belongings, a student’s automobile

parked on school property, or a student's desk or locker. School authorities may seize any illegal materials. These materials may be used as evidence against a student in disciplinary proceedings.

Searches of students and their belongings must be justified at their inception by reasonable suspicion that policy or law has been violated or is being violated and that evidence of the violation will be disclosed by the search.

The CEO and the Principals are authorized, under circumstances justifying such a search, to require students to submit to a search of their general belongings, including but not limited to: clothing, handbags, wallets, lockers, and desks. Such searches shall be conducted with an appropriate witness, who may be the parent or staff member, and must not be conducted without reasonable suspicion. Clothing searches will be made by persons who are the same gender as the student who is being searched. Except in an emergency, other employees of the school shall not conduct student searches.

Students who do not cooperate with any employee who is conducting a search in accordance with these guidelines and any applicable laws and regulations shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the school.

Anything found in the course of a search, which is evidence of a violation of this behavior code, may be:

1. Seized and admitted as evidence in any suspension or expulsion proceeding;
2. Destroyed if it has no significant value;
3. Turned over to the parent of the student from whom it was seized; or
4. Turned over to a law enforcement office.

Cafeteria

Students will be permitted to choose the table at which they will sit. However, if students do not act responsibly, seats will be assigned. Every student is responsible to clean-up after him/herself and put the trash in the cans provided. Food and drink may only be consumed in the cafeteria. It is never to be taken to the classroom area of the building without permission of the teacher.

Classrooms and Common Spaces

Students are responsible for the cleanliness of all classrooms and in particular their homerooms. This includes picking up trash, wiping the desks, and any other duties as deemed necessary by the teacher. In addition, students should take responsibility for ensuring the cleanliness of all areas, helping to maintain our clean, healthy environment. MaST Community Charter School is asbestos free.

Right to Know Policy

MaST Community Charter School adheres to the state and federal guidelines concerning Right to Know as outlined in the MaST Community Charter School Policy and Procedures Manual. The Chief Executive Officer of MaST Community Charter School has been designated as the Right to Know Officer.

Wellness Policy

The Board of Trustees of MaST Community Charter School adopted The Wellness Policy as required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education, Division of Food and Nutrition. The Wellness Policy is attached as Appendix 6.

Code of Conduct

The following Code of Conduct for MaST Community Charter School has been developed by the Board, administration, parents, and faculty in order to secure the safety and well-being of the entire school community. MaST is committed to creating an environment conducive to learning, where respect for fellow community members is paramount. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and responsible fashion during school and at all school functions. Further, when the student is dressed in the MaST uniform, s/he is considered to be a representative of MaST to the greater community and is, therefore, accountable to the Code. In addition to the list of possible consequences listed, restitution may be required for any violation at the discretion of the administration.

Policy Statement

The Board of Trustees of MaST has the authority to make reasonable and necessary rules governing the conduct of students in school. The Board of Trustees of MaST is committed to creating a safe and positive learning environment wherein students recognize their rights and responsibilities, as well as those of other students, teacher, parents, administrators, and members of the school community.

Purpose

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the rights and responsibilities of student and parent members of the school community, the standards for acceptable conduct of students, and the consequences for failure to meet those standards. In doing so, the Board of Trustees seeks to provide a safe environment in which students can learn and thrive individually and as members of a larger community.

MaST complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws in providing equal opportunity to all MaST students. Consistent with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (43 Pa. § §951 – 963), a student may not be denied access to a free and full public education, nor may a student be subject to disciplinary action due to race, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

Scope of Code of Student Conduct

The Code of Student Conduct applies to conduct of the MaST students that occurs:

- On school grounds at any time;
- Off school grounds at any school-related activity, function or event;
- Off school grounds when the conduct may reasonably be expected to (i) undermine school authority; (ii) endanger the safety of students, teachers, administrators or any other member of the school community; (iii) or disrupt the school; and
- While traveling to and from school on school buses or vans, regardless of the school or district of ownership, or on public transportation.

Responsibilities of Students

General:

Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work and homework, and conformance to school rules and regulations. Most of all, students are responsible to share with the administration and faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.

No student has the right to interfere with the education of fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of teachers, students, administrators, and all others who are involved in the educational process.

Students should express their ideas and opinions in a respectful manner and in accordance with Federal and state laws.

It is the responsibility of the students to conform to the following:

- (1) Be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accordance with them. Students should assume that, until a rule is waived, altered or repealed in writing, it is in effect.
- (2) Volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.
- (3) Dress and groom to meet standards of safety and health and not cause substantial disruption to the educational process.
- (4) Assist the school staff in operating a safe school for the students enrolled therein.
- (5) Comply with Commonwealth and local laws.
- (6) Exercise proper care when using public facilities and equipment.
- (7) Attend school daily and be on time to all classes and other school functions.
- (8) Make up work when absent from school.
- (9) Pursue and attempt to satisfactorily complete the courses of study prescribed by local school authorities.
- (10) Report accurately in student media.
- (11) Not use obscene language in student media or on school premises.

MaST has the right to impose consequences for acts or behaviors that are not specifically delineated within this Code, if those acts or behaviors threaten the health, safety and/or welfare of members of the school community, or if those acts or behaviors disrupt the learning environment.

The Disciplinarian will oversee all discipline problems.

Disciplinary Interventions

Prior to application of disciplinary measures, teachers, parents, and students are expected to engage in direct communication and avoid, if possible, the need for punitive measures. When a student fails to respond to non-punitive measures, disciplinary action may be required.

In all cases, the disciplinary action is intended to gain the attention of the student and discourage future misbehaviors. It should be noted that consistent with the Parent/Student Compact, repeated behavior requiring disciplinary measures may result in action being initiated to effect expulsion from MaST.

Level One -- DETENTION – High school students may receive detentions by faculty and staff members, depending on severity or other circumstances surrounding an event. If an after-school detention is assigned, parents are responsible for making arrangements to pick up the student at the end of the detention. Detention will be held on Fridays from 6:45-7:30 a.m. and after school from 2:20-3:05 p.m. (Detention times)

Level One -- DEMERIT – Middle school students may receive demerits from faculty and staff members, depending on severity or other circumstances surrounding an event. The demerit will be completed by the issuer. The student will be given one copy while the Disciplinarian will receive the other. The teacher/staff member who issued the demerit must contact the parent/guardian of the student informing them of the infraction.

Level Two -- SUSPENSION – In all cases, the school administration will review the incident and consider circumstances, severity, premeditation, etc. If circumstances warrant, the student may be liable for expulsion. There will be both in-school and at-home suspensions. After a student has completed an at-home suspension, a parent must accompany the student to school to reinstate the student and/or to accompany the student for the day's classes. The following is a list of violations that will result in suspension and possible expulsions. Exceptions for students with disabilities will be reflected in the individualized education plans (IEPs) for each student.

One to Three Day Suspensions – One to three day suspensions will result given any of the following behaviors but not exclusive to the list below:

- Repeated failure to follow school or class rules
- Causing injury to another student
- Repeated defiant refusals
- Repeated use of vulgar/offensive language or behavior
- Theft of property

- Making verbal and/or physical threats
- Excessive disrespect directed toward staff
- Inappropriate contact/commentary/drawings
- Counterfeiting
- Vandalism
- Graffiti
- Look-alike weapons (at the discretion of the principal)
- Accumulation of 10 demerits/detentions – one day suspension
- Accumulation of 20 demerits/detentions – two day suspension
- Accumulation of 30 demerits/detentions – three day suspension
- Accumulation of demerits/detentions beyond 30 may result in an immediate suspension for each offense thereafter.
- Smoking or possession of tobacco products (including lighters and matches)
- Leaving school property without permission
- Intentional damage or misuse of school property or equipment
- Violations of the school’s Acceptable Use Policy for Computers and the Internet (Note: The student will also be suspended from Internet access.)
- Violation of the Dress Code
- Truancy, lateness or cutting
- Fighting (any fight will result in a meeting with the Discipline Committee of the Board of Trustees)
- Bullying and intimidation
- Tampering with fire extinguishers
- Use of prohibited electronic devices such as inappropriate items, which include but are not limited to:

- Handheld electronic games
- Cell phones
- Games
- Electronic devices
- Personal listening devices (iPods, MP3 players, etc.)
- Laser pointers
- Radios
- Walkie-talkies
- Toys
- Any other device deemed disruptive by administration

The device will be confiscated by a school staff member and the parent must make arrangements to pick up the device at the school.

*Any student who accrues two suspensions or more may be subject to the mandates of a disciplinary/behavior plan. In addition, those students may be referred to the Student Assistance Program (SAP) or assigned a mentor. Any student who earns three suspensions will meet with the Discipline Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Level Three -- INFRACTIONS – The following actions may result in a suspension exceeding three days and can include referral to the Board of Trustees for expulsion. In addition to suspension, the student may be required to make restitution and the school may also pursue police involvement as appropriate.

- Disturbing or damaging other establishments or schools
- Theft during school hours or while engaged in a school sponsored activity
- Forgery
- Violence/fighting or bullying
- Assault/battery
- Any harassment/intimidation

All students shall have the right to a work and learning environment that is free of intimidation, harassment, and hostility. The forms of prohibited harassment may include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Verbal harassment, such as derogatory comments, jokes, slurs or threats;
- B. Physical harassment, such as unnecessary or offensive touching or impeding or blocking movement; and
- C. Visual harassment, such as derogatory or offensive posters, cards, cartoons, graffiti, drawings, gestures or symbols.
- D. Sexual harassment, such as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Habitual offenders of Level III infractions may be referred to the Board of Trustees for an expulsion or referred for educational placement in an alternate location. Habitual offenders may be defined as:

- Students who have exceeded five (5) to ten (10) days of suspension during the current school year for a specific infraction.
- Students who have exceeded five (5) separate suspensions during the current school year for any combination of Level III infractions.
- Students who have been suspended for chronic school or classroom disruptions

The MaST Alternate Education Placement will serve students with habitual Level III infractions, criminal offenses, and/or any serious offense(s) that have been determined by the administration to justify this placement. Camelot Schools of Pennsylvania, LLC (“Camelot LLC”) will serve as MaST’s Alternate Placement Program.

Any student referred to the Alternate Placement Program shall be placed in the program for a minimum duration of a quarterly marking period and the remaining duration of the student’s current marking period unless otherwise specified by school administration.

All MaST attendance regulations are in effect at the MaST Alternate Education Placement as in MaST Community Charter School. Students who arrive late to the Alternate Education Program may be subject to detention, home schooling, or dismissal from the Alternate Education Program.

Student progress and success in academics, attendance, and behavior will be reviewed regularly but not less than quarterly.

The MaST Alternate Education Program is required to meet the rules and regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and federal and state regulations regarding students with disabilities. When appropriate, a student may be assigned to this program as a result of the discipline process, or, separately, as a result of an IEP team decision ratified through a Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP). If at any time school administration believes the Alternate Education Program no longer meets a student's individual needs, an IEP meeting should be called and further interventions and supports should be developed consistent with MaST policy and procedure.

- Substance Abuse

The Board of Trustees recognizes that substance abuse and the misuse of alcohol are serious social problems that have far-reaching implications for both the user and the entire community. The Board is committed to the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse and accepts the responsibility for instructing pupils in the nature of these substances.

The consumption, possession, concealment, purchase, sale, distribution, aiding, abetting or assisting in possession of any substance* on school property, during school functions, trips, and activities sponsored by the Board, or upon school transportation vehicles at any time is prohibited, as well as the use of any substances prior to participation in activities listed in the above. In addition, MaST reserves the right to test any student who is under the influence or believed to be under the influence of a substance. Further, MaST may test students in any of the venues listed above.

*Definition: For the purpose of this policy, "Substance" shall mean alcohol, alcoholic beverages, unauthorized prescription or non prescription medications, controlled substances as defined by the Act of April 14, 1972, (P.L. No. 64), known as "The Controlled Substance Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act," drugs, narcotics, hallucinogens, steroids, growth hormones, amphetamines, barbiturates, opiates, marijuana, inhalant, or any other intoxicant or any chemical compound which releases vapors or fumes causing a condition of intoxication, inebriation, excitement, stupefaction or dulling of the brain or nervous system including, but not limited to, glue containing a solvent having the property of releasing toxic vapors or fumes. No violation of this rule will occur where the student is specifically allowed to possess such drug or inhaler by the student's

physician, upon receipt of documentation from the student's physician and approval by the school nurse.

Any student who accrues three or more incidents of suspension may be subject to exclusion from extra-curricular clubs, school-wide activities (dances, trips, field days, etc.) and/or athletic teams/clubs.

Level Four -- EXPULSION – Level IV infractions include prohibited behaviors during school, school-sponsored activities on and off school property, and while students travel to and from school by charter school, School District of Philadelphia, or suburban school district transportation.

Level IV infractions include but are not limited to the following types of behavior and may result in expulsion or an alternate placement.

- Arson
- Possession of a weapon as defined in Section 1317.2 of the Public School Code including, but not limited to any firearm, bomb or incendiary device, or unauthorized cutting instrument; or possession of a replica of a weapon and/or look alike objects
- False fire alarms and bomb threats
- Extortion
- Possession and/or use of firearms, weapons, deadly weapons or dangerous instruments on school property, on a school vehicle, at any school function, or while en route to or from any school function
- Assault and/or terrorist threats upon any MaST Community Charter School employee or any other person on school property
- Possession and/or use of a controlled substance
- Sale and/or distribution of controlled substances or alcohol
- Dismissal from the Alternate Education Program due to disinterest, attendance, or unwillingness to participate in the Alternate Education Program
- Any criminal offense substantially interfering with or negatively affecting the health, safety, and/or welfare of the school community
- Any offense of such a serious nature, as determined by the administration and the Board, that expulsion or an alternate education placement is justified

The School and the Law -- It shall be the policy of this school to report all violations of the Code of Student Conduct which are also violations of the law to the Philadelphia Police Department. The School will provide authorities with information related to any crime or any suspicion of criminal behavior.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

MaST Community Charter School shall comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004) and any applicable federal and state statutes or regulations when disciplining students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who engage in inappropriate behavior, disruptive or prohibited activities, and/or conduct injurious to themselves or others shall be disciplined in accordance with their Individual Education Programs (IEP), behavioral intervention plan, Title 22, Chapter 711 and relevant portions of Chapter 12 of the State Board of Education Regulations, IDEA 2004, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and any other applicable federal or state law.

Disciplinary Hearings and Exclusions

Exclusion

Exclusion from school may take the form of suspension or expulsion.

- (1) Suspension is exclusion from school for a period of from 1 to 10 consecutive school days.
 - (a) Suspension may be given by the principal or person in charge of the school.
 - (b) A student may not be suspended until the student has been informed of the reasons for the suspension and given an opportunity to respond. Prior notice of the intended suspension need not be given when it is clear that the health, safety or welfare of the school community is threatened.
 - (c) The parents or guardians shall be notified immediately in writing, when the student is suspended.
 - (d) When the suspension exceeds 3 school days, the student and parent shall be given the opportunity for an informal hearing consistent with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Code.
 - (e) Suspensions may not be made to run consecutively beyond the 10 school day period.
 - (f) Students shall have the responsibility to make up exams and work missed while being disciplined by suspension and shall be permitted to complete these assignments within guidelines established by the governing board.
- (2) Expulsion is exclusion from school by the governing board for a period exceeding 10 school days and may be permanent expulsion from the school rolls. Expulsions require a prior formal hearing pursuant to the Pennsylvania Code.

- (a) During the period prior to the hearing and decision of the board in an expulsion case, the student shall be placed in his normal class except as set forth in subsection (b).
- (b) If it is determined after an informal hearing that a student's presence in his normal class would constitute a threat to the health, safety or welfare of others and it is not possible to hold a formal hearing within the period of a suspension, the student may be excluded from school for more than 10 school days. A student may not be excluded from school for longer than 15 school days without a formal hearing, unless mutually agreed upon by both parties. Any student so excluded shall be provided with alternative education, which may include home study.
- (c) Students who are under 17 years of age are still subject to the compulsory school attendance law even though expelled and shall be provided an education.
 - (i) The initial responsibility for providing the required education rests with the student's parents or guardians, through permanent placement in another school, tutorial or correspondence study, or another educational program approved by the district's superintendent.
 - (ii) Within 30 days of action by the board, the parents or guardian shall submit to the school written evidence that the required education is being provided as described in paragraph (i) or that they are unable to do so. If the parents or guardians are unable to provide the required education, the school entity shall, within 10 days of receipt of the notification, make provision for the student's education. A student with a disability shall be provided educational services as required by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act 2004.
 - (iii) If the approved educational program is not complied with, the school entity may take action in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Charter 63 (relating to the Juvenile Act) to ensure that the child will receive a proper education. See §12.1(b) (relating to free education and attendance).

Exclusions from classes – In-school suspension

- (1) A student may not receive an in-school suspension, unless the student has been informed of the reasons for the suspension and has been given an opportunity to respond before the suspension becomes effective.

- (2) Communication to the parents or guardians shall follow the suspension action taken by the school.
- (3) When the in-school suspension exceed 10 consecutive school days, an informal hearing with the principal or head of school shall be offered to the student and the student's parents or guardians prior to the 11th school day in accordance with the procedures in the Pennsylvania Code.
- (4) The student's school entity has the responsibility to make provisions for the student's education during the period of the in-school suspension.

Hearings

- (1) *General.* Education is a statutory right, and students shall be afforded due process if they are to be excluded from school. In a case involving a possible expulsion, the student is entitled to a formal hearing.
- (2) *Formal hearings.* A formal hearing is required in all expulsion actions. This hearing may be held before the board of an authorized committee of the board, or a qualified hearing examiner appointed by the board. When a committee of the board or a hearing examiner conducts the hearing, a majority vote of the entire board is required to expel a student. The following due process requirements shall be observed with regard to the formal hearing:
 - (a) Notification of the charges shall be sent to the student's parents or guardians by certified mail.
 - (b) At least 3 days' notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given. A copy of the expulsion policy, notice that legal counsel may represent the student, and hearing procedures shall be included with the hearing notice. A student may request the rescheduling of the hearing when the student demonstrates good cause for an extension.
 - (c) The hearing shall be held in private unless the student or parent requests a public hearing.
 - (d) The student may be represented by counsel, at the expense of the parents or guardians, and may have a parent or guardian attend the hearing.
 - (e) The student has the right to be presented with the names of witnesses against the student and copies of the statements and affidavits of those witnesses.
 - (f) The student has the right to request that the witnesses appear in person and answer questions or be cross-examined.

- (g) The student has the right to testify and present witnesses on his own behalf.
 - (h) A written or audio record shall be kept of the hearing. The student is entitled, at the student's expense, to a copy. A copy shall be provided at no cost to a student who is indigent.
 - (i) The proceeding shall be held within 15 school days of the notification of charges, unless mutually agreed to by both parties. A hearing may be delayed for any of the following reasons, in which case the hearing shall be held as soon as reasonably possible:
 - (i) Laboratory reports are needed from law enforcement agencies.
 - (ii) Evaluations or other court or administrative proceedings are pending, due to a student invoking his rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (20 U.S.C.A. §§ 1400-1482).
 - (iii) In cases in juvenile or criminal court involving sexual assault or serious bodily injury, delay is necessary due to the condition or best interest of the victim.
 - (j) Notice of a right to appeal the results of the hearing shall be provided to the student with the expulsion decision.
3. *Informal hearings.* The purpose of the informal hearing is to enable the student to meet with the appropriate school official to explain the circumstances surrounding the event for which the student is being suspended or to show why the student should not be suspended.
- (a) The informal hearing is held to bring forth all relevant information regarding the event for which the student may be suspended and for students, their parents or guardians and school officials to discuss ways by which future offenses might be avoided.
 - (b) The following due process requirements shall be observed in regard to the informal hearing:
 - (i) Notification of the reasons for the suspension shall be given in writing to the parents or guardians and to the student.
 - (ii) Sufficient notice of the time and place of the informal hearing shall be given.

- (iii) A student has the right to question any witnesses present at the hearing.
- (iv) A student has the right to speak and produce witnesses on his own behalf.
- (v) The school entity shall offer to hold the informal hearing within the first 5 days of the suspension.

Child Find

MaST Community Charter School identifies and refers for evaluation students who are thought to be eligible for special education services and need interventions. These screening and referral processes include the initial admissions academic placement tests, standardized reading and mathematics assessments, classroom performance, benchmark examinations, vision and hearing screenings, and the student assistance program known as SAP.

Parents who think their child is eligible for special education may request, at any time, that the school conduct a multi-disciplinary evaluation. Requests for a multi-disciplinary evaluation must be made in writing to the school's Assistant Principal of Special Education. If a parent makes an oral request for a multi-disciplinary evaluation, the school shall provide the parent with a form for that purpose. If the school denies the parents' request for an evaluation, the parents have the right to challenge the denial through an impartial hearing or through voluntary alternative dispute resolution such as mediation.

Whenever a student is referred for a multi-disciplinary team evaluation, MaST Community Charter School must obtain written consent from a parent before the evaluation can be conducted. Parental consent for an evaluation shall not be construed as consent for their child to receive special education and/or related services.

Pennsylvania law requires the publication of a notice to parents sufficient to inform parents of children applying to or already enrolled in MaST Community Charter School of (1) available special education services and programs, (2) how to request those services and programs, and of (3) systematic screening activities that lead to identification, location, and evaluation of children with disabilities enrolled in MaST Community Charter School. Please visit MaST's school website (www.mastccs.org) for the full publication.

Special Education and Student Supports

MaST Community Charter believes that all students can reach their potential. To this end, we have certified special education teachers, instructional assistants, related service providers, counselors, and a school psychologist to provide on-going support to students who have been identified as being in need of special educational services.

MaST Community Charter School is required by the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA) to provide free, appropriate public education to children with disabilities who need special education and related services. Pennsylvania has adopted state laws that conform to the IDEA and which school districts and charter schools must follow. Students are eligible for

special education, assistive technology, and related services if they need specially designed instruction and have one or more of the following physical and/or mental disabilities: autism, deaf-blindness, deafness, emotional disturbance, hearing Impairment, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, speech or language Impairment, specific learning disability, traumatic brain injury, and visual Impairment.

IEP Process

An IEP, or *Individualized Education Plan*, is a written support plan when a student is identified with a disability. This document describes a child's needs and explains the specific services that MaST Community Charter School will provide a student to make progress in school and serves as the plan between you and MaST on the services your child will receive.

The IEP is written by a team of professionals and a student's parent and guardians are important members of the team. Parent and guardians are invited to all IEP meetings. A student is also invited to the meeting if his or her post-secondary goals and transition needs will be discussed at the meeting (this is required if the child will turn 14 during the next school year). If transition needs are not going to be discussed, then the parent or guardian can decide whether the child should attend the meeting. Parent and student input during these meetings is valued and encouraged.

After the IEP is written, parents and guardians are asked to sign a NOREP or Notice of Recommended Placement. By signing this document, a parent indicates approval of the program and services described and identified on the student's IEP. More information about the special education process can be found in the *Procedural Safeguard Notice*. This notice informs parents of their rights related to their child with a disability and is provided annually to parents.

Transition Services

Consideration of transition needs is required annually for all students once they reach the age of 14. MaST Community Charter School provides transition services to all special education students. This may include linking students to outside agencies and supporting in identifying post-secondary opportunities for students. When a student graduates or ages out of MaST, the student and their family will receive a copy of the student's *Summary of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance*. The purpose of this form is to assist students with information regarding their academic achievement and functional performance and provide recommendations on how to assist the student in meeting his or her postsecondary goals.

Progress Monitoring

MaST uses curriculum-based measurements and other measures to monitor the academic achievement and functional performance of students in special education. IEP progress reports are sent home at the end of each quarter.

English Language Learners Supports

MaST Community Charter Schools provide non-English or limited English Language Learners (ELL) with English language instruction and cultural orientation. The goal of the ELL Program is to have students attain English language proficiency to enable them to succeed in school and in the community.

Parents of all incoming students are asked to complete a Home Language Survey as part of the registration process. Information from the survey is used to identify and screen students who may be eligible for ELL supports.

English Language Learners participate in annual state assessments with allowable accommodations annually. Students are graded using the same grading system as other students. English Language Learners, who are also students with a disability, are eligible for special education supports. A student's individual supports are determined at an IEP team meeting taking into consideration the child's unique strengths and instructional support needs. MaST Community Charter School provides language interpreters to facilitate parent meetings such as these.

Students exit MaST's ELL program based on Pennsylvania exit criteria published by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Students are monitored for two years after exiting ELL using a review of grades, school-wide assessments, PSSA/Keystone, and teacher observations.

Policy Statements

The MaST Community Charter School is committed to a policy of equal educational opportunity. Accordingly, the school admits students, conducts all educational programs, activities, and employment practices without regard to race, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or any other legally protected classification. Any person having any concerns or wishing to make any inquiries concerning the school's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004), and FERPA may contact Ms. Karen DelGuercio, Equity Officer, MaST Community Charter School, 1800 E. Byberry Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116, or by telephone at 267-348-1100.

General Statement of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the MaST Community Charter School not to discriminate in their educational programs, activities, or employment practices on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or any other legally protected classification under the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004), FERPA and any other applicable state or federal laws.

Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedures

A learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment will be maintained. It will be a violation of policy for any member of the school's staff to harass another staff member or student, or for students to harass other students, through conduct or communications of a sexual nature.

Definition --

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and other inappropriate verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when made by any member of the school staff to a student or to another staff member, or when made by any student to another student when:

- (1) Submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or education or when
- (2) Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting that individual, or when
- (3) Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's professional or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive employment or education environment.

Sexual harassment, as defined above, may include, but is not limited to:

- (1) Sex-oriented verbal "kidding", abuse, or harassment;
- (2) Pressure for sexual activity;
- (3) Repeated remarks to a person, with sexual or demeaning implications;
- (4) Unwelcome touching, such as patting, pinching or constant brushing against another's body;
- (5) Suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grade, employment status, or similar personal concerns.

Any person who alleges sexual harassment by any staff member or student in the school may complain directly to his or her building principal, CEO or to the Board of Trustees in accordance with the procedures set forth by the school for such complaints.

Reporting sexual harassment will not reflect upon the individual's status or affect future employment, work assignments, or grades.

The right to confidentiality, both of the complainant and of the accused, will be respected consistent with the school's legal obligations and with the necessity to investigate allegations of misconduct and to take corrective action when this conduct has occurred.

Procedures for Making Complaints

The student may seek either an informal or formal resolution of his/her complaint.

A. Informal

The student or his/her parent may request the Principal to intervene by notifying the alleged offender that the specific offensive behavior(s) will not be tolerated. In such case, the Principal must discuss the matter with the alleged offender, and if warranted, require that s/he participate in non-disciplinary counseling. The Principal shall document actions taken in writing. Copies will also be forwarded to the CEO. The accused, if s/he is a student shall have the right to have his or her parent present during the interview.

B. Formal

An individual who believes that s/he has been harassed or a parent who believes that his/her child has been harassed can file a complaint requesting an investigation into the allegation. Formal complaints shall be taken in writing and signed by the complainant. A thorough and complete investigation shall be conducted by the Principal. Copies of the complaint and the record of the investigation will be forwarded to the CEO and Board President.

To the extent possible and allowed by law, confidentiality shall be maintained within the confines of the investigation of the alleged prohibited behavior. All parties will be treated with dignity and due process.

Procedures for Investigating and Resolving Complaints

A. Equal Employment Opportunity Officer

The Principal shall be the EEO Officer capable of conducting a thorough and complete investigation. The Principal shall seek advice and assistance from the CEO and Board of Trustees, if the Principal believes that s/he lacks the capacity to conduct a thorough and complete investigation of the alleged misconduct. If the CEO or Principal is the alleged harasser or is alleged to have been responsible for the harassment, the Board President will conduct the investigation.

B. Conducting Investigations

The Principal receiving a complaint of harassment shall take the details of the complaint in writing and have the complainant sign it. Copies of this document will be forwarded to the CEO and Board of Trustees. All complaints of harassment against an employee or student shall be

received, investigated, and disposed of in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Policy, and complainants shall be notified of the final disposition/action taken.

If the complaint involves sexual assault, rape or conduct of a criminal nature, the Philadelphia Police Department shall be contacted and a report of the incident made. If there is any question of whether the conduct complained of constituted criminal activity, the school's solicitor should be contacted and consulted.

The Principal shall attempt to secure statements from all participants in and witnesses to the alleged incident. The accused, if s/he is a student, shall have the right to have his/her parent present.

All investigations shall be completed by the assigned investigator within ten (10) days from the filing date of the complaint.

A substantiated charge of harassment shall result in appropriate disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, discharge or suspension without pay, or suspension or expulsion. Any disciplinary action shall be subject to the requirements of the Public School Code, State Board regulations and other applicable law. All complainants shall be guaranteed protection from reprisal of any type, including, but not limited to, continued employment, promotion, work assignment, grades awarded, etc., unless it can be proved such accusations were known to be false and malicious in their intent. If such malicious intent is proved, the complainant shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Anti-Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedures

Definition –

MaST Community Charter School shall provide an environment free from harassment. A key aspect of such an environment is protection from sexual, racial, religious, age, marital status, ethnic, political belief, disability status, ancestral, cultural, sexual orientation or gender harassment for every student and employee. Such harassment will not be tolerated by any employee, student or vendor doing business with the school.

Harassment is defined herein as: unwanted sexual advances, including request for sexual favors, and/or inappropriate verbal or physical contact; ethnic intimidation; or threats, jokes, or use of derogatory language about any individual, race, religious or cultural group. Examples of inappropriate behavior include, but are not limited to, significant instances of:

- (1) The creation of a hostile, offensive and/or intimidating work/study or any other school related environment;
- (2) Jokes, visual representations, graffiti or vulgar statements or the dissemination of materials that attempt to diminish the worth of any individual or group;

- (3) Requiring sexual favors, either implicitly or explicitly, as a condition for employment, promotion, wage scale, assignment of duties, shift assignment, grade(s) awarded, career and/or educational advancement or evaluation of either students or employees;
- (4) Demeaning, sexually abusive, vulgar and/or intimidating remarks, harassment or innuendo in speech, writing or gesture;
- (5) Unwanted touching;
- (6) Unwanted sexual flirtations, advances or propositions in speech or writing;
- (7) Favoritism and/or discrimination.

Individuals who believe they are or have been the victims of or have knowledge or have witnessed harassment must report such incidents as promptly as possible to their guidance counselor(s), principal(s), supervisor(s) or the CEO.

The reporting of an alleged incident shall remain strictly confidential, within the bounds of any legal and investigative requirements. The confidentiality and rights of the accused shall be similarly respected.

All alleged incidents shall be investigated as promptly as possible, but not later than five (5) school days of the reporting of the incident. Where appropriate, criminal action may also be taken.

In the case of an alleged student-to-student incident, investigative procedures shall follow all established guidelines for student misconduct. An employee-employee or employee-student alleged incident shall be investigated by the CEO or his/her designee, who shall determine appropriate remediation and/or discipline.

The School shall maintain full and confidential records of all such investigation, remediation and discipline (if imposed).

Any retaliation by a student or employee found guilty of harassment (or friend/supporter(s) of such an individual) shall be handled as a most serious offence by the appropriate level of jurisdiction, including possible referral to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

All students and employees shall be made aware of this policy and their rights to protection against harassment and against any type of retaliation for reporting alleged harassment. They also shall be informed of counseling services, where appropriate.

Procedures for Making Complaints

The student may seek either an informal or formal resolution of his/her complaint.

The student or his/her parent may request the Principal to intervene by notifying the alleged offender that the specific offensive behavior(s) will not be tolerated. In such case, the Principal must discuss the matter with the alleged offender, and if warranted, require that s/he participate in non-disciplinary counseling. The Principal shall document actions taken in writing. Copies will also be forwarded to the CEO. The accused, if s/he is a student shall have the right to have his or her parent present during the interview.

B. Formal

An individual who believes that s/he has been harassed or a parent who believes that his/her child has been harassed can file a complaint requesting an investigation into the allegation. Formal complaints shall be taken in writing and signed by the complainant. A thorough and complete investigation shall be conducted by the Principal. Copies of the complaint and the record of the investigation will be forwarded to the CEO and the Board President.

To the extent possible and allowed by law, confidentiality shall be maintained within the confines of the investigation of the alleged prohibited behavior. All parties will be treated with dignity and due process.

Procedures for Investigating and Resolving Complaints

A. Equal Employment Opportunity Officer

The Principal shall be the EEO Officer capable of conducting a thorough and complete investigation. The Principal shall seek advice and assistance from the CEO and Board of Trustees if the Principal believes that s/he lacks the capacity to conduct a thorough and complete investigation of the alleged misconduct. If the CEO or Principal is the alleged harasser or is alleged to have been responsible for the harassment, the Board President will conduct the investigation.

B. Conducting Investigations

The Principal receiving a complaint of harassment shall take the details of the complaint in writing and have the complainant sign it. Copies of this document will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees. All complaints of harassment against an employee or student shall be received, investigated, and disposed of in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Policy, and complainants shall be notified of the final disposition/action taken.

If the complaint involves sexual assault, rape or conduct of a criminal nature, the Philadelphia Police Department shall be contacted and a report of the incident made. If there is any question of whether the conduct complained of constituted criminal activity, the school's solicitor should be contacted and consulted.

The Principal shall attempt to secure statements from all participants in and witnesses to the alleged incident. The accused, if s/he is a student, shall have the right to have his/her parent present.

All investigations shall be completed by the assigned investigator within ten (10) days from the filing date of the complaint.

A substantiated charge of harassment shall result in appropriate disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, discharge or suspension without pay, or suspension or expulsion. Any disciplinary action shall be subject to the requirements of the Public School Code, State Board regulations, and other applicable law. All complainants shall be guaranteed protection from reprisal of any type, including, but not limited to, continued employment, promotion, work assignment, grades awarded, etc., unless it can be proved such accusations were known to be false and malicious in their intent. If such malicious intent is proved, the complainant shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Student Complaints and Grievances

Students have the right to request redress of complaints. Individual and group complaints should be recognized and appropriate appeal procedures provided. A student “complaint” shall be any that arise from action that directly affects the student’s participation in an approved educational program. The Board of Trustees and/or its employees will recognize the complaints of the students of MaST Community Charter School provided that such complaints are made according to procedures established by Board policy.

Steps in a Complaint/Grievance Procedure:

1. Students are to be encouraged to first discuss the complaint with the staff member involved and, in the process, may seek the assistance and be accompanied by another student or faculty member.
2. If the problem is not solved, the student shall give the complaint in writing to the Principal who shall then notify the parent or guardian. The Principal, within five days, shall call a meeting of the student who may be accompanied by a parent and/or advisor and the staff member. In no more than three days after the meeting, the Principal shall give his/her decision in writing to the student, parent, and staff member.
3. The student’s written complaint shall set forth:
 - (a) the specific nature of the complaint and a brief statement of the facts giving rise to it;
 - (b) the manner in which and extent to which the student believes s/he has been adversely affected;
 - (c) the relief sought by the student;
 - (d) the reasons why the student feels s/he is entitled to the relief sought.

4. Should the student's complaint be against the Principal, or against a policy the Principal has supported, the student may complain directly to the CEO. If the complaint is against the CEO, the student may complain directly to the Board of Trustees.
5. If the complaint is not settled to the student's satisfaction by the CEO, the student may appeal, in writing, to the Board who within five school days, will call a meeting and give a decision.
 - (a) The student may seek assistance of a parent or guardian at any step.
6. The school authority hearing the complaint may call in the student's parent.

Representation

A student shall have the right to present his or her own grievance or may designate a representative to appear with him or her at any level of the above procedure. The student who chooses to have representation shall provide advance notice of such in writing to the authority at the respective procedural level at least two (2) days prior to the hearing on the grievance.

Parental Complaints

It is the intent of the Board of Trustees and the school staff that concerns should be resolved as quickly and amicably as possible with the best interests of the students held firmly in mind. The procedures will be known by staff and parents so that communication about concerns can be carried out in an open and convenient way.

If the complaint concerns something that has occurred in the classroom, then the following steps should be followed:

1. The parent should contact the child's teacher and discuss the issue on the telephone or in person. Every effort should be made to resolve the parental complaint/concern at the teacher level. Since parents are considered to be essential partners in the educational process, each teacher must make a conscientious effort to interact with parents on an as-needed basis. It must be noted that the 45 minutes after students are dismissed each day provide some opportunities for parental contacts.
2. If the concern remains unresolved, then the parent should meet with the appropriate administrator. If the parent has not obtained a satisfactory resolution to the concern after meeting with the appropriate administrator, then the parent should contact the CEO.
3. If the concern has not been resolved to a level of satisfaction to the parent, the parent may write to the President of the Board of Trustees about the concern and ask for a committee of Trustee members to hear the concern and make a recommendation.

4. If the complaint concerns an issue not directly related to the parent's child but reflects a concern about a classroom practice, school rule, procedure or practice, the following steps should be followed:
 - (a) The parent should request to discuss the concern with the classroom teacher, director, principal or the CEO depending on the type of issue. A classroom issue is best addressed to the teacher, while a school-wide concern should be addressed to the CEO.
 - (b) If the informal discussion does not resolve the concern, then the parent should file a written complaint with the CEO who will conduct an investigation into the matter and report the findings to the parent.
 - (c) If the findings of the CEO do not result in a satisfactory conclusion of the matter, the parent should address the matter in writing to the President of the Board of Trustees who will assign the matter to a committee of the Board to investigate and prepare recommendations for the full Board's consideration.

Annual Notice of Special Education Services and Programs and Rights for Students with Disabilities and Notification under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The above-mentioned notice can be found on the MaST Community Charter School website and is available in the office of the coordinator of special education.

Child Find Policy and Public Outreach Awareness System

The above-mentioned policy can be found on the MaST Community Charter School website and is available in the office of the coordinator of special education.

FERPA Notice

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, affords parents, legally emancipated students, and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records.

These rights are briefly summarized below and are explained more fully in the Board's Student Records Policy which is on file at the school and is available upon request:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the Math, Science & Technology Community Charter School ("MaST") receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the School's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the School’s CEO, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official may include a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law unit personnel); a person serving on the Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); contractors, consultants, volunteers, and other outside service providers used by the school; or a parent or student serving on official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school, school district, school system, or institution of higher learning in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

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

Directory Information

Directory information includes information contained in the educational record of a student, which is not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed, so that it may be disclosed without prior parental consent, unless you have advised School to the contrary in accordance with School procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the School to include this type of information from your child’s education records in certain school-related publications or notices.

As part of the School's annual notification under FERPA, we designate for the school year 2014-2015 the following types or categories of information as "directory information":

- Student Name
- Participation in officially recognized activities, clubs and sports
- Naming of Student to the Honor Roll, National Honor Society or as Valedictorian
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Electronic Mail Address
- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, awards received
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

Examples of how and where the School may disclose directory information include disclosing the directory information in the following, by way of example:

- Newsletters
- A playbill, showing student's role in a drama production
- The annual yearbook
- Honor Roll or other recognition lists
- Graduation programs
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members
- Companies or outside organizations that manufacture class rings or yearbooks
- Newspapers or other news sources
- Class Lists
- Staff and/or Student Directories and/or listings
- School Website
- School Bulletin Boards
- Organizations conducting studies
- Military recruiters requesting directory information
- Institutions of Higher Learning requesting directory information

These examples are for illustration only and are not an exclusive list of the manner in which directory information may be disclosed. This notice provides you as a parent or eligible student with an opportunity to object in writing to any or all of those types of information that the School has designated as directory information. You have the right to refuse to permit the release by notifying the School in writing that you do not want any or all of those types of information to be designated as directory information for your child or yourself.

Please submit any refusal, with the types of information you wish removed from the list of directory information, and mail your written objections on or before **September 26, 2014**, to the CEO through mastccs.org.

Please note that an opt out of directory information disclosures does not prevent the School from identifying a student by name or from disclosing a student's electronic identifier or institutional e-mail address in class. The right to opt out of directory information disclosures does not include a right to remain anonymous in class, and may not be used to impede routine classroom communications and interactions, whether class is held in a specified physical location or on-line through electronic communications.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call or write the CEO of the School at: 1800 East Byberry Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116, (267) 348-1100. **If you do not submit a written refusal on or before September 26, 2014 then the School may disclose directory information without your prior consent.**

Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy and Student Agreement and Parent Agreement Forms

See Appendix 13.

Concussion Management Policy

See Appendix 10

Digital/Cell Phone Camera Policy

See Appendix 9

Remote Access Policy

See Appendix 11

Social Media and Networking Policy and Consent Form

See Appendix 14

Wireless Reading Devices Policy

See Appendix 12

127. iPad PROGRAM POLICY

Date Adopted: 8/20/14

Receiving and Returning Your iPad

Receiving Your iPad

iPads will be distributed after a mandatory iPad information session. Parents and students must sign and return copies of the iPad Student Pledge and Acceptable Use Policy documents before the iPad can be issued.

iPad Check-In

Any borrowed iPads will be collected by the Technology Department during the final week of school so they can be examined for serviceability. If a student transfers out of MaST Community Charter School during the school year, their iPad will be returned at that time. If their iPad is on a purchasing plan, they will have the option to pay the remainder of the plan.

Check-In Fines

Borrowed school iPads and accessories must be returned at the end of each school year. Failure to return the iPad will result in a theft report being filed with the Philadelphia Police Department and the student will be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability. The student will also pay the replacement cost of the iPad.

Furthermore, the student will be responsible for any damage to the iPad and must return the iPad and accessories in satisfactory condition excluding normal wear and tear. If the iPad is inoperable or damaged, the student will pay the full cost of a replacement device.

Failure to Complete Payments:

If a student is in a purchasing plan and does not complete all payments by the designated June date of the purchasing school year, the iPad will be repossessed until all payments are received, unless enrolled in an online automatic payment plan (available for specific grades).

Taking Care of Your iPad

General Precautions

- While using the iPad on school property, users will abide by the iPad and Acceptable Use Policy for technology.
- Only use a clean, soft cloth to clean the screen.
- Never use cleansers or liquid solutions to clean the screen.
- Use care when plugging cords or cables into the iPad to prevent damage.
- MaST owned iPads and cases must remain free of writing, drawing, stickers, or labels that were not placed on the device by the school.
- iPads must never be left unattended, in an unlocked locker or in plain view in a car.
- It is the responsibility of the student to keep the iPad's battery charged for school each day.
- Excessive pressure on the screen of the iPad can cause damage. Be mindful not to lean on or place heavy items on top of the iPad.

- iPads must be kept in a MaST approved protective case, all iPads distributed after April 1, 2014 must be in an OtterBox case.

Using Your iPad at School

iPads will be used in daily instruction and therefore students in a take-home program are expected to come prepared every day with their charged device.

iPads Left at Home

If a student leaves their iPad at home, they are still responsible for completing all work as if they had their iPad present. If a student repeatedly (three or more times as determined by any staff member) leaves their iPad at home, they will be subject to disciplinary action as it will be used for daily instruction.

iPads Undergoing Repair

Loaner iPads may be issued to students while iPads are being repaired. If a loaner iPad is not readily available, the student will be placed on a wait-list.

Charging Your iPad's Battery

iPads should be charged every evening and must be brought to school each day in a fully charged condition. If excessive use during the school day requires the device to be charged, there will be charging stations available. Excessive failure to come prepared with a charged iPad will result in disciplinary actions.

Home Screen Backgrounds/Lock Screen Photos

Students are permitted to customize their iPad (home screen background); however, appropriate media must be used. If a school lock screen has been installed on the iPad, students are not permitted to change it.

Screen Lock Passcodes (PINS)

Screen lock passcodes must be used. A student must unlock the passcode immediately upon request by any MaST Community Charter staff member. Failure to unlock the iPad will result in appropriate disciplinary actions. The Technology Department will have the ability to remove the passcode. Lock codes are not to be shared with friends under any circumstances.

Sound, Music, Games or Apps

- Sound must be muted at all times unless permission is obtained from the teacher for instructional purposes. Earbuds or headphones must be purchased by the student and their use is subject to individual classroom rules.
- Appropriate music is allowed on the iPad for use outside of school unless permission is obtained from the teacher for use with ear buds during class. Students may not use ear buds/headphones during the switching of classes.

Home Internet Access

Students involved in a take-home program are permitted and encouraged to set up additional wireless networks on their iPads. This will be necessary to use web-based services outside of the school setting.

Personal Apps

Students involved in a take-home program may install appropriate personal apps on their iPad via their personal iTunes account. In the event that storage space becomes an issue on individual iPads, student's personal music, photos and apps will need to be deleted.

Managing Your Files and Saving Your Work

Saving to the iPad/Cloud Storage

Students should save work to the iPad, Google Drive or other storage accounts. It is recommended students regularly back up data to another storage medium. Limited storage space will be available on the iPad and Google Drive Accounts. Data will NOT be backed up in the event an iPad has to be re-imaged or restored to factory settings. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is not lost due to mechanical failure or accidental deletion. iPad malfunctions will not be an accepted excuse for not submitting work.

Software on iPads

Originally Installed Software

The apps and operating system originally installed by MaST Community Charter School must remain on the iPad in usable condition and be easily accessible at all times. More apps will be delivered to the students through the Self Service App. Periodic checks of iPads will be made to ensure that students have not removed required apps or installed inappropriate material.

Jailbreaking an iPad is an illegal activity that is strictly prohibited and will lead to disciplinary actions. Additionally, if a Jailbroken iPad is brought in for service, the school cannot be held responsible for any damage or data loss that is caused because of the jailbreak.

Removing any MaST issued profiles is not permitted, as it will remove the required Self Service App and other necessary components that ensure the security of the iPad.

Additional Software

Students will be provided with purchase codes (at no charge to them) to install some basic apps. Other apps may be added by the school or the student throughout the school year. Some apps will be free and others may have a cost associated with them.

Procedure for Reloading Software

If technical difficulties occur, the iPad will be restored from a backup if available from iCloud or will be reset to factory settings. The school does not accept responsibility for the loss of any apps or documents deleted due to the necessity of a reformat and/or reimage.

App/Software Updates

Students are responsible to regularly update apps as they become available. Operating systems with Apple devices change. MaST Community Charter will notify students on how to update software, should updates be necessary.

Technology Support

Technology support for iPads will be available during the normal business day at MaST Community Charter School between the hours of 7:30am and 3:30pm. After hours support will

not be available. Students can submit questions/concerns by emailing ipad@mastccs.org but they MUST use their MaST provided email.

Mobile Device Management (MDM) Profiles

MDM Profiles installed on iPads are not to be removed. Students who do not have active profiles on their machines or who remove profiles will be subject to appropriate disciplinary consequences.

Acceptable Use

The use of the MaST Community Charter School technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to abide by the current Acceptable Use Policy located in the Family Handbook. Violations may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or expulsion for students. When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

- All iPads are subject to acceptable use and therefore any illegal use of the device, questionable activity as indicated by the acceptable use policy, and software can be inspected or investigated by the school at any time according to the policies indicated in the handbook/acceptable use policy.
- If a student fails to return the iPad at the end of the school year or upon termination of enrollment, that student will be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability. The student will also pay the replacement cost of the iPad, or, if applicable, any insurance deductible. Failure to return the iPad will result in a theft report being filed with the Philadelphia Police Department.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Talk to your children about values and the standards that your children should follow on the use of the Internet just as you do on the use of all media information sources such as television, telephones, electronic games, movies, and radio. Students may have access to their device 24/7. Parents will need to establish ground rules for iPad use outside of the school day. While on campus, devices will have Internet filtering on them at all times.

Student Activities Strictly Prohibited

- Illegal installation or transmission of copyrighted materials.
- Any action that violates existing MaST Community Charter policy or public law.
- Sending, accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing offensive, profane, threatening, pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit materials.
- Inappropriately utilizing photos, video, and/or audio recordings of any person.
- Changing iPad settings in an effort to circumvent the filtering system.
- Downloading inappropriate apps.
- Spamming-sending inappropriate emails.
- Gaining access to other student's accounts, files, and/or data.
- Vandalism to your iPad or another student's iPad.

Repairing or Replacing your iPad

MaST iPad Insurance

The MaST iPad insurance is an option to cover iPad repairs or replacement in the event of theft, loss, accidental damage, or maintenance. The insurance does not cover the damaged or lost cords or protective cases. The protection cost will be a one-time fee for each iPad, which will cover one replacement device for 3 years after the distribution of the device. If the replacement device is given, the one insurance claim will be used; therefore leaving the replacement iPad uninsured. The student will have the option to purchase the insurance again to continue the original 3 year coverage.

All claims for accidental damage and maintenance must be reported and filed with the Technology Department. The iPad must be in a MaST approved case at all times, all iPads distributed after April 1, 2014 must be in an OtterBox case.

In the case of a damaged iPad, a replacement iPad will be given and the technology department will keep the damaged iPad. In cases of theft or loss, students or parents must file a police or fire report and bring a copy of the report to the Technology Department before an iPad can be replaced with the MaST iPad insurance plan. If a payment plan is active, the student is still responsible for completing the payments based on the original payment schedule.

Without Insurance

Students will be responsible for damages to their iPads including, but not limited to, broken screens, cracked plastic pieces, inoperability, etc. The student will be responsible for the replacement costs of lost or damaged cords and protective cases.

If an iPad is damaged or lost without insurance, it should be reported to the technology department.

Borrowed without Insurance

If a damaged iPad is borrowed without insurance, the student will have two options:

Option 1: The student will pay a fee (estimated \$250) to cover the cost of the iPad repairs and receive a replacement iPad. The student will still be in the *borrowing* status and *will not own the iPad*. The student will have the option to purchase the insurance that will cover the device for the remainder of the three years from the initial rollout date.

Option 2: The student can purchase the iPad (estimated \$270) and have the repairs made on their own. The iPad will still be required daily for instructional use. This option is not eligible for the MaST Insurance plan.

Purchased without Insurance

If a damaged iPad is purchased without insurance, the student is still responsible for completing the payments based on the original payment schedule. The student can have the iPad repairs made on his or her own. The iPad will still be required for daily instructional use.

MaST Community Charter School iPad Program Policy & Student Pledge

- I will take good care of my iPad.
- I will never leave my iPad unattended.
- I will never loan out my iPad to other individuals.
- I will charge my iPad's battery daily.
- I will keep food and beverages away from my iPad since they may cause damage to the device.
- I will not disassemble any part of my iPad or attempt any repairs.
- I will protect my iPad by only carrying it in a MaST approved case.
- I will use my iPad in ways that are appropriate, meet MaST Community Charter expectations, and are educational.
- I will follow the policies outlined in the iPad Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy while at school, as well as outside the school day.
- I will not place decorations (such as stickers, markers, etc.) on my iPad or provided case; I will not deface the serial number iPad sticker on any iPad.
- I will file a police report in the case of theft and report it to the Technology Department of MaST Community Charter School.
- I will be responsible for all damage or loss caused by neglect or abuse.
- I agree to return the *borrowed* iPad, case and power cords in good working condition.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to back my device up to iCloud. If my device needs to be restored and data is not backed up, I understand that loss of data is not the fault of the Technology Department.
- I understand that if I choose to use my own iPad (in eligible grades), I must be enrolled into the MaST Community Charter Management System. Prior to having the device enrolled, all data must be backed up to iCloud. I understand that during the enrollment process **all** data will be erased. After enrollment, the iCloud backup can be restored.
- I understand that the MaST issued Mobile Device Management Profiles installed on iPads are not to be removed.
- **I understand that MaST reserves the right to change the program requirements as needed.**

I agree to the stipulations set forth in the above documents including the iPad Policies, Procedures, and Information, the Acceptable Use Policy and the Student Pledge for iPad Use.

Student Name (please print): _____ Homeroom: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Math, Science, & Technology Community Charter School

1800 E. Byberry Road

Philadelphia, PA 19116

Telephone: (267) 348-1100 Fax: (267) 348-1217

http://mastccs.org

September 2014

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We will be adhering to the following procedures for the 2014/15 school year:

Students in grades 1 through 12 are not permitted to enter the school prior to 7:15 a.m. unless being transported on a yellow school bus. High school students may enter the school at 7:00 a.m. if they are utilizing the Library/Media Center.

**Kindergarten Students
Arrival Procedures**

For the safety of your child, parents must understand that they will be unable to enter the parking lot until **8:10 a.m.** Children will be dropped off at the school door entrance in the front of the building. The students will be escorted to the Multi-Purpose Room by the kindergarten classroom aides and the kindergarten teachers. Once the secondary school door entrance is closed (8:31 a.m.), your child will be considered late and must go to the front lobby for a late pass.

**Kindergarten Students
Dismissal Procedures**

Parents cannot come into the parking lot earlier than **1:45 p.m.** at dismissal time. Students will be picked up at the back entrance to the blue building by the playground. Parents will enter the lot, bear right and follow the natural traffic pattern before proceeding to the rear portion of the blue building, passing under the school bridge. After picking up a child, parents will return following the path back to the main lot where they will exit straight to the Byberry Road gate. If you pick up a kindergarten student and then need to pick up a child in grades 1 through 8, **you must leave the parking lot after you have picked up your kindergarten student. You may not**

re-enter the parking lot for parent pick-up for students in grades 1 through 8 until 3:20 p.m. When you leave the parking lot with your kindergarten student, you may go to the Fellowship Church on Worthington Road and wait there until you can re-enter the parking lot at 3:20 pm. for parent pick-up for students in grades 1 through 8.

Students in Grades 1 through 8

Arrival Procedures

Yellow buses will drop students off in the front of the building. Parents who drive their children to school must drop their children off in the front of the building. Please do not allow your children to exit your automobile on Byberry Road. For the safety of your child, please pull into the parking lot.

Students in Grades 1 through 8

Parent Pick-Up

Dismissal Procedures

Parents who pick up students in grades 1 through 8 at dismissal time cannot enter the parking lot until 3:20 p.m. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Parents must pick up their children at the secondary school door entrance in the front of the building. Parents can remain in your cars and you will not have to come into the building to sign out your child.

If your child is a parent pick-up, a note must be sent to his/her homeroom in the morning. We ask that pick-up arrangements be made in advance and that you do not call the school during the day to change your arrangement with your child.

**Early Dismissals for Students in Grades K through 12
(Students with doctor's appointments, students who are
ill and must be picked up)**

Students who are being picked up for an early dismissal that may include doctor's appointments or because they are ill, etc., must be picked up in the main lobby in the front of the building.

Early dismissals will not be approved beyond 1:30 p.m. All students requesting an early dismissal must present a signed note from the parent to the homeroom teacher. Students must be picked up by no later than 1:30 p.m.

Half-Day Early Dismissals for Students in Grades K through 12

The following procedures will be in effect on all half-day early dismissals:

- Students in grades 9 through 12 will be dismissed at 11:40 a.m. Dismissal time on exam days will be 12:00 p.m. SEPTA tripper buses will be here at those times. .
- Students riding yellow buses in grades 1 through 8 will be dismissed at 12:00 noon.
- Kindergarten students and their siblings will be dismissed at 11:50 and students in grades 1 through 8 for parent pick-up will be dismissed at 12:10 from the secondary school door entrance in the front of the building.

Please note: For children who are picked up by their parents in grades 1 through 8, it is strongly recommended that your child ride his/her assigned yellow school bus thus alleviating traffic congestion in the parking lot at the end of the school day.

Students may not park in the school parking lot or parking garage. Any student who parks in the school parking lot or garage will have his/her vehicle towed at their expense.

Any high school student who would like to use off-site parking must apply for and be issued a pass. All students taking the school van should arrive at the Fellowship Bible parking lot on Worthington Road no later than 7:20 a.m. Students must board the first available school van. Students who arrive late to the lot in the interim will be issued late notes.

The school vans will not return to pick up students who have arrived late to the off-site pick up location. Any student who does not arrive to the off-site location on time is responsible for arriving at school on his/her own. Please remember that students are prohibited from walking on the CSX Railroad bridge on Byberry Road, at any time, when travelling to and from school. Students who are late for the school van may not park in the school parking lot or parking garage. It is the parent's responsibility to see that the student gets to school safely. Lateness will not be excused.

122. ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Date Adopted: 11/19/08

Revised: 7/27/11

Revised 8/20/14

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) of MaST Community Charter School (“MaST”) is committed to providing a safe, positive learning environment for charter school students. The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence. Therefore, the Board prohibits bullying by MaST Community Charter School students.

Bullying means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting or during any school-related/sponsored activity, that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:

1. Substantial interference with a student’s education.
2. Creation of a threatening environment.
3. Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school. .

Bullying, as defined in this policy, includes cyberbullying.

School setting means in the school, on school grounds, on the school’s network or computer equipment, in charter school vehicles, at any activity sponsored, supervised or sanctioned by MaST Community Charter School.

The Board prohibits all forms of bullying by charter school students. MaST will not tolerate known acts of bullying in all school settings. Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.

The Board encourages students who have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the Disciplinarian, school principal or designee.

The Board directs that complaints of bullying shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action shall be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the legal and investigative obligations of the charter school. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying. For bullying/cyberbullying that occurs outside the school setting, MaST shall take appropriate disciplinary action to the extent permitted by applicable law.

The Board directs the CEO or designee to develop administrative regulations to implement this policy and ensure that this policy and administrative regulations are reviewed annually with students.

The CEO or designee, in cooperation with other appropriate administrators, shall review this policy every three (3) years and recommend necessary revisions to the Board. The administration shall annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:

1. Board's Bullying Policy.
2. Report of bullying incidents.
3. Information on the development and/or implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention or education programs.

The Code of Student Conduct, which shall contain this policy, shall be disseminated annually to students. The policy shall be posted in a prominent location within each school building and on MaST's intranet and public website.

Education

MaST Community Charter School may develop and implement bullying prevention and intervention programs where appropriate. Such programs shall provide the charter school staff and students with appropriate training for effectively responding to, intervening in and reporting incidents of bullying.

Consequences For Violations

A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, which may include:

1. Counseling within the school.
2. Parental conference.
3. Loss of school privileges.
4. Transfer to another school building, classroom or school bus.
5. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities.
6. Detention.
7. Suspension.
8. Expulsion.
9. Counseling/Therapy outside of school.
10. Referral to law enforcement officials.

MaST Charter School will comply with all applicable federal and state laws relating to bullying and cyberbullying as well as the Public School Code.

*Math, Science, & Technology Community Charter School**1800 E. Byberry Road***Philadelphia, PA 19116**

Telephone: (267) 348-1100 Fax: (267) 348-1217

*http://mastccs.org***EXTRA CURRICULAR POLICIES**

Extra curricular activities are offered as a benefit to enhance the student's educational experience. They are a privilege, however, and not a right of the student. Students participating are bound by the guidelines and rules set forth in this handbook, along with other guidelines that may be attached by the sponsor of their specific activities. Failure to follow said guidelines can result in disciplinary action from the sponsor, suspension from activities or expulsion from activities.

Any student who is suspended out of school may not participate in any extra curricular activities from the time in which the suspension is issued until the reinstatement meeting has been conducted. Any student who is issued an in-school suspension may not participate in any extra curricular activities on the issue date or during school hours of the scheduled date of service.

1. **GRADING POLICY:** Every student participating in extra curricular activities shall have earned a grade no lower than a 70 or grade point average of 1.75 in all subject areas at the last report period and during the duration of the activity's "season." Any 9th grade student is automatically granted eligibility, until the end of the first report period. Coaches may also enforce a weekly checklist grade policy at their discretion. Students can be placed on academic probation and required to attend tutoring in order to remain in the activity. **(See Board Policy and Procedures Manual, Extra Curricular Activities Including Sports.)**
2. **STANDARDIZED TESTING POLICY:** All students in grades 3-12 must achieve basic or better in the PSSA, Keystone or an equivalent in order to participate in extra curricular activities.³ Students failing to meet these criteria may participate providing they:

Participate in a mandatory support/remediation program and

Submit a weekly report to the sponsor/coach certifying that the student has performed passing work in all classes.

(See Board Resolution #04.21.04.14 dated April 21, 2004.)

³ Academic clubs are exempt.

3. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** All students participating in extra curricular activities must be in good standing with the school's attendance policy. An accumulation of unexcused absences or tardiness may lead to suspension from activities or disciplinary action. An excused tardiness is not in question. Attendance at practices/meetings is at the sponsor's discretion. Practices/events may fall on weekends. Furthermore, a student may be suspended or dismissed from an extra curricular activity for poor attendance at practices/meetings or events. Students participating in events must attend school on the day of their scheduled meetings, unless they are participating in a college visit or other school sponsored activity that particular day.
4. **BEHAVIOR POLICY:** All students involved in extra curricular activities must be in compliance with the rules set forth in the MaST Community Charter School Student Handbook. Infractions will be dealt with by the sponsor and/or the administration. Discipline problems at practices, meetings, games, and events will not be tolerated. They may result in suspension from the activity and/or school. Individual behavior policy for each activity is at the discretion of the coach. **Any Level Two behavior infraction that violates the MaST Code of Student Conduct will be dealt with at the administration's discretion.**
5. **DRUG USE:** Students must not use drugs, hormones, blood doping or similar means for the purpose of body-building or the enhancement of athletic performance. Violations will lead to disqualification from extra curricular activities and disciplinary action. **(See Board Policy and Procedure Manual, Extra Curricular Activities Including Sports.)**
6. **GUEST/SPECTATOR POLICY:** All fans and spectators at events must comply with the rules set by the sponsor or league. In cases of sporting events, spectators are not allowed on the field of play at anytime for any reason. Foul language or threatening behavior will not be tolerated. MaST reserves the right to remove anyone from any activity that violates the rules of the school and/or league.
7. **EVENING EVENTS:** Night games starting well after the regular school hours are part of several extra curricular activities. In the event of a night game, students must leave campus and return during the proper time established by their sponsor. Students are not permitted to stay in the building unsupervised to wait until a night game begins. Students may stay after regular school hours only if they are accompanied and supervised by a sponsor or staff member at all times.
8. **AWAY EVENTS:** For some activities and leagues, transportation will be provided by MaST. For others, it is not. Please be advised that attendance in those events may be and can be deemed mandatory by the coach or sponsor.
9. **PHYSICALS:** No student will participate in any extra curricular athletic event including practice or intramural sports without a current physical examination (from that school year) by a licensed physician. Specific guidelines will be included in parent permission forms for physicals.

10. **UNIFORMS:** Uniforms are not to be used for gym class or any other activities except for events specified by the sponsor. Team members are responsible for their uniforms which are to be worn to league and sponsor's specifications.
11. **WEATHER/POSTPONEMENT:** If school is cancelled or dismissed early for an emergency situation, all extra curricular school activities are also cancelled. All evening activities shall be rescheduled. Teams that have events scheduled the next day may request to practice and a decision will be made by the Athletic Director and Administration. Such requests should be rare, due to the overriding consideration which is safety.
12. A student's parent(s) may appeal an eligibility ruling by a coach or sponsor to the Athletic Director.

Purpose

The Board of Trustees believes that the goals and objectives of MaST Charter School are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular or required curricular program.

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, "extra curricular activities" shall be those activities which are sponsored or approved by the Board but are not offered for credit toward graduation. Such activities shall ordinarily be conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day, contribute to attainment of School objectives and be available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate, subject to the eligibility requirements of this policy.

The program of interscholastic athletics, including varsity sports, shall be considered extra curricular and shall be defined as all activities relating to competitive sports, contests, games, events or exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this school when such activities occur between schools.

Authority

Interscholastic Activities shall not be scheduled to conflict with any educational activity necessary for meeting the requirements of the officially approved curriculum.

Any extra curricular activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of this School when it has been recommended by the CEO and approved by the Board of Trustees.

The School shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to the participating students, except that the School's responsibility for the provision of supplies shall have the same exemptions as listed in the School's policy on regular school supplies. Students may be required to assume all or part of the costs of travel and attendance at extra curricular events and trips.

A faculty member shall be present at each game or contest and shall remain with his/her group or team until it leaves the building or grounds where the event is held.

**MaST COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL
BUS RIDERS' RULES AND REGULATIONS
GRADES 1 THROUGH 8**

=====
There are certain rules that are designed for the safety and discipline of the occupants of a school bus. Failure to comply with these rules and regulations will result in disciplinary action and possible suspension of school bus privileges.

WHILE WAITING AT THE BUS STOP:

- **Be at the bus stop ten (10) minutes before the scheduled time.**
- **Whenever the bus is delayed because of weather or mechanical failure, wait for a reasonable length of time – depending on the weather conditions.**
- **Stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus.**
- **Do not push or crowd, when boarding the bus.**
- **Be considerate of private property – keep off lawns, do not litter, and stay away from parked cars.**
- **Do not attempt to board the bus at school loading zones until the bus has come to a complete stop, and if your stop requires that you cross the street to board the bus, wait until the red lights are flashing before crossing the street.**
- **Do not run after the bus in an attempt to board the bus, once the bus has been put into motion.**

WHILE RIDING THE BUS:

- **Do not leave your seat while the bus is in motion.**
- **Share your seat with others.**
- **Follow directions of the driver at all times.**
- **Do not throw anything inside – or out of the bus windows.**
- **Remember that loud talking or laughter distracts the driver and may result in a serious accident.**

- **Treat bus equipment as you would valuable furniture in your own home. Damage to seats or vandalism will be paid for by the offender.**
- **Do not bring skate boards or pets on the bus.**
- **Do not smoke – use of matches or lighters is prohibited on the bus.**
- **Do not eat food on the bus.**

NOTE: To facilitate discipline on the bus, the driver may assign or reassign seats.

VIOLATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

A. Major Violations:

- 1st Offense:** Suspension from the bus for at least one (1) day or until such time as the parents have a conference with a school official and a pass is presented to the driver from the school official.
- 2nd Offense:** Same as above and from the bus except suspension shall be for at least three (3) days.
- 3rd Offense:** Same as above and from the bus except suspension may be up to ten (10) days.

Bus Probation

Examples of Major Violations are as follows:

- **Failure to give your correct name to the driver.**
- **Smoking or playing with matches or lighters.**
- **Destroying bus equipment (slashing seats, kicking windows, etc.).**
- **Lighting firecrackers.**
- **Possession of controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.).**
- **Throwing objects on or off the bus.**
- **Fighting on the bus.**
- **Opening or using the emergency door.**
- **Making obscene gestures to pedestrians or cars following the bus.**

- **Failure to follow the bus driver's directions.**
- **Pushing while boarding the bus.**

B. Minor Violations:

- 1st Offense:** Verbal warning from the driver.
- 2nd Offense:** Written conduct report by the driver to the school office. School office shall notify parent(s) when a conduct report is issued.
- 3rd Offense:** Treated the same as that for a major violation of conduct.

-----IMPORTANT NOTICE-----

SUSPENSION OF SCHOOL BUS PRIVILEGES DOES NOT RELIEVE THE PARENT OF HIS/HER RESPONSIBILITY FROM FULFILLING COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAWS. ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL FOR THE ABOVE REASONS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE.

NOTE: Transportation is provided by the school district of residency not by MaST Community Charter School.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**Class of 2015**

ENGLISH		5.0 CREDITS	
Summer Reading	(1.0)		
MATH		6.0	
WRITING		2.0	
SOCIAL STUDIES		4.0	
World Cultures	(1.0)		
US History	(2.0)		
Government	(0.5)		
Economics	(0.5)		
SCIENCE		4.0	
Environmental Science			
Biology			
Chemistry			
Physics			
WORLD LANGUAGES		2.0	
PE/HE		1.5	
COMPUTER		4.0	2 required + 2 electives
PROJECT SEMINAR/ SERVICE LEARNING		1.0	
TOTAL		29.50 CREDITS MINIMUM	

All students without IEPs or 504 accommodations must score proficient on the PSSA test or its equivalent in order to graduate.

**High School Graduation Credit Requirements
Class of 2016 and Beyond**

Subject Area	Course Name	Course Credits	Subject Credits
English Literature and Composition			5
Mandatory Courses	Survey of Literature and Composition (A)	1	
	Survey of Literature and Composition (B)	1	
	Survey of Literature and Composition (C)	1	
	American/World Literature and Composition or Pre-Advanced Placement	1	
	1 English Elective or AP English	1 or 2	
Summer Reading	.25 credits per year	1	1
Social Studies			4
	World Cultures	1	
	US History	1	
	Government/Economics (includes Consumer Ed)	1	
	Modern World (AP US History replaces US History and Modern World)	1	
Math			5
	*Students requiring a full 9 th Grade Year of Algebra are designated to take multiple sections of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry OR two sections of Algebra I in addition to Geometry, Algebra II, and a choice of Statistics or Pre-Calculus	5 or 6	
	*Students who take one section of Algebra I in HS are designated to take Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus and Statistics	5	
	*Students who have obtained Algebra I credit prior to HS are designated to take the following classes: Algebra II, Geometry, Statistics, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus (Honors Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus are available)	5 or 6	
Science			4
	Environmental Science	1	
	Biology	1	
	Chemistry	1	
	Physics	1	
World Language			2
Physical Education/Health			2
Technology	*1 required and 3 elective (Includes Senior Project/Portfolio)		4
Service Learning/Community Service			.5
Electives	(Must select one mandatory Math, English and/or engineering Course)		4
Total Credits			31.5

Additional Requirements:

*In addition, all high school students (Class of 2015 and after) are required to complete one dual enrollment class, online class, or internship prior to graduation.

*All students must be rostered for full schedules each semester. Independent Studies, Distance Learning, Dual Enrollment and Internships are accredited at the discretion of Administration's approval.

*Acceptance of internal credit and transferred credits is at the discretion of the Principal.

*All MaST students will receive consumer/financial education within the Personal Finance and Economics course.

*All MaST students will receive CTE education integrated within classes.

*In order to graduate, all students without IEPs and 504s must score proficient or advanced on state standardized testing or its equivalent as offered by MaST.

Approved by the Board of Trustees: April 18, 2012

MaST Community Charter School

Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition

The Board of Trustees of the MaST Community Charter School, in combination with students, parents, administrators, faculty, and staff, is committed to providing a school environment that promotes and protects children's health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating habits and physical activity. As a means to fostering such a school environment, the Board of Trustees of MaST Community Charter School sets forth the following goals and adopts the following Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition.

School Health Council

- The Charter School shall create a School Health Council consisting of individuals representing the community, including, but not limited to, parents, students, administrators, members of the Board of Trustees, representatives of the school food authority, and other members of the public. The School Health Council will be charged with assisting in the development, implementation, monitoring, and reviewing of nutrition and physical activity goals for the school community.
- The School Health Council will assist in evaluating the implementation of the Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition as measured and informed by data collection and analysis. This evaluation will be conducted, at minimum, biennially.

School Meals

- To the extent practicable, all meals served to Charter School students through the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs will meet or exceed the minimum nutrition requirements established by local, state, and federal law, as well as Dietary Guidelines published by the federal government or an appropriate governmental agency.
- The Charter School will make efforts to eliminate the social stigma attached to, and to prevent the identification of, students who are eligible for free and/or reduced-price school meals.
- The Charter School will schedule meal periods at reasonably appropriate times, and will provide students with a minimum of twenty (20) minutes to enjoy their meals. In addition, the Charter School will discourage the scheduling of meetings or activities during meal times, including, but not limited to, tutoring, club meetings and/or organization meetings, unless the students will be permitted to eat during those meetings or activities.
- The Charter School will provide facilities for appropriate hygiene, such as hand-washing and brushing of teeth.
- Students will be discouraged from sharing foods and/or beverages with others.
- The Charter School store does not sell foods or beverages of any kind.

- There are no food fundraisers during the school day.
- Food is not used as a reward. However, parents/guardians occasionally bring in food for parties, birthdays, fairs, celebrations, and/or curriculum theme related projects.
- Salads are available as a meal or side dish. No snack items such as chips, donuts, and the like are sold in the cafeteria. Water, milk (mainly 2% or less), and fruit juice are sold in the cafeteria. Soda is not available.
- Nutritious foods such as yogurt are sold in vending. Beverages such as water, juice, and ice tea are sold in vending. As stated, soda is not available.
- Fried foods are offered a la carte, no more than 3 days per week. Fresh fruits and vegetables such as salads, carrot sticks, and the like are available daily.
- The majority of milk and yogurt are low fat (1% or less). The majority of cheese is reduced fat or low fat.
- No foods containing “real” peanuts are offered, due to allergies.
- Whole grains are available daily. In addition, whole grain snacks are available in vending such as granola bars, crackers, and pretzels. Most vending snacks are baked rather than fried and do not contain sugar as the first ingredient.
- Artificially sweetened beverages will be limited, especially for younger grades.
- Food served a la carte and vending will be single serving size; no larger than the school lunch portion. Most beverages other than water will not exceed 12 ounces.
- Healthy foods and beverages such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low fat dairy, and plain water will be promoted through marketing, nutrition education, and pricing. Healthier choices will be marketed by increasing selections of these items, displaying them attractively, making them easily available, and pricing them lower than less healthy choices.
- Parents and teachers will be provided a list of healthy ideas for parties and celebrations. If possible, food service will offer to provide these items for a nominal fee. Attention will be given to food safety and allergy concerns.

Nutrition Education

- Nutrition education will be integrated into other areas of the curriculum, such as math, science, language arts, and social studies at all grade levels.
- Nutrition education will be developmentally appropriate, interactive, and will teach skills needed to adopt healthy eating behaviors.
- Nutrition education materials will be reviewed by a qualified and credentialed nutrition professional, including, but not limited to, a School Food Nutrition Specialist or Registered Dietitian.
- Faculty and staff that teach nutrition education will have appropriate training.
- Informational materials will be provided to students and families to encourage sharing of health and nutrition information and to encourage healthy eating in the home.
- Any marketing of foods and/or beverages undertaken by the Charter School will be consistent with established guidelines and/or standards.

Physical Activity

- Physical activity will be integrated across curricula with activities that are safe, enjoyable, and developmentally appropriate for all students in all grades.
- All students will be given opportunities before, after, and throughout the school day for physical activity through physical education, recess periods, and integration of physical activity into the curriculum.
- Faculty and staff will be appropriately trained in integrating physical activity into the various curricular areas.
- Students will be encouraged to participate in physical activity outside of the school environment, in both competitive and non-competitive environments.
- Organized physical activity will be offered and encouraged at school-sponsored or school-related events.
- To the extent practicable, Charter School facilities will be made available to students, faculty, staff, and the community for the purpose of offering physical activity and/or nutrition programs.
- Physical activity will not be used or withheld as punishment.

**MaST Community Charter School Parent/Guardian Compact
Title I 2014 - 2015
School and Family Compact**

MaST Community Charter School is committed to a viable partnership among families, the community, and staff. It is important that all stakeholders work together to help students achieve high academic standards. This **School and Family Compact** represents how the entire school staff, the parents, and the students of MaST will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the agreed upon roles and responsibilities that we will carry out to support student success in school and in life.

School Responsibilities:

We agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of our ability:

- Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet Pennsylvania's Standards Aligned System (SAS) of core content curriculum and academic achievement.
- Discuss this compact at parent-teacher conferences, as it relates to the individual child's achievement.
- Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress which includes progress reports, report cards, and parent access to children's grades on PowerSchool.
- Have high expectations and help every student to develop a love of learning.
- Communicate with families on a regular basis about student progress by providing reasonable access to staff through e-mail, phone, and conferences.
- Provide a safe and caring learning environment.
- Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's classroom.

Family Responsibilities:

We, as family (parents, guardians, care-givers), will support our child's learning by:

- Monitoring attendance and punctuality; ensuring our child gets adequate sleep and proper nutrition.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Encouraging our child's learning efforts; answering his/her questions.
- Regularly meeting in person, by telephone or e-mail with our child's teacher to discuss our child's progress.
- Committing to volunteer in activities that support our child's school.

Student Responsibilities:

I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Attend school regularly; arrive at all classes and activities on time and prepared to learn.
- Behave appropriately in all classes and other locations by knowing and following school and classroom rules and respecting adults, other students, and community members.
- Complete class work and homework on time and to the best of my ability.
- Make certain my parents receive all notices and information from my school.
- Communicate regularly with my parents and teachers about school experiences so that they can help me to be successful in school.

Teacher's Signature & Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature & Date

Student's Signature & Date

Digital/Cell Phone Camera Policy

The Board of Trustees of Math, Science & Technology Community Charter School (“MaST”) believes in the development of student learning through the use of technology and aims to implement technological enhancements to the instructional program for MaST students. In furtherance of this goal, the Board of Trustees has approved student and staff usage of digital/cell phone cameras and directs that students and staff abide by the following policy regarding their use.

Digital/cell phone cameras allow instant capture of images that can be distributed via the Internet, intranet, e-mail and in print form. It is expected that an individual’s privacy be respected at all times. Images of members of the MaST community taken with the MaST digital/cell phone cameras distributed to students and staff shall not be distributed in any medium or digitally manipulated without the express permission of the subject.

The authorized use of images is limited to activities that support the educational goals of MaST. All digital/cell phone cameras and their parts, photographs, stored content, and applications made available to students and staff are considered the property of MaST. All staff and students entrusted with digital/cell phone cameras and their parts and applications must adhere to administrative procedures regarding the use, maintenance, storage and return of digital/cell phone cameras and their content, parts and applications. No material shall be purchased, used, stored, retrieved, downloaded and/or maintained on or for digital/cell phone cameras and no attempt shall be made to do so without the prior express consent of the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) or his or her designee.

All digital/cell phone cameras and their content, parts, photographs and applications shall be maintained and used in accordance with manufacturer recommended specifications, administrative procedures and any applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

The Board of Trustees charges each student and staff member entrusted with or in possession of a digital/cell phone camera for any period of time with responsibility for the proper care, maintenance and use of the camera and any and all related applications, content and parts thereof.

Digital/cell phone cameras shall not be used for purposes other than school-related assignments or activities. Digital/cell phone cameras may not be lent to any other person for any reason. Students and staff may not invade another person’s privacy by taking unwanted or inappropriate photographs. In addition, photographs taken with the MaST camera may not be published without written approval from the subject and the teacher for whose class assignment the camera was being used.

Filming or taking pictures on school property during school hours must be under the direction a MaST employee. At no time will any filming or picture taking be taken on school buses or in any restroom, locker room, or other dressing areas.

The taking or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, illegal, or otherwise inappropriate images or photographs will not be tolerated. Any violation of this provision will be immediately referred to law enforcement. The CEO and/or the Board of Trustees may report to the appropriate authorities any student whose damage or reckless or inappropriate use of a digital/cell phone camera or its content or related applications or parts has violated applicable state and/or federal laws and/or regulations.

MaST shall not be responsible for any unauthorized usage or attempted unauthorized usage of the digital/cell phone camera and/or its content, pictures, applications and/or parts. Students and staff are responsible for any and all loss or damage in connection with the digital/cell phone camera and its content applications and/or parts. Students and staff may be required to reimburse MaST for any associated damages, fines or losses. MaST is not responsible for any claims, demands, damages or awards sought against students or staff in connection with their use or attempted use of digital/cell phone cameras and/or their applications, content or parts.

Staff and student users of digital/cell phone cameras are responsible for performing their own data backups. MaST is not responsible for any files left on any digital/cell phone camera or for loss of, or damage to, a user's files during the time the digital/cell phone camera is in possession of the students and/or staff.

All digital/cell phone cameras are covered under the digital/cell phone camera manufacturer's limited warranty. Damage not covered by the manufacturer's warranty or by MaST includes:

- a. Accidents;
- b. Unreasonable use, abuse, neglect and alterations;
- c. Improper service, improper installation and improper connections with peripherals;
- d. Any service or repair provided outside the scope of the limited warranty; and
- e. Damage to or loss of any programs, data, or removable storage media, whether it occurs during warranty repair or other repair service.

Any attempts to dismantle or repair the digital/cell phone camera oneself will invalidate the manufacturer's warranty and may result in fines. The manufacturer will repair or replace the digital/cell phone cameras if they fail to function properly during the warranty period. Therefore, students and staff shall immediately notify MaST of any damage to or problems with the digital/cell phone cameras.

Students and staff shall comply with MaST's Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy, CIPA Policy and all other administrative policies and procedures as well as adhere to state and federal copyright laws and regulations regarding the use and possession of digital/cell phone

cameras and their applications and parts as well as any content or pictures stored, shared or attempted to be stored, shared on the cameras.

Digital/cell phone cameras shall be used for school purposes only as expressly authorized by the CEO and in the manner and scope as directed by the CEO. Failure to adhere to reasonable administrative procedures, directions and guidelines regarding digital/cell phone cameras may result in any or a combination of the following consequences: MaST's confiscation of the digital/cell phone camera; reports to appropriate authorities; consequences under MaST's Student Code of Conduct (up to and including suspension and/or referral to the Board of Trustees for expulsion depending upon the severity of the incident); consequences under MaST's employee handbook (up to and including warnings, suspension and/or termination of employment depending upon the severity of the incident); and/or the imposition of fines and/or damages as may be deemed appropriate by the CEO and/or Board of Trustees and allowed by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

The CEO shall develop procedures to implement this policy which shall include: (1) Rules for the safekeeping and accounting of digital/cell phone cameras; (2) Preparation of a schedule of fines for lost or damaged digital/cell phone cameras; (3) A report to the Board of Trustees on the occurrence of an incidence of vandalism and/or damage to digital/cell phone cameras which report shall include the number and kind of incident, the cost of vandalism or loss to MaST, and related facts as the CEO deems appropriate. If the digital/cell phone camera is lost or stolen, the authorized user of that camera must file a written claim to MaST within twenty-four (24) hours and give notice to the appropriate local authorities.

All digital/cell phone cameras and their parts and applications shall be inventoried and inspected for functionality upon return to MaST.

Wireless Reading Devices Policy

The Board of Trustees of Math, Science & Technology Community Charter School (“MaST”) believes in the advancement of student learning through the use of new and innovative technology. Consequently, the Board of Trustees has approved student and staff usage of wireless reading devices, including, but not limited to Kindles, Nooks and E-Books, and directs that the following shall be observed:

All wireless reading devices and their parts, stored content, and applications made available to students and/or staff are considered the property of MaST. Therefore, MaST requires that all wireless reading devices and their contents, parts and applications be maintained and used in accordance with manufacturer recommended specifications, administrative procedures and applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

All wireless reading devices and their parts and applications shall be inventoried and inspected for functionality on a periodic basis by MaST as deemed appropriate, but, at least yearly.

The Board of Trustees charges each student and/or staff member entrusted with or in possession of any wireless reading device for any period of time with responsibility for the proper care, maintenance and use of the wireless reading device and any and all related applications, content and parts thereof.

No materials shall be purchased, used, stored, retrieved, downloaded and/or maintained on or for wireless reading devices and no attempt shall be made to do so without the prior express consent of the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) or his or her designee.

MaST shall not be responsible for any unauthorized usage or attempted unauthorized usage of wireless reading devices and/or their content, applications and/or parts. Students and staff are responsible for any and all loss or damage in connection with wireless reading devices and their content applications and/or parts and may be required by MaST to reimburse MaST for any associated damages, fines or losses. MaST is not responsible for any claims, demands, damages or awards sought against student or staff in connection with their use or attempted use of wireless reading devices and/or their applications, content or parts.

Students and staff shall comply with MaST’s Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy, CIPA Policy and any and all other MaST policies and procedures. Students and staff shall also adhere to state and federal copyright laws and any regulations regarding the use and possession of wireless readings devices and their applications and parts as well as any content stored, shared or attempted to be stored, shared and/or accessed on wireless reading devices.

MaST may report to the appropriate authorities any student or staff member whose damage or reckless or inappropriate use of a wireless reading device or its content or related applications or parts has violated applicable state and/or federal laws and regulations.

Wireless reading devices shall be used for school purposes only during those periods and times expressly authorized by Administration and in the manner and scope as directed by Administration. Failure to adhere to reasonable administrative procedures, directions and guidelines regarding wireless reading devices may result in any or a combination of the following consequences: MaST's confiscation of the wireless reading device; reports to appropriate authorities; consequences under MaST's Student Code of Conduct (up to and including suspension and/or referral to the Board of Trustees for expulsion depending upon the severity of the incident); consequences under MaST's employee handbook (up to and including warnings, suspension and/or termination of employment depending upon the severity of the incident); and/or the imposition of fines and/or damages as may be deemed appropriate by MaST and allowed by applicable federal and/or state laws and regulations.

The Board of Trustees directs the CEO to develop procedures necessary to implement this policy which shall include: (1) Rules for the safekeeping and accounting of wireless reading devices; (2) Preparation of a schedule of fines for lost or damaged wireless reading devices; (3) A report to the Board of Trustees on occurrence of the incidence of vandalism and/or damage to wireless reading devices which report shall include the number and kind of incident, the cost of vandalism or loss to the school, and related facts as the CEO deems appropriate.

245. CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT POLICY

Date Adopted: 8/15/12

Based on information gathered from the American Academy of Neurology (AAN), the National Athletic Trainer's Association (NATA), the American Medical Association, and the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and in compliance with Pennsylvania state law, the following is the policy for concussion management and return to play criteria for the Mathematics, Sciences & Technology Community Charter School (the "Charter School"):

All student athletes participating in a school-sponsored contact or collision sport shall be evaluated and cleared to participate in writing by an Appropriate Medical Professional (as defined in the Safety in Youth Sports Act) with training in the evaluation and management of concussion. Such clearance must be provided within the first three days of practice or the establishment of a team roster, whichever is last.

Any additions to rosters should be tested prior to an individual participating in any sport with exposure to contact, including balls and/or equipment (e.g. field hockey balls, lacrosse sticks). Any testing after the first three days must be scheduled through the Athletic Director on an individual basis. Students suspected of having a concussion are not allowed to participate in any athletic activity (including Physical Education class) until the student athlete is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an Appropriate Medical Professional with training in the evaluation and management of concussion.

If a student athlete is suspected of having a concussion, they are to be removed from practice/competition immediately and not allowed to return to any physical activity (including Physical Education class) until they have been evaluated and cleared in writing by an Appropriate Medical Professional with training in the evaluation and management of concussion.

Students diagnosed with concussion, or presenting signs and symptoms of concussion, need to have a graded concussion checklist generated and symptoms monitored daily. Once all symptoms have passed, the student athlete can be re-tested after a minimum of four days with no recurrence of symptoms for a first concussion, or fourteen days for a second concussion. Athletes who are diagnosed with three concussions in a single school year are not to be allowed to return to any physical activity (including Physical Education class) unless cleared by a neurologist or concussion specialist. Following a negative (pass) test, the student athlete may participate in a physical exertion test the following day. If no signs and symptoms return during the exertion test, the student athlete may begin a gradual return to activity. Athletes who have a positive (fail) test may not be re-tested for a minimum of 48 hours.

Return to activity should be done incrementally after clearance and should take three or more days to completely return the student athlete to full activity. All return to play activities must be approved by the Athletic Director. Any variance to this is to be done only at the discretion of the Athletic Director or the student athlete's physician. Physical Education teachers must be notified if any student athlete's ability to participate in class is restricted.

The Charter School's CEO or his designee has the final say on a student athlete's clearance status following concussion, regardless of documentation provided by the student athlete. "When in doubt, sit them out" is the Charter School's position for concussion management and all decisions will be made with that in mind.

Beginning with the 2012/13 school year, the Charter School, through the Athletic Director, will be utilizing the ImPACT Test (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) which is a computerized evaluation system that can be used to help medical professionals diagnose concussions and return-to-play status. In essence, the neurocognitive 20 minute computer baseline test will be administered to all student-athletes at the start of every season (student-athletes participating in multiple seasons will only need to do it once). During the course of a season, if a student-athlete is suspected of having a concussion, the same test will be administered 48 hours after the injury. The computer software will compare the baseline test results with the post-injury test results, and it will create a report that can be sent to students, parents, or doctors' office. While the report cannot diagnose a concussion by itself, it can be a valuable tool for an authorized medical professional to use in his/her diagnosis and the student-athlete's return-to-play status. Starting with the upcoming school year and along with a new concussion policy that complies with the Safety in Youth Act, the Charter School will be implementing this additional tool to fully prioritize the health and well being of our student-athletes.

At no time will a student athlete suspected of having a concussion be allowed to participate in any physical activity related to any activities sponsored by the Charter School.

126. REMOTE ACCESS AND MONITORING OF SCHOOL-ISSUED TECHNOLOGY

Date Adopted: 8/15/12

Math, Science & Technology Community Charter School (“MaST”) Board of Trustees recognizes the need to establish regulations for school-issued Technology Resources consistent with the educational mission of MaST.

Definitions

Technology Resources: Technologies, devices and resources used to access, store or communicate information. This definition includes, but is not limited to: computers, laptops, iPads, modems, printers, scanners, fax machines and transmissions, telephonic equipment, audio-visual equipment, digital cameras, e-readers, i.e. Kindles and Nooks, Internet, electronic mail, electronic communications devices and services, multi-media resources, hardware and software, including the Moodle software (abbreviation for “Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment”).

Remote Access of Technology Resources – means a situation where a MaST employee or agent, using client management software, accesses a Technology Resource in the student’s possession. Software maintenance, which will download software and configuration changes automatically when a student connects to the MaST Network with the Technology Resource, does not constitute remote access of the Technology Resource. Remote access of Technology Resources does not include voluntary participation by the Student or other user in web conferences, chat rooms or other web-based activities not required as part of MaST’s academic program.

Software maintenance – means any software or configuration changes sent out to all Technology Resources even if it only affects certain Technology Resources that are necessary for the maintenance and security of MaST’s Technology Resources and to ensure that only authorized software is installed on the Technology Resources.

Repair and Maintenance of Technology Resources

Technology Resources are the property of MaST. Students are responsible for the appropriate use of Technology Resources in their homes where instruction takes place. The care of the Technology Resource is the student's responsibility. If a Technology Resource needs repair, service or other maintenance, students are to report to MaST immediately. Students should not attempt to repair or service their Technology Resource. Vandalism to any Technology Resource or any of their accessories is strictly prohibited by the MaST Student Code of Conduct.

Remote Access

Certain Technology Resources may be equipped with the ability to be accessed remotely in the following two scenarios:

1. Technical Problems: In some instances it may be necessary for MaST to access the Technology Resource remotely to resolve a technical problem. If this is needed, the student will be asked for permission. If permission for remote access is given, a permanent record of the approval will be logged along with the time, date and duration of the access. MaST will only implement remote access software that automatically creates a record of its activation. If the Student does not wish to have the technical problem resolved remotely the student may decline the request for remote access and bring the device into the Technology Department Office. However, a student does not need to be asked for permission prior to remote software maintenance as defined above. Software maintenance may involve the correction of altered code or programming and in some cases may remove files from the Technology Resource if the files are deemed to be a threat to the operation or security of the Network or are stored in unauthorized software.

2. A Technology Resource Reported Missing or Stolen: If the student or parent/guardian believes the Technology Resource is missing or stolen, a written report of the incident must be filled out by the student and parent/ guardian and filed with the Technology Department and the CEO. Once the report is filed, MaST may initiate the following procedures for reporting Technology Resources missing or stolen which provide as follows:
 - i. Activate Internet Protocol tracking may be used with parent/guardian and student consent for the sole purpose of retrieving the equipment.
 - ii. At no time will the Technology Resource's camera be activated remotely nor will screen shots, audio, video or on-screen text be remotely monitored.

NOTE: The Board of Trustees may from time to time approve other tracking technologies; however, no tracking technology will be used unless its function and capabilities have first been explained to the parent/guardian and student.

Review of Student Records

MaST's Student Information System permits only authorized MaST users to remotely access student records remotely and various remote levels of access are permitted depending on the reason for review and level of authority of authorized user.

Review of Student Work Files and Electronic Mail

Student work files may only be remotely accessed by the MaST instructor assigned to the specific subject class in which the student is enrolled.

At no time will any MaST employee, other than as stated above, review a student's work files or electronic mail stored on the Technology Resource, except as follows:

- After the Student Technology Resource has been returned for reason of disenrollment or for a replacement Technology Resource because of a defective

Technology Resource student work files and/or electronic mail may be reviewed before the Technology Resource is reassigned, sold or disposed of by MaST.

- Additionally, if MaST has a reasonable suspicion that a student is violating MaST rules or policies, authorized MaST administrators may remotely access and/or take custody of the Technology Resource and review student work files, web history, digital pictures, and/or electronic mail. “Reasonable suspicion” means reasonable grounds exist that the search will uncover evidence that the student violated state or federal law, MaST Code of Conduct, or policies. The scope of the search must be reasonably related to the violation that justified the search.

119. ACCEPTABLE USE AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

Date Adopted: 10/17/01

Revised: 12/1/07

Revised: 8/15/12

The Board of Trustees of MaST Community Charter School (the “Charter School”) provides computer network and Technology Resources to enhance educational opportunities for Charter School students, employees, and the Charter School community. This policy details acceptable use of Technology Resources provided by the Charter School. These services and equipment are provided by the Charter School as a privilege to the User (as defined below) and appropriate and ethical use of any Charter School Technology Resources, tools and equipment is required.

It is every Technology Resource User’s duty to use Technology Resources responsibly, professionally, ethically and lawfully. Access to these resources may be designated a privilege, not a right. This policy applies to aspects of both adult and minor acceptable use of Technology Resources.

This policy is intended to fulfill requirements of state and federal laws to the extent applicable, including the Federal Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA), 47 U.S.C. §§ 254(h) and (l) and the Neighborhood Children’s Internet Protection Act (N-CIPA), the 2008 Broadband Improvement Act, P.L. 110-385 and any applicable implementing regulations. As such, this policy addresses the following:

- (A) Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web;
- (B) The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- (C) Unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- (D) Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
- (E) Measures designed to restrict minors’ access to materials harmful to minors.

In using or accessing Charter School’s Technology Resources, Users must comply with the following provisions.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy and related procedures and forms, the following terms are defined as follows:

Child Pornography. Under federal law, any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture, or computer image or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical, or other means, of sexually explicit conduct, where:

1. the production of such visual depiction involves the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct;
2. Such visual depiction is a digital image, computer image, or computer-generated image that is, or is indistinguishable from, that of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct; or
3. Such visual depiction has been created, adapted, or modified to appear that an identifiable minor is engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

Under Pennsylvania law, any book, magazine, pamphlet, slide, photograph, film, videotape, computer depiction or other material depicting a child under the age of eighteen (18) years engaging in a prohibited sexual act or in the simulation of such act.

Minor. For purposes of compliance with CIPA, an individual who has not yet attained the age of seventeen. For other purposes, minor shall mean any person under the age of eighteen (18).

Obscene. Under federal and Pennsylvania law, any material if:

1. the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the material, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest;
2. the subject matter depicts or describes in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct described in the law to be obscene; and
3. the subject matter, taken as a whole, lacks serious artistic, political, educational or scientific value.

Password. A unique word, phrase or combination of alphanumeric and non-alphanumeric characters used to authenticate a User ID as belonging to a specific User.

Sexual Act and Sexual Contact. Has the meanings given such terms under 18 U.S.C. § 2246(2), 18 U.S.C. § 2246(3), and 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 5903.

Technology Protection Measure. A specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to content that is Obscene, Child Pornography or harmful to Minors and the material is covered by a certification regarding CIPA.

Technology Resources. Technologies, devices and resources used to access, store or communicate information. This definition includes, but is not limited to, computers, information systems, networks, laptops, iPads, modems, printers, scanners, fax machines and transmissions, telephonic equipment, audio-visual equipment, digital cameras, wireless reading devices, i.e. Kindles and Nooks, Internet, electronic mail, electronic communications, devices and services, multi-media resources, hardware and software, including Moodle software.

User. Any person who has signed this policy and is permitted by the Charter School to utilize any portion of the Charter School's Technology Resources including, but not limited to, students, parents, employees, Board of Trustee members, contractors, consultants, vendors and agents of the Charter School.

User Identification (ID). Any identifier that would allow a User access to Charter School's Technology Resources or to any program including, but not limited to, e-mail and Internet access.

Vandalism. Any malicious attempt to harm or destroy Technology Resources, data of another user, Internet or other networks. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

Authorized Users

Charter School's Technology Resources may be used by any authorized User. Use of Charter School's Technology Resources is a privilege, not a right. If a potential User has a history of discipline problems involving Technology Resources, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") or his/her designee may make the decision not to give the potential user access to certain Charter School Technology Resources.

User Privacy

Computer accounts and Technology Resources are given to Users to assist them in the performance of Charter School related functions. A User does not have a legal expectation of privacy in the User's electronic communications or other activities involving Charter School's Technology Resources, including e-mail, in anything they create, store, send, share, access, view or receive on or through the Internet.

By using Charter School's network and Technology Resources, all Users are expressly waiving any right to privacy and consenting to having their electronic communications and all other use accessed, reviewed and monitored by Charter School. A User ID with e-mail access will only be provided to authorized Users on condition that the User consents to interception of or access to all communications accessed, sent, received or stored using Charter School technology and signs this policy.

Electronic communications, downloaded material and all data stored on the Charter School's Technology Resources, including files deleted from a User's account, may be intercepted, accessed or searched by the Charter School administrators or designees at any time in the regular course of business to protect Users and the Charter School's equipment. Any such search, access or interception will be reasonable in inception and scope and shall comply with all applicable laws.

Please refer to the Charter School's policy relating to Remote Access and Monitoring of Technology Resources for a comprehensive review of the provisions governing the Charter School's use of software to access, monitor and track school-issued Technology Resources.

Technology Administration

The Board of Trustees directs the CEO or his/her designee to assign trained personnel to maintain the Charter School's technology in a manner that will protect the Charter School from liability and will protect confidential student and employee information retained on or accessible through the Charter School's Technology Resources.

Administrators may suspend access to and/or availability of the Charter School's Technology Resources to diagnose and investigate network problems or potential violations of the law or the Charter School policies and procedures. All Charter School Technology Resources are considered Charter School property.

Charter School may maintain or improve Technology Resources at any time. Charter School or authorized Charter School agents may remove, change or exchange hardware, equipment or other technology between buildings, classrooms or Users at any time without prior notice.

Content Filtering and Monitoring

Charter School employs technology protection measures and will monitor the online activities of Minors on the Charter School network and/or all Technology Resources and equipment with Internet access, as required by law. At a minimum they are meant to block visual depictions that are Obscene, illegal, pornographic, Child Pornographic and/or harmful to Minors as well as Internet/World Wide Web/computer resource access to such material. If Users find a website deemed inappropriate, such website must be reported to CEO. After review of the site, appropriate steps will be taken to block inappropriate site from Users.

For purposes of bona fide research or other lawful purposes certain blocked sites may be made available for those purposes only after approval of the request by the CEO.

In making decisions to disable Charter School's Technology Protection Measure device, the administrator shall consider whether the use will serve a legitimate educational purpose or otherwise benefit the Charter School. A student or parent/guardian claiming they have been denied access to Internet material that is not within the purview of this policy shall be afforded expedited review and resolution of the claim.

The procedure for making an appeal claim for the allowance of a device is as follows:

- 1) Make a written request to the CEO for review indicating the following:
 - a. How this device is educationally needed in school?
 - b. Why this device is needed on an everyday basis?
 - c. The stated reasoning for why this device should be reconsidered.
 - d. Present a copy of the signature page of the acceptable use policy for consideration of the device in school.

The Technology Protection Measures will be used to protect against access to visual depictions that are Obscene, harmful to Minors, illegal, pornographic, and Child Pornographic, as required by law.

Technology Protection Measures are not foolproof, and Charter School does not warrant the effectiveness of Internet filtering except to the extent expressly required by federal and state

laws. Evasion or disabling, or attempting to evade or disable, a Technology Protection Measure device installed by Charter School is prohibited.

Charter School shall not be held responsible when a student or other User knowingly or willingly accesses inappropriate material or communicates or shares such materials with others.

Viruses

Viruses can cause substantial damage to Technology Resources. Users are responsible for taking reasonable precautions to ensure they do not introduce viruses to Charter School's Technology Resources.

All material received on disk, flash drive, or other magnetic or optical medium, and all materials downloaded from the Internet or from Technology Resources or networks that do not belong to the Charter School must be scanned for viruses and other destructive programs before being transferred to Charter School's Technology Resources. Any User receiving an e-mail from a questionable source must contact the CEO before opening the e-mail or any attachment included in the e-mail.

To ensure security and avoid the spread of viruses, Users accessing the Internet through a Technology Resources attached to Charter School's network must do so through an approved Internet firewall or Technology Protection Measure.

Encryption Software

Users shall not install or use encryption software on any Charter School Technology Resource without first obtaining written permission from the CEO. Users shall not use passwords or encryption keys that are unknown to the CEO.

The federal government has imposed restrictions on export of programs or files containing encryption technology. Software containing encryption technology shall not be placed on the Internet or transmitted in any way outside the United States.

Web Content Developed By Students

As part of class/course assignments, students may be developing and/or publishing content to the Internet via web pages, electronic and digital images, blogs, wikis, podcasts, vodcasts, and webcasts, or may be participating in videoconferences.

The following guidelines must be adhered to when students develop and publish information to the Internet:

1. Personal information such as phone numbers, addresses, e-mail addresses or other specific personal information shall not be published or shared to a public page or videoconference.
2. All web content must comply with this policy.
3. All web content and videoconferencing must be under the direction and supervision of the teacher/administrator and is to be used for educational purposes only.

4. All web content is subject to copyright law and fair use guidelines.
5. All web content shall only be posted to Charter School approved web pages, blogs, wikis, podcasts, webcasts, vodcasts and videoconferences.

Prohibitions

Students, staff and all Users are expected to act in a responsible, ethical and legal manner in accordance with Charter School policies and federal and state laws. Specifically, the following uses of Charter School's Technology Resources are prohibited:

1. To facilitate illegal activity, including unauthorized access and hacking;
2. To engage in commercial, for-profit, or any business purposes, except where such activities are otherwise permitted or otherwise authorized;
3. Non-work or non-school related work;
4. Product advertisement or political lobbying;
5. Production or distribution of hate mail, unlawfully discriminatory remarks, and offensive or inflammatory communication;
6. Unauthorized or illegal installation, distribution, reproduction, or use of copyrighted materials;
7. To access or transmit material that is harmful to Minors and/or Users, indecent, Obscene, pornographic, Child Pornographic, terroristic, or advocates the destruction of property;
8. Use of inappropriate language or profanity;
9. To transmit material likely to be offensive or objectionable to recipients;
10. To intentionally obtain or modify files, data and passwords belonging to other Users, or integral to system and network operations;
11. Impersonation of another User, anonymity and/or use of pseudonyms;
12. Loading or use of unauthorized games, programs, files, or other electronic media;
13. To disrupt the work of other Users;
14. Destruction, modification, or abuse of Technology Resources and peripheral hardware or software;
15. Relocation of Charter School hardware without prior administrative consent;
16. Quoting personal communications in a public forum without the original author's prior consent;
17. To access or use any form of electronic mail on Charter School Technology Resources unless authorized by the CEO or his/her designee;
18. Using the network to participate in online or real-time conversations unless authorized by the teacher/administrator for the purpose of communicating with other classes, students, teachers, experts or professionals for educational purposes;

19. Using a disk, removable storage device or CD/DVD brought into Charter School from an outside source that has not been properly scanned for viruses or authorized for use by a teacher/administrator in accordance with Charter School established procedures;
20. To discriminate against, advocate violence against, harass, intimidate, bully or cyberbully others;
21. To send unsolicited (“spamming”) or forwarded e-mails and chain letters to persons;
22. Using “spoofing” or other means to disguise User identities in sending e-mail or other electronic communication via bulletin boards, newsgroups, social networking sites, instant messages, e-mail systems, chat groups, chat rooms, or through other Technology Resources;
23. To send, transmit or otherwise disseminate proprietary data, trade secrets, or other confidential information of Charter School;
24. Posting or allow the posting of personal information about themselves or other people on the Technology Resources unless authorized by the CEO. Personal information includes address, telephone number (including home, work and cell phone numbers), school address, work address, pictures or video bites, clips, etc.;
25. To refer to or attempt to refer to Charter School or its employees, agents, trustees, parents or students in any electronic communication, posting, blog, website, e-mail or social networking site, without written authorization of the CEO;
26. To access or transmit gambling, pools for money, or any other betting or games of chance;
27. To solicit information with the intent of using such information to cause personal harm or bodily injury to another or others;
28. Posting, sharing or attempting to post information that could endanger an individual, cause personal damage or a danger of service disruption; and
29. Indirectly or directly making connections that create “backdoors” to Charter School, other organizations, community groups, etc. that allow unauthorized access to the Technology Resources or Charter School.

Security

Charter School intends to strictly protect its Technology Resources against numerous outside and internal risks and vulnerabilities. Users are important and critical players in protecting these assets and in lessening the risks that can harm Technology Resources. Therefore, Users are required to comply fully with this Policy and to immediately report any violations or suspicious activities to the CEO.

System security is protected in part by the use of passwords. All passwords must be at least eight (8) characters and include alphanumeric and special characters. Users will be required to change their passwords every thirty (30) days. Charter School will maintain a password history that prevents the use of a repetitive password. After three (3) unsuccessful access attempts, an attempted User will be locked out and must contact the CEO or his/her designee. After a period of 30 minutes the User will be automatically logged off the system.

Failure to adequately protect or update passwords could result in unauthorized access to personal or Charter School files. Users shall be responsible for safeguarding their passwords for access to Charter School's Technology Resources and for all transactions made using their passwords. To protect the integrity of Charter School Technology Resources and systems, the following guidelines shall be enforced:

1. Students and other Users shall not reveal their passwords to another unauthorized individual.
2. Passwords shall not be printed or stored online.
3. Students and other Users are required to log off from the network when they complete working at a particular station.
4. Users are not to use a computer that has been logged in under another student's, teacher's or User's name.
5. Any User identified by the CEO or his/her designee as having a history of discipline problems involving Technology Resources may be denied access to any or all of Charter School's Technology Resources.
6. Students and other Users shall not alter a communication originally received from another person or computer with the intent to deceive.
7. Users shall not misrepresent the identity of a sender or source of communication.
8. Users shall not disable or circumvent any Charter School security; software or hardware.
9. Users shall not interfere with or disrupt Charter School's systems, network accounts, services or equipment.
10. Files, system security software/hardware or any Charter School system shall not be altered or attempt to be altered without the written authorization of the CEO or his/her designee.
11. Unauthorized hardware and electronic devices shall not be connected to the Charter School system.
12. Users shall comply with requests from the CEO or his/her designee to discontinue activities that threaten the operation or integrity of the Charter School system.

Use of passwords to gain access to Technology Resources or to encode particular files or messages does not imply that Users have an expectation of privacy in the material they create or receive on Technology Resources. Charter School retains access to all material stored on the Technology Resources regardless of whether that material has been encoded with a particular User's password, subject to limitations as set forth in Charter School's policy governing Remote Access and Monitoring of Charter School's Technology Resources, as well as applicable law.

Users shall not alter or copy a file belonging to another User without first obtaining permission from the owner of the file. Ability to read, alter, or copy a file belonging to another User does not imply permission to read, alter, or copy that file. Users shall not use the Technology Resources to "snoop" or pry into the affairs of other Users by unnecessarily reviewing the files and e-mails of another.

A User's ability to connect to another computer's system through the network or by any other electronic means shall not imply a right to connect to those systems or to make use of those systems unless specifically authorized by the administrators of those systems and the CEO.

Safety

To the greatest extent possible, Users of the network will be protected from harassment or unwanted or unsolicited communication. Any network User who receives threatening or unwelcome communications shall immediately bring them to the attention of a teacher, staff member or an administrator.

Communications through Charter School Technology Resources are limited to only that which serves a demonstrable educational purpose. For safety reasons, Charter School Users shall not reveal personal addresses or telephone numbers to other Users on Charter School networks or on the Internet.

The CEO or his/her designee shall be responsible for implementing protection measures to determine whether Charter School's computers, laptops, iPads, Kindles and other Technology Resources and technology related devices such as USB drives, digital cameras and video cameras, PDAs, MP3 players, printers, etc. are being used for purposes prohibited by law or for accessing sexually explicit materials. The procedures shall include but not be limited to:

1. Utilizing technology protection measures that block or filter Internet access for minors and adults to certain visual depictions that are Obscene, Child Pornography, harmful to minors with respect to use by Minors, or determined inappropriate for use by Minors by the Board of Trustees.
2. Maintaining a listing of all employees and Users with access to the room, which contains Charter School's server.
3. Generate and maintain monitoring reports (including firewall logs) of User activity and remote access on Charter School's system by all Users, including but not limited to students, employees, contractors, consultants, and/or vendors.
 - (a). The report should include the date, time and reason for access, whether it was remote access, changes made and who made the changes.
4. Maintaining documentation that students no longer enrolled at Charter School, terminated employees, and contractors/vendors with expired contracts or who are terminated are properly removed from Charter School's system in a timely manner.
5. Analyzing the impact of proposed program changes in relation to other critical business functions before adopting the proposed program changes.
6. Developing compensating controls to mitigate information technology (IT) weakness and alert Charter School to unauthorized changes to student data, i.e. reconciliations to manual records, analysis of student trends, data entry procedures and review, etc.

Vendors

If Charter School shares internally sensitive or legally/contractually restricted Charter School data with parties outside the Charter School community, Charter School shall first enter into a Non-Disclosure Agreement with the party. The Non-Disclosure Agreement is needed to protect Charter School's proprietary or otherwise sensitive information. Non-Disclosure Agreements are typically needed when entering into a business relationship with vendors, consultants and contractors. All Non-Disclosure Agreements must be reviewed by Charter School's legal counsel before signing.

All vendors, consultants and/or contractors shall only be granted access to Charter School's Technology Resources to make changes or updates with prior written authorization from the CEO or his/her designee. Once the vendor, consultant and/or contractor, completes its work, access to Charter School's Technology Resources will be removed. Vendors, consultants and contractors are required to assign unique user IDs and passwords to each of their employees authorized to access Charter School's system. Vendors, consultants and/or contractors may be terminated for violating this Policy and/or violating any state or federal laws.

All vendors, consultants and/or contractors and their employees who have direct contact with students must comply with the mandatory background check requirements for federal and state criminal history and child abuse. An official child abuse clearance statement for each of the vendors', consultants' and/or contractors' employees shall be submitted to Charter School prior to beginning employment with Charter School. Failure to comply with the background check requirements shall lead to immediate termination.

Closed Forum

Charter School's Technology Resources are not a public forum for expression of any kind and are to be considered a closed forum to the extent allowed by law.

All expressive activities involving Charter School Technology Resources that students, parents/guardians and members of the public might reasonably perceive to bear the approval of Charter School and that are designed to impart particular knowledge or skills to student participants and audiences are considered curricular publications. All curricular publications are subject to reasonable prior restraint, editing and deletion on behalf of Charter School for legitimate educational reasons. All other expressive activities involving Charter School's technology are subject to reasonable prior restraint and subject matter restrictions as allowed by law and Board of Trustees policies.

Records Retention

Charter School personnel shall establish a retention schedule for the regular archiving or deletion of data stored on Charter School Technology Resources that complies with Charter School's Record Retention and Destruction Policy as well as all federal and state laws and regulations. It is the User's responsibility to know which records are subject to these conditions and to comply with these laws and regulations or to contact the CEO for clarification.

In the case of pending or threatened litigation, Charter School's attorney will issue a litigation hold directive to the CEO or his/her designee. A hold directive will direct all Charter School

administration and staff not to delete or destroy any electronic mail or other documentation on a computer as related to a specific student, employee, issue and/or for a specific time period.

Failure to follow such a directive could result in negative legal consequences for the User and/or within the actual or threatened litigation. The litigation hold directive will override any records retention schedule that may have otherwise called for the transfer, disposal or destruction of relevant documents until the hold has been lifted by the Charter School's attorney.

E-mail and computer accounts of separated employees that have been placed on a litigation hold will be maintained by the Charter School until the hold is released. No employee, who has been so notified of a litigation hold, may alter or delete any electronic record that falls within the scope of the hold. Violation of the hold may subject the individual to disciplinary actions, up to and including termination of employment, as well as personal liability for civil and/or criminal sanctions by the courts or law enforcement agencies.

Drafting E-mails

Like any other document, an e-mail message and other computer information is discoverable during litigation. An e-mail may be used in litigation to indicate what a User knew or felt. It is important to keep this in mind when creating e-mails and other documents. Even after you delete an e-mail message or close a computer session, it may still be recoverable and may remain on the system. Since e-mail communications are discoverable during litigation, they will have to be turned over to the opposing party unless determined to be privileged by the Charter School's legal counsel.

Privileged Attorney-Client Communications

Confidential e-mail sent to or retained from counsel or an attorney representing Charter School shall include this warning header on each page: "ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGED: DO NOT FORWARD WITHOUT PERMISSION."

Damages

All damages incurred by the Charter School due to a User's intentional or negligent misuse of Charter School's Technology Resources, including loss of property and staff time, may be charged to the User. Charter School administrators have the authority to sign any criminal complaint regarding damage to Charter School technology.

No Warranty/No Endorsement

Charter School makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the services, products or access it provides.

The electronic information available to students and staff on the Internet or through web-based services does not imply endorsement of the content by Charter School, with the exception of resources approved and adopted by the Board of Trustees. Nor does Charter School guarantee the accuracy of information received using Charter School's Technology Resources.

Charter School is not and shall not be responsible for the loss of data, delays, nondeliveries, misdeliveries or service interruptions. Charter School is not and shall not be responsible for any information that may be damaged or unavailable when using Charter School Technology Resources or for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. Charter School is not and

shall not be responsible for any damages incurred as the result of using Charter School's Technology Resources, including but not limited to, the loss of personal property used to access Technology Resources. Further, Charter School is not and shall not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet or other commercial online services.

Unauthorized Disclosure of Information of Minors

It is a violation of state laws, including, but not limited to Chapter 12 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code, The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g) and all other federal laws and regulations, to access data of a student the User does not have a legitimate educational interest in or to disclosure information about a student without parental permission or absent an exception to the disclosure requirements. Access and distribution of student data is recorded.

Questions regarding the disclosure of student information must be directed to the CEO prior to disclosure and must conform to Charter School's student records and confidentiality policies. Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding Minors is prohibited.

Compliance with Applicable Laws and Licenses

In their use of Technology Resources, Users must comply with all software licenses/copyrights and all other state, federal, and international laws governing intellectual property and online activities. Users shall not copy and distribute copyrighted material (e.g., software, database files, documentation, articles, graphics files, and downloaded information) through the e-mail system or by any other means unless it is confirmed in advance from appropriate sources that Charter School has the right to copy or distribute the material. Failure to observe a copyright may result in disciplinary action by the Charter School, as well as legal action by the copyright owner. Any questions concerning these rights should be directed to the CEO or his/her designee.

Violations of Acceptable Technology Usage Policies and Procedures

Use of Technology Resources and equipment in a disruptive, manifestly inappropriate or illegal manner impairs Charter School's mission, squanders resources and shall not be tolerated. Therefore, a consistently high level of personal responsibility is expected of all Users granted access to Charter School's Technology Resources. Any violation of Charter School policies or procedures regarding technology usage may result in temporary, long-term or permanent suspension of User privileges. User privileges may be suspended pending investigation into the use of Charter School's Technology Resources and equipment.

Employees may be disciplined or terminated, and students suspended or expelled, for violating this Policy. Any attempted violation of Charter School's policies or procedures, regardless of the success or failure of the attempt, may result in the same discipline or suspension of privileges as that of an actual violation.

Consequences for Inappropriate Use

Charter School Users shall be responsible for damages to the equipment, systems, and software resulting from deliberate or willful acts.

Illegal use of Charter School Technology Resources includes, but is not limited to: intentional copying, deletion or damage to files or data belonging to others; copyright violations; or theft of services. Any illegal usage of Charter School Technology Resources will be immediately reported to the appropriate legal authorities for possible prosecution.

General rules for behavior and communications apply when using the Internet or any Charter School Technology Resource. Suspension of access, loss of access and other disciplinary actions may be consequences for inappropriate use. Vandalism may result in cancellation of access privileges, discipline and possible criminal action.

Cessation of Access

Upon termination or ending of enrollment, employment or the termination of any contract with or from Charter School, no further access to or use of Technology Resources is permitted without the express authorization from the CEO.

Education of Technology Resource Users

Charter School shall implement a program which educates students and staff about acceptable use and internet safety associated with Charter School's Technology Resources. All students must complete a designated Technology Resources and Internet training prior to unsupervised use of Charter School's Technology Resources as required by the 2008 Broadband Data Improvement Act. This training includes, but is not limited to: appropriate online behavior, including interacting on social networking websites and in chat rooms; cyberbullying awareness and response; proper use of Technology Resources; restricted activities with Technology Resources; and access and monitoring of school-issued Technology Resources to students.

No Additional Rights

This Policy is not intended for and does not grant Users any contractual rights.

Users of Charter School's Technology Resources must review this policy closely and sign and return to Charter School a form acknowledging receipt and acceptance of the terms in this policy, which is attached hereto. Venue for any legal action arising out of an alleged and/or actual violation of the attached Agreement(s) shall be in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania

**Acknowledgement of the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy
(Student User Agreement)**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Please review the following Student User Agreement with your child. Then please return both the signed Student User Agreement and the signed Parent User Agreement, which acknowledges receipt of MaST Community Charter School’s (“Charter School”) Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy (“Policy”), to your child’s principal by October 2014. This form is valid for the duration of your child’s enrollment in Charter School until replaced by another form or revoked in writing by a parent or guardian.

I, _____, a student of Charter School, have read the entire Acceptable Use Policy, which consists of 14 pages, understand it and agree to comply with the Policy. In addition to complying with all terms of the Policy, when using any Charter School Technology Resources, as defined above, I accept the following basic rules:

1. I shall treat all Technology Resources with care and will leave them in good working condition when I am finished. I will not damage, deface, destroy or render inaccessible Technology Resources.
2. I shall use appropriate language on all Technology Resources. If the language is obscene, vulgar, defamatory, harassing, degrading, sexually explicit, threatening, violent, insulting, demeaning, harmful to minors, child pornographic, pornographic, advocating illegal acts, or otherwise inappropriate as deemed by the Chief Executive Officer, I will not access it, use it, send it, share it, create it or attempt to access, use, create, share or send it.
3. I shall always treat people online with respect. I shall not use any Charter School Technology Resources to insult, harass, threaten, bully or cyberbully other Users, as defined above. I assume responsibility for the content of messages I send to others or that are sent to others via my account.
4. I shall respect the privacy of other Users and will not make any attempts to gain access into the private mailboxes or accounts of those Users. I shall not allow other Users access to my mailbox and will keep my password private.
5. I understand that Technology Resources are to be used for educational/professional/contractual use.
6. I understand that all Technology Resources belong to Charter School and I shall treat them with respect.
7. I will not install or download any applications (games), programs or materials from the Internet or from any Technology Resources unless the Chief Executive Officer gives me prior permission in writing.
8. I shall not add any software to Charter School’s Technology Resources unless the Chief Executive Officer gives me prior permission in writing.
9. I understand that the Technology Resources provided to me for use may be protected under copyright law. I agree not to copy resources unlawfully and/or distribute any materials provided for my use without express prior permission by the Chief Executive Officer.
10. I shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations regarding the use of Technology Resources, including but not limited to laws regarding child welfare and the Internet protection of minors, such as CIPA and N-CIPA.

By signing below, I agree to abide by the Acceptable Use Policy and understand that failure to follow all rules as explained in this document may result in the loss of my privileges to Technology Resources; disciplinary action, including student disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Charter School in accordance with the Code of Conduct; charges for damages; and civil or criminal penalties.

X _____
(User Signature)

(Date)

(MAINTAIN ONE COPY AND RETURN ONE COPY TO CHARTER SCHOOL)

**Acknowledgement of the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy
(Parent/Guardian User Agreement)**

I, _____, a parent/guardian of _____, a student of MaST Community Charter School (“Charter School”), have read the entire Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy (“Policy”), which consists of 14 pages, understand it and agree to comply with the Policy. In addition to complying with all terms of the Policy, when using any Charter School Technology Resources, as defined above, I acknowledge the following:

1. My child and I shall treat all Technology Resources with care and will leave them in good working condition when he/she is finished. My child and I will not damage, deface, destroy or render inaccessible Technology Resources.
2. My child and I shall use appropriate language on all Technology Resources. If the language is obscene, vulgar, defamatory, harassing, degrading, sexually explicit, threatening, violent, insulting, demeaning, harmful to minors, child pornographic, pornographic, advocating illegal acts, or otherwise inappropriate as deemed by the Chief Executive Officer, my child and I will not access it, use it, send it, share it, create it or attempt to access, use, create, share or send it.
3. My child and I shall always treat people online with respect. My child and I shall not use any Charter School Technology Resources to insult, harass, threaten, bully or cyberbully other Users. My child and I assume responsibility for the content of messages we send to others or that are sent to others via his/her account.
4. My child and I shall respect the privacy of other Users and will not make any attempts to gain access into the private mailboxes or accounts of those Users. My child and I shall not allow other Users access to my child’s mailbox and we will keep his/her password private.
5. My child and I understand that Technology Resources are to be used for educational/professional/contractual use.
6. My child and I understand that all Technology Resources belong to Charter School and we shall treat them with respect.
7. My child and I will not install or download any applications (games), programs or materials from the Internet or from any Technology Resources unless the Chief Executive Officer gives prior permission in writing.
8. My child and I shall not add any software to Charter School’s Technology Resources unless the Chief Executive Officer gives prior permission in writing.
9. My child and I understand that the Technology Resources provided may be protected under copyright law. My child and I agree not to copy resources unlawfully and/or distribute any materials provided for our use without express prior permission by the Chief Executive Officer.
10. My child and I shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations regarding the use of Technology Resources, including but not limited to laws regarding child welfare and the Internet protection of minors, such as CIPA and N-CIPA.

By signing below, I agree to abide by the Acceptable Use Policy and understand that failure to follow all rules as explained in this document may result in the loss of my and my child’s privileges to Technology Resources; disciplinary action, including student disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Charter School in accordance with the Code of Conduct; charges for damages; and civil or criminal penalties.

X _____
(User Signature)

(Date)

(MAINTAIN ONE COPY AND RETURN ONE COPY TO CHARTER SCHOOL)

125. SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING GUIDELINES POLICY

Date Adopted: 8/15/12

A. PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees of Name of Charter School (“Charter School”) recognizes that today’s learning environment involves collaborating, learning and sharing with others on the Internet and social media, including such services as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Shutterfly, LinkedIn, YouTube, Wikipedia, internet blogs, wikis, instant messaging programs and many other tools through which people connect and share information. The Board of Trustees of Charter School also recognizes the importance of keeping an orderly and respectful learning environment for the success of Charter School’s educational program. With this in mind, Charter School has developed the following policy to provide direction and guidance for students when participating in online social media activities.

B. RESPONSIBILITY

Whether or not a person chooses to participate in social media and networking activities is his or her own decision. However, to the extent that parents and students and members of the school community represent Charter School to each other and to the wider community, participation should be done responsibly, keeping in mind both how the location where one chooses to participate and how the content one posts reflects on that person individually and on Charter School. Any issues concerning the privacy of Charter School students, confidentiality of sensitive information, and respect for copyrights and trademarks are all important to understand before participating in an online social environment.

This Charter School Policy encourages students to participate in social networking and to strive to create an atmosphere of trust and individual accountability, keeping in mind that information produced by Charter School, including parents and students, is a reflection on the entire Charter School community and is subject to Charter School’s Acceptable Use Policy, the Family Education Rights Privacy Act (“FERPA”), Charter School’s mission, and all other applicable policies, and federal and state laws. By accessing, creating or contributing to social media for classroom or school use, you agree to abide by this Policy. Please read the Policy carefully before making use of social media. If there are any doubts or concerns about how this Policy applies to a specific situation or how it might apply to some new form of social media in the future, please err on the side of caution and direct all questions and concerns to the Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) before making use of such social media outlets.

In the rapidly expanding world of electronic communication, social media can mean many things. *Social media* includes all means of communicating or posting information or content of any sort on the Internet, including to your own or someone else’s web log or blog, journal or

diary, personal web site, social networking or affinity web site, web bulletin board or a chat room, whether or not affiliated with MaST as well as any other form of electronic communication.

Three basic beliefs apply to your activities online. Ultimately, you are solely responsible for what you post online. Before creating online content, consider some of the risks and rewards that are involved.

C. SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING WITHIN THE CLASSROOM

General Guidelines

1. Consult the Student Code of Conduct. Be aware that all existing policies and behavior guidelines extend to Charter School-related activities in the online environment as well as on the Charter School premises.
 - i. Misappropriation and posting to any social media and networking websites of individuals' names, including Charter School faculty, staff, employees, parents and students, and identifying information may be considered a violation of Charter School's Code of Conduct, Employee Handbook, as well as FERPA.
2. Use good judgment. Think about the type of image that you want to convey on behalf of Charter School when posting to social media and networking websites. Remember that what you post will be viewed and archived permanently online once you hit the "post" or "publish" button. On sites where you publicize your professional or educational affiliation, make sure that your profile adheres to the established criteria.
3. Provide value. Think about what you have to offer the community, including relevant blog posts, news tweets, or homework help, and focus on providing that consistently. Look for opportunities on these social sites to offer recommendations or services to engage patrons and provide value to the Charter School community and your community. Avoid being an Internet "troll" by posting or passing along mass e-mail forwards and urban legends (i.e., funny stories, videos, non-school photos and other "SPAM").
4. Accept responsibility. If you are wrong about something, admit it and move on. It is best to be honest about it and apologize, rather than to deny it or cover it up.

5. Copyright and Fair Use.

- i. Be sure to abide by all copyright laws and fair use guidelines. See <http://www.copyright.gov/>.
- ii. It is recommended to hyperlink to outside sources when necessary, but always be sure that the content to which you are hyperlinking is appropriate and consistent with guidelines and this Policy.
- iii. Be sure not to plagiarize and give credit where it is due. If you are re-posting photos, videos, poems, music, text, artwork or other copyrightable material, take the extra step of identifying the creator of the materials to the extent reasonably possible. 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 photographs of you and for which you paid. It is often possible to pay the photographer for “digital rights” to photos.
- iv. You may not place copies of Charter School's trademarks, logos, or symbols on a website, blog, or web page without prior written approval from Charter School.

6. Profiles and Identity

- i. Remember your association and responsibility to Charter School in online social environments. Remember how you present yourself online should be comparable to how you represent yourself in person.
- ii. Be cautious in how you create your profile, bio, avatar, etc. For your personal safety, no identifying personal information, such as full names, addresses, or phone numbers should appear on blogs or wikis or other social media and networking websites.
- iii. When uploading digital pictures or avatars that represent you, make sure you select a Charter School-appropriate image. Also, remember not to utilize protected images.

7. Social Bookmarking

- i. Be aware that others can view the sites that you bookmark, and be aware of words used to tag or describe the bookmark. Be aware of URL shortening services and verify the landing site before submitting a link as a bookmark.
- ii. Remember that you do not control what appears on landing pages in the future, so, if possible, attempt to link directly to the page or resource. Return to these links as often as possible to verify the accuracy and appropriate nature of such pages and resources.

Disclaimers

When posting to social media, be sure to make it clear that the information is representative of your views and opinions and not that of Charter School.

Charter School students and parents must include disclaimers within any postings to social media in which they either identify themselves or are likely to be identified as affiliated with Charter School that the views and opinions are their own and do not reflect on Charter School. An example disclaimer states, “The postings on this site are my own and do not necessarily represent NAME OF Charter School’s positions, strategies or opinions.”

Posting a standard disclaimer does not, by itself, exempt Charter School students and parents from personal responsibility when posting on social media or online forums.

D. EMPLOYEE GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING WEBSITES WITHIN THE CLASSROOM OR ON SCHOOL OWNED COMPUTERS

Personal Responsibility

Charter School employees are personally responsible for the content they publish online. Be mindful that what is published will be public for a long time, so protect your privacy along with the privacy of Charter School, its students and families. Once materials are published online, they may be out of your control.

Online behavior should reflect the same standards of honesty, respect and consideration that you use face-to-face and should be carried out consistent with the standards applied at Charter School and in furtherance of Charter School’s mission. Do not participate in spreading false or unsubstantiated rumors or false information.

Remember that social media resources are an extension of your classroom. When posting on social media, what is inappropriate in a classroom should be deemed inappropriate online.

The lines between public and private, personal and professional are blurred in the digital world. By virtue of being identified as a Charter School employee online, you are now connected to colleagues, students, parents, and the school community. You should ensure that content associated with you is consistent with your work at Charter School.

When contributing online, do not post confidential student information. Such posting is a violation of FERPA and Charter School policy.

Before posting videos and photographs of students to any social media or online forum, notify the CEO in advance of posting them, letting him or her know the content of what you intend to post, where you intend to post it, and the identity of any Charter School students depicted in the

media. Photographs, videos and other digital content identifying Charter School students or their families should not be posted online without approval from the CEO.

Materials and information posted to social media should ONLY be posted to online forums that provide protection against general public access and have tools in place to limit access only to identified or invited persons.

Use of student time for social media and networking activities should have an articulated and defined educational and instructional purpose consistent with Charter School's mission and purpose.

Requests for Social Media and Networking Websites

Charter School understands that technology is constantly changing and that many sites have pedagogical significance for student use.

Requests will be reviewed by the CEO and the Board of Trustees, if necessary, and this Policy will be updated periodically throughout the school year as needed.

F. STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING WEBSITES WITHIN THE CLASSROOM OR ON SCHOOL OWNED COMPUTERS

Due to the wealth of new social media and networking tools available to students, student materials, products, and documents have the potential to reach audiences far beyond the classroom. This translates into a greater level of responsibility and accountability for everyone, particularly Charter School students. Below are guidelines that Charter School students should adhere to when using web tools in the classroom or in any way related to Charter School activities.

All Charter School students represent Charter School even when not posting to social media during class time, so these guidelines should be followed whenever posting material that could identify you or your relationship to Charter School:

Be aware of what you post online. Social media venues are very public and what you contribute leaves a digital footprint for all to see. Comments expressed via social networking websites under the impression of a "private conversation" may still end up being shared in a more public domain, even with privacy settings on maximum. The internet is out there forever and available to anyone, so always use caution and common sense. Do not post anything that you would not want friends, enemies, parents, teachers or a future employer to see.

Follow the Student Code of Conduct when writing online. It is acceptable to disagree with others' opinions, however, please express dissent in a respectful manner. Make sure that criticism is constructive and not hurtful. What is inappropriate in the classroom is inappropriate online.

The First Amendment protects the First Amendment rights of students' speech online. However, the laws and courts have ruled that schools can discipline students if their speech on school grounds is lewd, vulgar, indecent, or offensive or meant to intimidate or bully, or causes a substantial disruption to the school environment.

Be safe online and never give out personal information, including, but not limited to, last names, phone numbers, addresses, exact birthdates, and pictures. Do not write about other people without their permission or share their personal information. Do not share your password with anyone besides your teachers and parents.

Linking to other websites to support your thoughts and ideas is recommended. However, be sure to read the entire article before linking to ensure that all information is appropriate for a school setting.

Do not use other people's intellectual property without their permission. Understand copyright and fair use laws. Be aware that it is a violation of copyright law to copy and paste another's thoughts and work. Cite the sources you use, and it is good practice to link to the actual website when appropriate.

Be aware that pictures, videos, songs, and audio clips may also be protected under copyright laws. Verify that you have permission to use the images, videos, songs or other clips.

Do not misrepresent yourself by using someone else's identity.

Blogs and wiki posts should be well written. If you edit someone else's work, be sure it is in the spirit of improving the writing.

If you run across inappropriate materials that make you feel uncomfortable, or is not respectful, tell your teachers or parents immediately.

Students who do not abide by these terms and conditions may lose their opportunity to access future use of social media and online tools.

G. GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION BY STUDENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL AND/OR ON PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Charter School's ability to control student off-campus speech, in all forms, must be balanced against students' First Amendment right to freedom of expression.

Free speech protects students who want to participate in social networking, but the laws and courts have ruled that schools can discipline students if their speech, including online postings, materially interfere or substantially disrupt school operations. A student's out-of-school use of social media and networking websites may be held to be in violation of Charter School's Code of Conduct. Such conduct is further subject to the involvement of federal, state and/or local authorities and law enforcement where deemed appropriate by Charter School Administration,

and to the extent permitted by applicable federal and state laws and regulations, if the student product on these sites:

Causes material interference or substantial disruption to Charter School's operations; or
Interferes with the individual rights of others; or
Threatens serious harm to Charter School or the community; or encourages unlawful activity.

It is important for student to keep in mind that all information and materials produced by them on social media and networking websites are a reflection on the entire Charter School community. If the students' postings to or participation in any website results in false accusations, harassment, bullying, cyber bullying, defamation, libel and/or slander about a member of the Charter School community, it may be a violation of Charter School's Code of Conduct, Charter School's Anti-Bullying Policy, and state and/or federal law.

In addition, the posting of Charter School property including, but not limited to, photographs, logos, and names, may be a violation of Charter School's Acceptable Use Policy, FERPA, federal copyright laws, a violation of a the right to privacy, and/or may be considered trademark infringement.

At no point while at school or during the school day are students allowed to access their personal social media or conduct personal social networking activities via Charter School technology resources or their own personal technology resources.

Off-Campus Communications between Employees and Students

Charter School has provided the employees and students with the means to communicate electronically concerning school matters. Therefore, unless given prior permission by the CEO, online interaction between employees and students is only allowed in Charter School-sponsored course websites, Charter School e-mail, and other Charter School-sponsored online spaces. Interactions on Charter School-sponsored online spaces should be sufficient for online communications between Charter School employees and students.

This Policy is not intended to violate an employee's or student's First Amendment Right to Free Speech.

H. USING SOCIAL MEDIA AT WORK

Refrain from using social media while on work time or on equipment that MaST provides, unless it is work-related as authorized by your manager or consistent with the Equipment Policy. Do not use MaST email addresses to register on social networks, blogs or other online tools utilized for personal use.

I. GUIDELINES FOR USE OF TELEPHONES WITHIN THE CLASSROOM OR ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Charter School telephones are intended for the use of conducting business and school operations. Personal usage of Charter School telephones during business hours is discouraged except for extreme emergencies. All personal telephone calls should be kept brief to avoid congestion on Charter School's telephone system. Charter School phones are not to be used for any long distance calls that are not strictly school-related.

Charter School students should refrain from all personal calls while in the classroom. If a personally owned telephone is brought into a classroom, the telephone must be turned off. Only when class is not in session may Charter School students check their phones for messages and make or receive personal calls. Charter School reserves the right to request personal telephones not be brought onto Charter School property.

Charter School students may not use personal telephones for text messaging or picture messaging while in the classroom. Charter school students shall not access, send, receive or download any text or picture message that could be viewed as derogatory, defamatory, obscene or otherwise inappropriate. All text and picture messaging is expected to conform to all Charter School guidelines and policies.

If a personally owned cellular telephone has picture-taking functionality, Charter School students may not use such telephones to take pictures while in the classroom.

J. PARENT GUIDELINES

Social media and networking tools can be powerful tools that facilitate communications between Charter School teachers, students and parents. Charter School encourages parents to engage in such communications when appropriate, but requests that parents act responsibly and respectfully at all times, understanding that their conduct not only reflects on the Charter School community, but will also be a model for Charter School students as well.

Parents should adhere to the following guidelines:

Parents shall not attempt to destroy or harm any Charter School information online.

Parents shall not use Charter School classroom social media for any illegal activity, including dissemination of personal or private information about Charter School employees and students, in violation of federal and state laws.

Parents shall not conduct themselves in a manner inconsistent with the Charter School and student guidelines above.

K. DISCIPLINE

Charter School investigates and responds to all reports of violations of this Policy. Violations of this Policy can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. The appropriate discipline will be determined based on the nature and factors of the blog and/or social media or networking posts. Charter School reserves the right to take legal action where necessary against students who engage in prohibited or unlawful conduct.

**Acknowledgement and Consent Form
2014-2015**

To acknowledge that you have received, read, and understand the policy entitled, "Social Media and Networking Guidelines Policy," please sign below. By signing below, you are also acknowledging your consent to an agreement to comply with all the terms and conditions of this Policy. Please retain a copy of this confirmation for your personal file and return a copy to Charter School

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Date:

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Date:

Math, Science, & Technology Community Charter School

1800 E. Byberry Road

Philadelphia, PA 19116

Telephone: (267) 348-1100 Fax: (267) 348-1217

<http://mastecs.org>

Student/Parent Agreement Form

September 2014

I agree to abide by the policies and procedures of the MaST Community Charter School.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date: _____

Date: _____

Homeroom No. _____

This form is to be signed, detached from the Handbook and returned to the homeroom teacher together with the Acknowledgement of the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy (student [page 104] and parent [page 105]) and Social Media and Networking Acknowledgment and Consent Form (page 114).