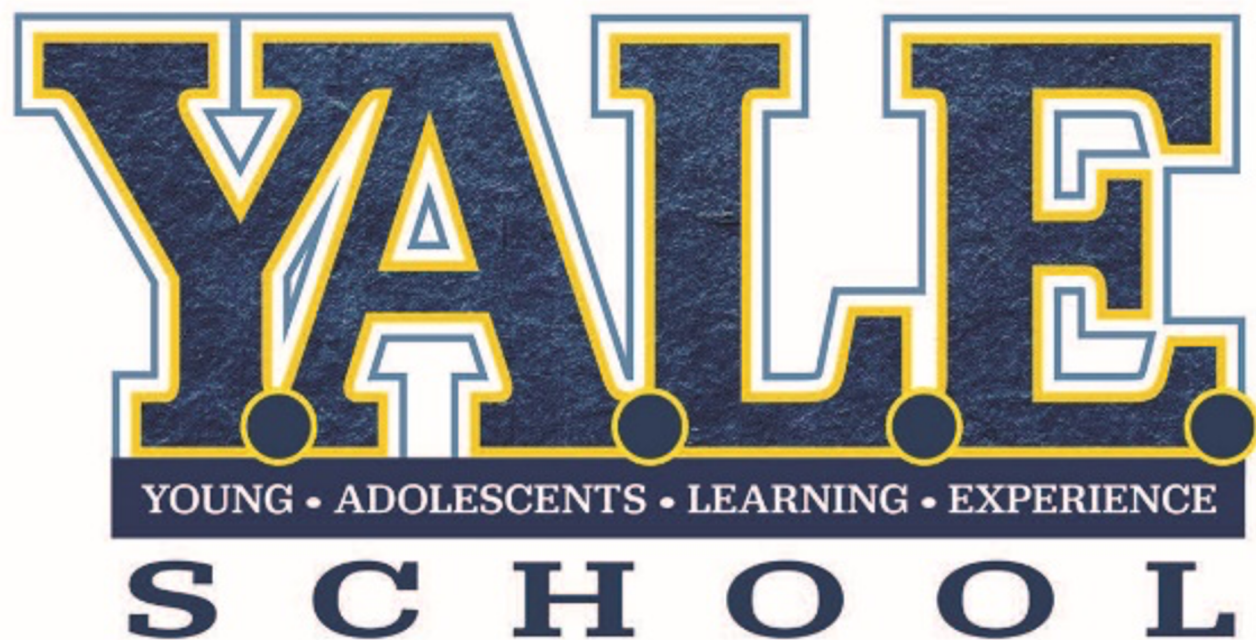




STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK 2025-2026

Cherry Hill, Ellisburg, Northfield, Marlton

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Updated July 2025

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FACT SHEET

Y.A.L.E. SCHOOL, INC.

CHERRY HILL CAMPUS
2127 Church Road
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
(856) 482-5252

ELLISBURG CAMPUS
11 Connecticut Avenue
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
(856) 629-1811

NORTHFIELD CAMPUS
1000 Burton Avenue
Northfield, NJ 08225
(609) 677-9960

MARLTON DEMASI CAMPUS
199 Evesboro-Medford Road
Marlton, NJ 08053
(609) 678-4020

MARLTON MIDDLE CAMPUS
150 Tomlinson Mill Road
Marlton, NJ 08053
(609) 678-4020

*Note: Policies and procedures contained within this handbook may be superseded by the Y.A.L.E. School Reopening and Recovery Plan.

HOURS OF SESSION

Cherry Hill & Ellisburg:	8:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.
Northfield:	8:45 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Marlton (at Marlton Middle School)	8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Marlton (at DeMasi Elementary)	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Office	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Teacher Hours	8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**PLEASE CONSULT THE CAMPUS CALENDAR
THAT APPLIES TO YOUR CHILD.**



Y.A.L.E. SCHOOL, INC. 2025 – 2026

Cherry Hill Campus, 2127 Church Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 (856) 482-5252
www.yaleschoolnj.com

School Hours: 8:30 am — 2:15 pm
Delayed opening time: 10:00 am
Early dismissal time: 12:45 pm
On early dismissal days, there is no allotted lunch period.

August					September (16)					October (21)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2*	3*	4*	5*			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8*	9	10	11	12	6	7	8*	9*	10*
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	20*	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31*
November (18)					December (17)					January (19)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5				1	2
10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9
17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16
24	25	26*	27	28	22	23*	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23
					29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30
February (18)					March (21)					April (16)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
9	10	11	12	13*	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20*	13	14	15	16	17
23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24
					30	31				27	28	29	30	
May (20)					June (14)					July				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3
4	5*	6*	7*	8*	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	15	16*	17*	18*	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22*	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31

August	
25-28	New Staff Orientation
September	
1	Labor Day
2-5*	Staff Orientation
8*	First Day for Students – Early Dismissal
23	Rosh Hashanah
October	
2	Yom Kippur
8-10*	Early Dismissal
20*	Staff Development Day (Divali)
31*	Early Dismissal
November	
26*	Early Dismissal
27-28	Thanksgiving Recess
December	
23*	Early Dismissal
24-31	Winter Recess
January	
1-2	Winter Recess
19	Martin Luther King Jr Day
February	
13*	Staff Development Day
16	President's Day
March	
20*	Staff Development Day (Eid al-Fitr)
April	
3	Good Friday
6-10	Spring Recess
May	
5-8*	Early Dismissal
22*	Early Dismissal
25	Memorial Day
June	
16-18*	Early Dismissal
18	Possible Student Last Day
19	Juneteenth

	School closed
★	Early dismissal
*	Staff Development Day

Issued: 3.14.25

Campus calendars in PDF format available online at

www.yaleschoolnj.com/downloads

School closing info on our website www.yaleschoolnj.com, TV channels 3, 6, 10 and FM radio WKXW (101.5) as

Y.A.L.E. School Cherry Hill.



Y.A.L.E. SCHOOL WEST, INC.

2025 – 2026

Ellisburg Campus, 11 Connecticut Avenue, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 (856) 629-1811
www.yaleschoolnj.com

School Hours: 8:30 am — 2:15 pm
 Delayed opening time: 10:00 am
 Early dismissal time: 12:45 pm
 On early dismissal days, there is no allotted lunch period.

August					September (16)					October (21)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2*	3*	4*	5*			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8*	9	10	11	12	6	7	8*	9*	10*
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	20*	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31*
November (18)					December (17)					January (19)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5				1	2
10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9
17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16
24	25	26*	27	28	22	23*	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23
					29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30
February (18)					March (21)					April (16)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
9	10	11	12	13*	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20*	13	14	15	16	17
23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24
					30	31				27	28	29	30	
May (20)					June (14)					July				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3
4	5*	6*	7*	8*	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	15	16*	17*	18*	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22*	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31

August	
25-28	New Staff Orientation
September	
1	Labor Day
2-5*	Staff Orientation
8*	First Day for Students – Early Dismissal
23	Rosh Hashanah
October	
2	Yom Kippur
8-10*	Early Dismissal
20*	Staff Development Day (Diwali)
31*	Early Dismissal
November	
26*	Early Dismissal
27-28	Thanksgiving Recess
December	
23*	Early Dismissal
24-31	Winter Recess
January	
1-2	Winter Recess
19	Martin Luther King Jr Day
February	
13*	Staff Development Day
16	President's Day
March	
20*	Staff Development Day (Eid al-Fitr)
April	
3	Good Friday
6-10	Spring Recess
May	
5-8*	Early Dismissal
22*	Early Dismissal
25	Memorial Day
June	
16-18*	Early Dismissal
18	Possible Student Last Day
19	Juneteenth

	School closed
★	Early dismissal
*	Staff Development Day

Issued: 3.20.25

Campus calendars in PDF format available online at

www.yaleschoolnj.com/downloads

School closing info on our website www.yaleschoolnj.com.

TV channels 3, 6, 10 and FM radio WKXW (101.5) as

Y.A.L.E. School Ellisburg.



Y.A.L.E. SCHOOL EAST, INC. 2025 – 2026

Northfield Campus, 1000 Burton Avenue, Northfield, NJ 08225 (609) 677-9960
www.yaleschoolnj.com

School Hours: 8:45 am — 2:30 pm
Delayed opening time: 10:00 am
Early dismissal time: 1:00 pm
On early dismissal days, there is no allotted lunch period.

August					September (16)					October (21)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2*	3*	4*	5*			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8*	9	10	11	12	6	7	8*	9*	10*
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	20*	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31*
November (18)					December (17)					January (19)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5				1	2
10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9
17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16
24	25	26*	27	28	22	23*	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23
					29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30
February (18)					March (21)					April (16)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
9	10	11	12	13*	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20*	13	14	15	16	17
23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24
					30	31				27	28	29	30	
May (20)					June (14)					July				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3
4	5*	6*	7*	8*	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	15	16*	17*	18*	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22*	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31

August	
25-28	New Staff Orientation
September	
1	Labor Day
2-5*	Staff Orientation
8*	First Day for Students – Early Dismissal
23	Rosh Hashanah
October	
2	Yom Kippur
8-10*	Early Dismissal
20*	Staff Development Day (Diwali)
31*	Early Dismissal
November	
26*	Early Dismissal
27-28	Thanksgiving Recess
December	
23*	Early Dismissal
24-31	Winter Recess
January	
1-2	Winter Recess
19	Martin Luther King Jr Day
February	
13*	Staff Development Day
16	President's Day
March	
20*	Staff Development Day (Eid al-Fitr)
April	
3	Good Friday
6-10	Spring Recess
May	
5-8*	Early Dismissal
22*	Early Dismissal
25	Memorial Day
June	
16-18*	Early Dismissal
18	Possible Student Last Day
19	Juneteenth

	School closed
★	Early dismissal
*	Staff Development Day

Issued: 3.20.25

Campus calendars in PDF format available online at

www.yaleschoolnj.com/downloads

School closing info on our website www.yaleschoolnj.com.

TV channels 3, 6, 10 and FM radio WKXW (101.5) as

Y.A.L.E. School Northfield.



Y.A.L.E. SCHOOL NORTH 2, INC.-DeMasi 2025-2026

Francis S. DeMasi Campus
199 Evesboro-Medford Road, Marlton, NJ 08053 (609) 678-4020
www.yaleschoolnj.com

School Hours: 9:00 am — 3:00 pm
Delayed opening time: 10:00 am
Early dismissal time: 1:15 pm
On early dismissal days, there is no allotted lunch period.

August					September (16)					October (21)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2*	3*	4*	5*			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8*	9*	10*
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	20*	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31*
November (16)					December (17)					January (19)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5				1	2
10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9
17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16
24	25	26*	27	28	22	23*	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23
					29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30
February (18)					March (21)					April (16)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
9	10	11	12	13*	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20*	13	14	15	16	17
23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24
					30	31				27	28	29	30	
May (20)					June (16)					July				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10
11*	12*	13*	14*	15*	15	16	17	18*	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	22*	23*	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31

	School closed
★	Early dismissal
*	Staff Development Day

Issued: 3.20.25; Revised 4.15.25

Campus calendars in PDF format available online at
www.yaleschoolnj.com/downloads

School closing info on our website www.yaleschoolnj.com, TV
channels 3, 6, 10 and FM radio WKXW (101.5) as
Y.A.L.E. School North.

August	
25-28	New Staff Orientation
September	
1	Labor Day
2-5*	Staff Orientation
8	First Day for Students
23	Rosh Hashanah
October	
2	Yom Kippur
8-10*	Early Dismissal
20*	Staff Development Day (Diwali)
31*	Early Dismissal
November	
6-7	NJEA Convention
26*	Early Dismissal
27-28	Thanksgiving Recess
December	
23*	Early Dismissal
24-31	Winter Recess
January	
1-2	Winter Recess
19	Martin Luther King Jr Day
February	
13*	Staff Development Day
16	President's Day
March	
20*	Staff Development Day (Eid al-Fitr)
April	
3	Good Friday
6-10	Spring Recess
May	
11-15*	Early Dismissal
25	Memorial Day
June	
18, 22, 23*	Early Dismissal
19	Juneteenth
23	Possible Last Day Students



Y.A.L.E. SCHOOL NORTH, INC.-Marlton Middle
2025–2026
 Marlton Middle School
 150 Tomlinson Mill Rd, Marlton, NJ 08053 (609) 678-4020
www.yaleschoolnj.com

School Hours: 8:30 am — 2:30 pm
 Delayed opening time: 10:00 am
 Early dismissal time: 12:45 pm
 On early dismissal days, there is no allotted lunch period.

August					September (16)					October (21)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2*	3*	4*	5*			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8*	9*	10*
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	20*	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31*
November (16)					December (17)					January (19)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5				1	2
10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9
17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16
24	25	26*	27	28	22	23*	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23
					29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30
February (18)					March (21)					April (16)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3
9	10	11	12	13*	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20*	13	14	15	16	17
23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24
					30	31				27	28	29	30	
May (20)					June (16)					July				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
				1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10
11*	12*	13*	14*	15*	15	16	17	18*	19	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	22*	23*	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31

	School closed
★	Early dismissal
*	Staff Development Day

Issued: 4.17.25; Rev. 7.7.25

Campus calendars in PDF format available online at
www.yaleschoolnj.com/downloads

School closing info on our website www.yaleschoolnj.com, TV channels 3, 6, 10 and FM radio WKXW (101.5) as
 Y.A.L.E. School North.

August	
25-28	New Staff Orientation
September	
1	Labor Day
2-5*	Staff Orientation
8	First Day for Students
23	Rosh Hashanah
October	
2	Yom Kippur
8-10*	Early Dismissal
20*	Staff Development Day (Diwali)
31*	Early Dismissal
November	
6-7	NJEA Convention
26*	Early Dismissal
27-28	Thanksgiving Recess
December	
23*	Early Dismissal
24-31	Winter Recess
January	
1-2	Winter Recess
19	Martin Luther King Jr Day
February	
13*	Staff Development Day
16	President's Day
March	
20*	Staff Development Day (Eid al-Fitr)
April	
3	Good Friday
6-10	Spring Recess
May	
11-15*	Early Dismissal
25	Memorial Day
June	
18, 22, 23*	Early Dismissal
19	Juneteenth
23	Possible Last Day Students

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Y.A.L.E. School shares your concern when weather conditions present a travel hazard. Parents now have three options for obtaining prompt and reliable school closing, early dismissal or delayed opening announcements in the event of snow or other emergencies:

1. TV Announcements provided by our media partners (See chart below)
2. Online access to announcements at www.yaleschool.com
3. Text notifications on your mobile phone for those who enroll at www.yaleschoolnj.com

Y.A.L.E. School Media Partners by Campus

Campus	TV Station*	School Identification
Cherry Hill & Ellisburg	NBC10 & 6ABC	"Y.A.L.E. School – Cherry Hill" "Y.A.L.E. School – Ellisburg"
Northfield	NBC10 & 6ABC	"Y.A.L.E. School – Northfield Campus"
Marlton	Channels 3, 6 & 10	"Evesham School District"

**School Closing Announcements begin at 6:30 a.m.*

School Closing/Delayed Opening Schedule

If...	Time is...
Early Dismissal NOTE: Parents should make contingency plans for their children in the event of an early dismissal	12:45 p.m. (Cherry Hill, Ellisburg, Marlton Middle) 1:00 p.m. (Northfield) 1:15 p.m. (DeMasi)
Delayed Opening	10:00 a.m.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL...

LISTEN FOR YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT

CHECK ONLINE

or

Enroll To RECEIVE A TEXT MESSAGE

INTRODUCTION

Y.A.L.E. is a private school dedicated to teaching solutions to the academic, social, behavioral and developmental challenges facing children, teens, and young adults with autism spectrum disorders and other social learning differences. It is the academic and social mission of Y.A.L.E. School to provide an individualized program of instruction that adequately challenges students, facilitates their development and prepares them to achieve the greatest degree of independence and the highest quality of life. Our school setting is based on the principles and practices of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). ABA uses empirically-validated procedures to assist individuals in gaining skills of academic, social and personal value.

Our academic program is standards-based, rather than textbook driven. Instruction follows the New Jersey Core Content Standards and the Common Core State Standards. The Y.A.L.E. classroom model incorporates an array of evidence-based teaching strategies and teacher-designed materials that facilitate a robust and dynamic learning environment individualized to meet the needs of students.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES

We believe that a collective, collaborative process between professionals and parents/guardians requires each party to share their resources, respecting the other's efforts and contributions towards the development of a student-centered plan. By establishing a strong home and school connection built on frequent, honest and open communication, parents/guardians and professionals can work effectively in a cooperative, productive relationship based on a firm foundation of mutual trust and confidence.

INTAKE PROCEDURE

All students must be referred to Y.A.L.E. by the local school district. Referrals must be accompanied by each child's school history, child study team evaluations, as well as the existing individualized educational plan (I.E.P.)

These records will be reviewed by the Y.A.L.E. intake team and an interview will be scheduled with the student and his/her parents. Enrollment is contingent upon approval from parents, sending school district and the administration of Y.A.L.E.

ASSESSMENT PHASE

During the first weeks of a student's tenure at Y.A.L.E., academic and social skills will be assessed by the staff. These assessments, in combination with student records, may determine a student's academic and behavior goals for the school year.

RELATED SERVICES

Y.A.L.E. offers a wide array of related services to its students and their parents. Upon entering Y.A.L.E., each student is carefully screened and evaluated to determine if a need exists for a particular related service. The related services provided may include individual and group therapy, parent support and training groups, family therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, art therapy, and social skills training.

PSYCHIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER SERVICES

The Y.A.L.E. School has a long-standing relationship with a local psychiatry team that specializes in working with children, adolescents and adults with developmental, behavioral and psychiatric disabilities. The psychiatry team is currently available to provide school-based psychiatric services for identified student at no cost to families or sending districts. The following is a list of school-based services that they offer:

- Psychiatric consults for students
- Classroom observation and subsequent treatment recommendations
- Medicine prescriptions (please note school districts and Y.A.L.E. are not responsible for payment of any prescribed medicines)
- Consultation with Y.A.L.E.'s clinical teams (school nurse, teacher, behavior analysts, etc.)
- Liaison with students' current mental health providers
- Parent trainings regarding current psychopharmacological and psychiatric treatment

If a family is interested in pursuing additional services from the Y.A.L.E. psychiatry team, additional consents must be obtained and an amendment to the child's IEP must include psychiatric services.

At times the Y.A.L.E. clinical team may make the recommendation for a family to explore the services offered by the psychiatry team. This recommendation may occur when a student's disruptive behaviors are not responding to the behavioral and other related service interventions provided by this program and the frequency and intensity of these behaviors are severely impeding a student's ability to benefit from their placement within this program. As always, Y.A.L.E.'s clinical team focuses on providing a collaborative, multi-disciplinary team to meet each student's unique needs so they can achieve academic, social and behavioral success.

ASSESSING & DESIGNING STUDENT'S INDIVIDUALIZED PLAN

During the first weeks of a student's initial enrollment at Y.A.L.E., academic, communication, self-help, problem behaviors, and social skills will be assessed by the teaching staff, supervising BCBA and clinical support staff. These assessments, in combination with student records, and parent/guardian input will guide the staff in the development of each student's initial individual program. An Educational Planning Conference and IEP Meeting will be conducted within 30 days of initial student placement and each year annually thereafter. Educational Planning Conferences and IEP Meetings will be held according to state and district policy and federal guidelines.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

In order to qualify for a state-endorsed diploma, issued by the sending school district, a student must complete the selected program of study appropriate for his/her needs and abilities and must have earned a minimum number of credits required by their sending school district and to take and/or be proficient in the state assessment as per their I.E.P.

GRADING SYSTEM

Assessments

Y.A.L.E. School sets guidelines to ensure that teachers regularly monitor and assess student progress. Informal assessments including short quizzes help teachers plan instruction and adjust the level of challenge to meet individual needs. These formative assessments do not require prior notification and are administered approximately every two weeks.

All post-tests, such as Unit and Chapter tests in all subject areas require three days' notice and are administered once per month. Y.A.L.E. teachers are also encouraged to use multiple means of assessment, not only those with a traditional format, to give students the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have attained during the marking period.

Retests

Students who do not demonstrate mastery with a passing grade are provided an opportunity to retest.

Grading Formula

Grading formulas are established by teachers and often include homework and task completion, as well as evaluations.

Report Card Incomplete Notation

A grade of Incomplete (I) will be given only when there is just cause: e.g., work missing due to absence, illness. Otherwise, students are expected to submit work on time. While it is permissible under some circumstances to submit late work, students should be expected to complete all work prior to the end of the marking period. As a general rule, students will be given two (2) days for each excused absence from school. Upon a student's eighth (8) unexcused absence during the marking period, the student will receive an Incomplete (I) grade and a parent/district meeting will be scheduled. At the meeting strategies will be reviewed to improve attendance and make up assignments will be given to the student and parent.

Unless there are extenuating circumstances, students are expected to complete the assignments no later than 10 school days after receiving them and will then earn full credit upon doing so. Failure to complete the assignments within 10 days will result in the student receiving a grade of 50 on all incomplete assignments. The marking period grade will then be calculated. Make up assignments will be graded and incomplete will be given a failing grade (0-50). The final marking period grade will then be calculated. If an extension is sought, a written request must be approved by the Executive Director.

Report Card Exempt Notation

This notation will be used whenever a Scheduled Change Request form reflects a student not attending a specific class. An example of this would be a student who had Industrial Arts during the 1st MP but then gets an internship/job during the 2nd MP (Scheduled Change Request form would reflect the change in classes). That student would then receive EX for the 2nd MP for Industrial Arts.

Progress Reporting

A numerical average will be reported for each content area based on established criteria. Reports cards will be distributed 4 times per year.

Honor Roll

A student who has earned a 90% or higher average in all subjects will be included on the Y.A.L.E. School Honor Roll. Please note that only students who have not required a retest are eligible for this distinction.

Credits Earned

As a private receiving school, Y.A.L.E. is not authorized to assign credits for high school students. Therefore, Y.A.L.E. provides suggested credits and sending school districts determine credits earned.

REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

The education of each student is a joint venture involving the child, the parents and the professional staff. Regularly scheduled progress reports will be issued each year. Each report may provide the opportunity for teacher or parent to initiate a personal conference.

HOMEWORK

Y.A.L.E. School's homework policy stipulates that homework assignments be given three (3) to four (4) nights per week for elementary students and four (4) nights per week for high school students. Specific homework assignments can be accessed using the Parent Portal available online. Please consult with your child's homeroom teacher for directions. Parents/Guardians may request an alteration to the above policy with district input.

ATTENDANCE

Every child between the ages of 6 and 16 is required by New Jersey State Law Regulations to attend school. Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school early in the day (7:30-8:00 a.m.), when a child will be absent. A child who has been absent is required to present, on the day of his/her return to school, a note of explanation signed by the parent or guardian. This statement must include: date, reason for absence, and the specific dates of the absence. Any absence of five consecutive school days requires a doctor's certificate. The following are the only valid reasons for a student missing school: personal illness, death in the immediate family, attendance required in court, religious holidays, or absences excused by the Director of the School. Attendance information is reported to sending school districts. In the case of chronic absenteeism, a meeting will be held with the full IEP team to develop strategies for improving attendance and addressing academic issues.

Please note that a student must be in attendance for 4 hours of instructional time to be marked as "present" for the school day.

EARLY DISMISSAL/PICK-UP OF STUDENTS

Students who must leave school early must present a signed parental note to their homeroom teacher on the day in question. The note must state the reason for leaving early, the time of departure, the mode of transportation, the name and relationship to the student of the person providing transportation and phone number to call to verify the authenticity of the note. When arriving to pick up a student from school, the person supplying transportation must report to the school office and sign the student out.

Parents may sign their children out of school by reporting to the office and utilizing the sign out sheet provided. Secretaries will verify identity of parents by asking them to produce identification and through confirmation with each student. Failure to adhere to the above will result in denial of access.

Parent access must also be denied as a result of written documentation, i.e. custody paper, restraining orders, etc. to that effect. Parent requests to have adult friend or relatives pick up their children must be accompanied by phone verification with parents, producing identification and confirmation with student. Failure to adhere will result in denial of access.

Agencies with requests for information or seeking permission to see or sign out students must be accompanied by photo ID, phone verification with the agency and parental permission (when appropriate).

LATENESS

Students are expected to arrive at school punctually. Student who arrive at school, after the start of 1st period, will be marked as "tardy". Any lateness will be recorded on the attendance record and communicated to the parent/guardian. If it is necessary that a child arrive to school late, the parent/guardian must accompany the student to the office, verbally notify office staff of the student's arrival, and complete the sign-in sheet prior to leaving.

FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

New Jersey law requires students to show respect for the flag of the United States of America. If they are conscientiously opposed to the pledge or salute, they may abstain from these ceremonies, but they are required to sit quietly and not disrupt the ceremonies.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Transportation of all students will be provided by the sending school districts. Students must use this service. No student will be allowed to walk, use public transportation, or drive to school. In the event that a student is suspended from the bus due to misconduct, the

parents are directly responsible for transporting the student to school. No other means of student transport are sanctioned by the school. In addition, when transporting a student, the parent must sign the student in and out of school at the school office (this policy applies when the student is dropped off during designated arrival time or dismissal time).

Parents with questions and/or concerns may speak directly to bus personnel, bus company, sending school district's department of transportation or to a Y.A.L.E. Administrator. Parents may also call the Supervisor of the bus company responsible for transporting their child. Bus company phone numbers are available from bus personnel as well as Building Secretaries. Please note that Y.A.L.E. is not responsible for the hiring or supervision of bus personnel or bus route assignments. These are assigned through your sending school district.

SCHOOL BUS RULES

Y.A.L.E. expects that student conduct on school buses be in keeping with the standards required of them while they are in school. Parents and students should be aware that the driver is in full charge of the bus and the pupils. All students are required to board the vehicle appropriately, remain seated during the trip, keep the vehicle clean, and refrain from putting head, hands or feet out the windows. At dismissal, students may only load buses from designated loading zones (sidewalks). They may not cross bus traffic unless escorted. Any incidence of fighting, smoking, property destruction, use of profanity, or any other significant behavioral events reported by the drivers, will be documented and communicated to the parent or guardian. Severe or repeated infractions may result in suspension or termination of transportation services. In either case (suspension or termination of bus transportation) it is the obligation of the student's parent/guardian to transport the child to and from school.

SCHOOL GROUNDS

All students are required to report to their assigned classroom immediately upon arrival to school. No student is permitted to leave the school building unless he/she is supervised.

All students must report to and remain in staff designated areas when requested to do so. Students must comply with principal's directions. Failure to comply with this request may (minimally) warrant a parent meeting.

PERSONAL PROPERTY/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Y.A.L.E. is not responsible for the loss of, or damage to, any personal items while the item is inside or on the premises of the school building or property. No backpacks or book bags of any kind may be brought to the Northfield or Ellisburg, middle school or high school programs. Northfield and Ellisburg elementary students may bring clear backpacks to school. No cell phones, smart watches or personal electronics (iPods, DVD players, game systems, portable speakers, etc.) usage is permitted on the Cherry Hill, Northfield or Ellisburg campus at any time. All students should remove and turn off headphones/earphones/electronic devices before entering the building. Students in the Northfield and Ellisburg campuses are required to hand in all cell phones, smart watches or personal electronics upon entering the school building. Students at the Cherry Hill campus are required to hand in all cell phones, smart watches or personal electronics upon entering homeroom and all devices will be locked in a safe location. Additionally, all bags and backpacks must be stored in the closet. Students, at all campuses, are prohibited from bringing bags and backpacks to specials as well as to any off campus outings. Once the dismissal bell at the end of the school day has sounded, students' property will be returned by staff when dismissed to their respective bus. Any student using a cell phone or smart watch during school hours will be asked to follow the policy and hand the device to staff. Students are expected to comply with staff instructions in a timely fashion. The above outlined policy will be implemented daily. Students who continually have difficulty following the policy will be required to hand in the cell phone to the School Resource Officer for safe keeping upon entering the building.

Use of other personal electronics, including iPods, iPads and Nintendo DS, will be regulated by the policies and provisions of the "Y.A.L.E. School Elementary, Middle and High School Positive Support Behavior Program." If a student uses or attempts to use personal electronics other than at times provided within the behavior program, and does not follow staff directions to adhere to the behavior program when prompted, the student will be asked to relinquish the item to a staff member for safekeeping for the remainder of the day. If a second instance occurs, the item will be returned to the parent. Repeated occurrences of cell phone or other personal electronics violations will result in further consequences that may include suspensions and/or a parent conference. Legal action may be taken based upon local or state codes.

Note: A student with an accommodation in the IEP for assistive technology that prescribes use of an electronic device is the sole exception to the policy.

LISTENING DEVICES/STUDENT GPS DEVICES

Y.A.L.E. School does not allow students to use electronic listening devices such as radios, cell phones, smart watches, GPS, and other devices that would allow a third party to hear other students and teachers in class during the school day. Use of devices such as this will

jeopardize a student's continued enrollment at Y.A.L.E. School. Such access by third parties would potentially, if not actually, violate state and federal privacy laws such as FERPA and IDEIA, which have been interpreted by the U.S. Department of Education as including audio or video recording of students on buses, in hallways, and in classes. If a student has a device that combines both GPS and listening devices, that device would violate the use policy. GPS alone on a device is permissible, therefore Y.A.L.E. School will permit a student to wear a medically-prescribed GPS device where the student presents a risk of flight that could endanger the child's safety.

STUDENT SCHOOL SUPPLIES

A list of suggested school supplies will be sent home with students within the first two weeks of school.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

Y.A.L.E. School endeavors to teach young people a sense of responsibility toward public and private property. The school provides textbooks, workbooks, and other educationally related materials for each student. Each student is expected to exercise care in the handling of textbooks, school materials and all school property. Students are liable for property damage caused by carelessness or misuse. Recent legislation also charges parents with liability for property damage caused by carelessness or misuse. Vandalism to school property will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

LUNCH

All students should bring a lunch and beverage to school daily. A refrigerator is available to all students. Facilities to heat lunches during school hours are **not** available at all campuses. Students may be afforded the opportunity to order and purchase lunch from an outside vendor. Additionally, some campuses provide free meals for students who qualify.

SOCIALIZATION AND PEER VISITATION POLICY

Y.A.L.E. School encourages the development of social communication and interpersonal skills throughout the school experience. Strategies such as incidental teaching foster skill acquisition in naturally occurring situations during the school day. Counselors also lead weekly direct instruction using a language and cognitive-based curriculum that emphasizes social problem-solving. Weekly social skills clubs held during the school day bring students together to cultivate shared interests, promote friendships and build mutual respect for strengths and abilities.

At times, students show interest in dating another Y.A.L.E. student. To maintain a safe, secure and wholesome learning environment, Y.A.L.E. has established specific policies and guidelines appropriate to our school setting when students in a dating relationship request to spend additional time together, such as during lunch period. Lunch visits are permissible, but with specific requirements and limitations. Parents must speak with their son/daughter's teacher or counselor in advance and provide written approval before a visit or series of visits may occur. Visits are limited to no more than 2 per week, such as one in each of the students' homerooms, not to exceed two in all. Public displays of affection are discouraged during these visits or at any other time during the school day, including during student activities and off-campus instruction. Students who do not show proper decorum or respect for school rules will initially receive a verbal warning and redirection. A second warning may be followed by a meeting with a counselor to review expectations and receive additional skill instruction. A parent meeting may be required for any future incidents.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Any student wishing to participate in extracurricular activities must meet the eligibility requirements established for each activity. These activities may include:

Student Government	Peer Tutoring	Soccer Team*
Student Mediation	Yearbook	Softball Team*
Community Service	Robotics	Special Olympics*
Student Employment	Social Skill Clubs	Basketball Team*
Annual Art Show	Video Arts Festival	Bowling Team*

*Students interested in athletics must "pass" a yearly physical examination.

COMMUNITY BASED INSTRUCTION

Y.A.L.E. School provides opportunities for students to participate in community-based instruction to facilitate acquisition, practice, and generalization of skills in natural settings as determined by the student's IEP goals and with the approval of the Executive Director and program supervisor. A parent approval form must be signed by the parents or guardian and a hard-copy received by the school before the student is able to participate in a community activity. An emailed statement or permission given by phone does not satisfy the requirement. Only signed hard copies of the official form, or scanned copies of the official signed form are permissible. Parents are asked to return signed forms in a timely manner to avoid student disappointment on the day of the activity.

Please note that costs associated with community-based instruction meeting student IEP goals are paid by Y.A.L.E. School. Other outings or field trips will require students to pay for fee for the cost of admission. Students will be required to pay for individual expenses, such as food, souvenirs, or other items that are not related to a student's IEP goals. Students taking medication must have a Field Trip Medication Procedure Form completed, signed and returned in order for the student to leave the school premises to receive community-based instruction or attend a school sponsored trip. If a parent/guardian does not give permission for a student to attend a community based experience, the student is still required to attend school. Please note that there may be modifications to the student's classroom assignment and/or classroom staff for the day.

Y.A.L.E. School students ages 18 – 21 that participate in Y.A.L.E. transition programs also engage in community-based instruction that occurs at off-site Y.A.L.E. locations, such as the Life Skills House and Vocational Co-op, as well as in the general community. Permission forms will be provided to parents by each program for all community-based activities in a student's schedule, including work-based learning experiences. Permission forms should be signed by parents, caretakers, or guardians for students to participate in these program activities. The above policies related to costs covered during community-based instruction as well as individual expenses that are the responsibility of the student, are consistent at all grade levels.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ATTIRE:
All students must wear sneakers during the scheduled gym periods and clothing appropriate for physical activity and outdoor weather conditions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ACTIVITY – Medical Excuse

Students are expected to participate fully in Physical Education class. In the event that an illness or injury prevents a student from fully participating, a doctor's note is required. The note must clearly state what the child may and may not do while in PE class. In addition, the note must state duration of time that the restrictions will be in place. In the event a student has an illness or injury, parent must contact the school nurse and/or homeroom teacher. A student who requires permanent or long term accommodations for PE class must have a Physician Directed Activity Form completed by his/her physician. This form is available in the nurses' offices. Any physician note that states restriction "until further notice" must be updated every four weeks. Students who have long-term inability to participate in PE classes will be provided an assignment to complete in an alternate location.

HEALTH

Health Instruction will be offered to all students enrolled at Y.A.L.E. An outline specific to each campus will be distributed at the beginning of the school year. This outline will list topics and instructional materials to be utilized. Copies of the Health curriculum are available for parents or districts to review upon request. Parents may present a signed statement to the school office excusing their son/daughter from any specific topic(s).

I. ELEMENTARY (K-5th)

Marking Period	Topic
1	Violence Prevention/Conflict Resolution
2	The Life Cycle
3	Fitness
4	Environmental Health

Materials

Text – MacMillan/McGraw-Hill Health and Wellness
 Teacher made worksheets Visual Media Guest Speakers
 Workbooks Post-tests

II. Middle School (6th- 8th)

Marking Period	Topic
1	Mental/Emotional Health
2	Personal Health & Wellness
3	Drug Education
4	Safety

Materials

Text – GoodHeart-Wilcox Comprehensive Health Skills for Middle School

III. SECONDARY

Marking Period	Topic
1	Dealing with Conflict, Violence & Abuse
2	Understanding & Avoiding Harmful Substances
3	Communicable & Non-Communicative Diseases
4	Environmental Health

Materials

Text – GoodHeart-Wilcox Comprehensive Health Skills for High School, 2nd Edition

Teacher made worksheets

Visual Media

Guest Speakers

Workbooks

Post-tests

MEDICATION

Any student who must take medication (including over the counter medication) during the school day must have: 1). A medication consent form completed and signed by prescribing physician and parent/guardian. 2) The medication must be brought in by parent/guardian in the original, individually labeled prescription bottle. This policy also applies to asthma inhalers. If a student is to carry his/her own inhaler, this must be specified in the Asthma Action Plan, which must be completed by the physician and signed by the parent and student. The physician should provide the student with instruction for proper use of inhaler, and student must demonstrate proficiency to the school nurse. An extra inhaler should be maintained in the nurse's office. At the end of the school year, any unused or expired medication must be picked up by a parent or designated adult. Any medication not picked up by the end of the school year, will be discarded. Medication Consent forms are available on the Y.A.L.E. website under the resource tab and in the nurse's office.

When the medication is running low, the school nurse will notify the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian is required to bring a new supply of medication to the school. Under no circumstance is medication to be placed in a student's book bag or transported to school on the bus. YALE School is not responsible for any medication sent to school with students or bus drivers. Parents will be contacted by the school nurse if this occurs. It is recommended that a thirty-day supply be brought to school. Any changes to medications administered in school must be submitted in writing by the parent/guardian or health care provider. If prescribed medication doses change, or a medication is discontinued and then restarted, a new Medication Administration Consent form must be completed by the doctor and signed by the parent.

Parents may direct health-related questions to the school nurse during school hours.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Any child diagnosed with any of the following conditions **MUST** complete the appropriate documentation. These forms need to be completed yearly, signed by the parent/guardian and primary health care provider and returned to the school with prescribed medication, if needed.

- Asthma – “Asthma Action Plan” and inhaler or nebulizer medication
- Diabetes – “Diabetes Plan” * with medication, glucometer and necessary supplies
- Severe Allergies – “Emergency Allergy Plan and Medication Consent” * with Epi-Pen
- Seizures – “Seizure Action Plan” *Must include Bus Seizure Plan/Protocol, Consent to Share Information and bus protocol from physician, and signed medical release form*

*All forms may be obtained by contacting the school nurse or from the Y.A.L.E. website under the Resource tab.

REQUIRED PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

1. Each student must have a current physical examination upon entry into school. This examination must be done no more than 365 days prior to entry and must state what, if any, modifications are required for full participation in the school program.
2. Subsequent physical examinations should be conducted at least once during each of the student's developmental stages.
 - ☐ early childhood (pre-school through grade 3)
 - ☐ pre-adolescence (grades 4 through 6)
 - ☐ adolescence (grades 7 through 12)A report should be sent to the school nurse and maintained on file with the student's health records.

ATHLETICS

NJ and Pennsylvania State Law requires every student who participates in an interscholastic sports program to have a physical exam completed within 365 days of the first practice. Students who live in other states like Pennsylvania or Delaware, must have the physical completed by a Health Care Provider in New Jersey. The pre-participation/ sports physical exam must be completed by the Health Care

Provider. If your child does not have a primary health care provider, notify the school nurse. The completed history and physical exam form does not need to be shared with the school. The medical eligibility form is the only documentation required to be submitted to the health office once completed by the Primary health care physician. Parents and students will also receive the Concussion and Head Injury Check List, the SCA Pamphlet (Sudden Cardiac Arrest), the opioid use and misuse fact sheet and the Sports Related Eye Injury fact sheet. The acknowledgement forms must be signed by parent and student and returned to the health office as well.

IMMUNIZATIONS

New Jersey and Pennsylvania State Law and Regulations require children to be current with immunizations prior to attending school. Flu Vaccines and Covid -19 Vaccines are highly recommended for all students. Upon registering their child, parents will need to provide Y.A.L.E. with the original or a copy of the New Jersey or Pennsylvania Health History and Appraisal (A-45 immunization record) form. This form can be retrieved from the student's current or previous school of attendance. As per New Jersey and Pennsylvania law if a student has a medical or religious exemption, this must be presented to the school in writing prior to admission. If proof of immunization is not received upon the first day of admittance, your student may be excluded from school until necessary documentation has been provided. A record copy of all new vaccines and booster vaccines should be sent to the school nurse.

In cases of certain communicable diseases, the Y.A.L.E. School is required to file a report with the Department of Health within 24 hours so that control measures can be used. Parents/guardians and staff are reminded to notify the Y.A.L.E. School immediately if a student or family member has developed a known or suspected communicable disease. If a student has not been fully immunized for some of these diseases (due to the student's age, medical condition, or religious reason) he/she will be excluded from the school during an outbreak of a vaccine preventable illness as directed by the state health department. Examples of "Reportable Diseases" include (but are not limited to):

Lyme Disease	German Measles	Giardiasis	Measles	Tuberculosis
Whooping Cough	Spinal Meningitis	Mumps	Rubella	Salmonellosis
Hepatitis A	Shigellosis	Chicken Pox	COVID- 19	

INJURY

If a student experiences a minor scratch, scrape, superficial cut, bump or bruise requiring minimal attention, the school nurse or First Aid trained staff will assist the student and provide care as needed.

In the event of an accident or sudden illness, first aid will be administered and the child's parent will be notified immediately. If further medical attention is required, care and movement of the child will be directed or provided by the parent. In case of an emergency requiring immediate medical intervention, the student will be transported to a local Emergency Room for treatment. The student will be accompanied by staff until the parent arrives at the hospital.

In the event of an injury occurring at school that was unreported at the time of incident or requires further medical attention, the parent must notify the school and inform the nurse of further treatment.

If a child is injured outside of the school, but is returning to school with limitations including crutches, casts, braces, stitches, etc., the parent should contact the school nurse to discuss accommodations. Parent is required to provide nurse with physician notes outlining limitations. Students returning without parental contact will not be permitted to participate fully in any Physical Education classes or sport related activities until written notice is received from the parent or primary care physician.

ILLNESS

Parents should keep a child home if he/she shows evidence of any contagious illness. Children should remain home with symptoms that include fever of 100.0 or greater, cough, chills, vomiting, diarrhea, rash of unknown origin, any signs of respiratory illness or virus as specified by New Jersey Department of Health and CDC. Children with earaches, sore throats, runny noses, stomach aches and headaches should be kept home as well, especially if symptoms are severe or will impede learning. A doctor's note may be required for reentry to school.

If any of these symptoms are found in a child at the school, the parent will be notified and asked to bring the child home immediately. Students may return to school after the student has been fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications and symptom free for 24 hours. A note from the physician must be provided stating the child is not contagious and cleared to return to school. Students with known or suspected contagious illness may be required to stay home for a longer period. Children on antibiotics for a contagious illness should remain home for 24 hours following the first dose of medication. (Refer to American Academy of Pediatrics Guidelines) Any student diagnosed with Covid 19 or any other communicable illness will be permitted to return to school based upon NJDOH, CDC and YALE School's current protocol and guidelines. Parents should contact the school nurse with questions.

FIRE AND SECURITY DRILLS/LOCK DOWN

Under State Law and Regulations, each school is required to hold one fire drill and one security drill each month. Students are trained to leave the building quickly and in an orderly fashion. The following rules are to be observed during a drill:

1. Exit at the door designated by teacher.
2. Talking is not permitted during the drill.
3. Everyone must listen to all signals.
4. Students will leave the room in single file and must remain with the group.
5. No pushing or shoving.
6. No one is to remain in the building during a fire drill.
7. No one is to re-enter the school until a teacher signals to do so.

DRILLS

Fire, school security drills

Every principal of a school of two or more rooms, or of a school of one room, when located above the first story of a building, shall have at least one fire drill and one school security drill each month within the school hours, including any summer months during which the school is open for instructional programs, and shall require all teachers of all schools, whether occupying buildings of one or more stories, to keep all doors and exits of their respective rooms and buildings locked during the school hours, except during an emergency lockdown or an emergency lockdown drill. Where school buildings have been provided with fire escapes, they shall be used by a part or all of the pupils performing every fire drill.

Schools are required to conduct a school fire drill within the first 10 days and a security drill within the first 15 days of the beginning of the school year.

Schools are required to hold a minimum of **two** of the following security drills annually:

- Active shooter;
- Evacuation (non-fire);
- Bomb threat;
- Lockdown.

Examples of other types of security drills:

- Shelter-in-place;
- Reverse evacuation;
- Evacuation to relocation site;
- Testing of school's notification system and procedures;
- Testing of school's communication system and procedures;
- Tabletop exercise;
- Full scale exercise.

Initiation

Fire alarm systems shall be initiated only during a fire drill evacuation.

Unplanned incident

Responses made necessary by the unplanned activation of emergency procedures or by any other emergency shall not be substituted for a required school security drill.

Notification

Schools will provide emergency responders with a friendly notification at least 48 hours prior to holding a security drill. Emergency responders are not required to observe security drills, however, it is encouraged that schools invite emergency responders to attend and observe at least four different security drills annually.

Law enforcement must attend one Lockdown/active shooter drill each school year.

Notification must go out to all parents and guardians the day a security drill was completed. Suggested drill notification will read:

"Today, in accordance with state law, our school conducted a security drill in the manor that we conduct all emergency drills, with seriousness and sensitivity to our students and staff. Everyone responded appropriately and instruction resumed immediately thereafter. Should you have any questions please contact the school".

Record Keeping

Districts are required to annually submit the "Security Drill Statement of Assurance" provided by the Department of Education to their county office of education by June 30 of each year. The county office shall forward an information copy to the respective county prosecutor's office. The "Security Drill Record Form" provided by the Department of Education shall be completed by all schools and retained at the district level. The following information is required:

- Date and time;
- Type (specify what was drilled);
- Duration;
- Weather conditions;
- Participants (i.e. students, staff, faculty, law enforcement, fire);
- Brief description of what occurred and procedures followed.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome at Y.A.L.E. Guests are required to make appointments as a means of minimizing disruptions in the educational program. Touring parents and professionals are scheduled in advance by contacting the Director of Admissions.

Classroom visitations by current parents and districts are arranged with the building supervisor at least two days in advance so that we can ensure that there are not an excessive number of adults present at any one day and time. Please limit classroom visits to thirty minutes. During these observations, we encourage parents/guardians and sending district representatives to take notes and set up a time to speak with the classroom teacher to review these notes and ask questions at a later time. We ask that visitors refrain from questioning the teaching staff during instructional time and from engaging students in conversation. Also, guests should schedule a time to review questions or concerns with the classroom teacher. Use of cell phones is prohibited inside the school. Any cell phone should be placed on silent or vibrate and put away prior to entering the school. Photography, video and audio recording are also prohibited. Visitors will be escorted by staff for the duration of the observation. Y.A.L.E. is not responsible for damage or loss of any personal devices brought into a classroom during an observation.

We recognize that some students may have therapists working with them at home. In the event that parents would like a home therapist to observe their child, scheduling of a visit must be pre-arranged with the building supervisor. We ask that these visits occur no more than once a month and are limited to a 30-minute time period.

All visitors are required to enter via the main entrance, report to the main office and provide a photo ID. Visitors will be checked in through Y.A.L.E.'s SafeVisitor screening software and a check of any pocketbooks and bags may be required in order to receive a security pass. The pass must be visible during the entire visit and returned to the office once the visit is complete. Visitors representing a school district, who have previously been approved by SafeVisitor will receive a visitor's badge and are required to sign the visitor log.

We ask that parents/guardians refrain from calling teachers during student hours unless it is an emergency or previously scheduled phone conference. Teachers will not be called out of classrooms for unscheduled telephone calls. The secretary will forward all calls to the teachers' voicemail. In emergencies the parents/guardians may call the secretary or program administrator to speak to teaching staff.

STUDENT ATTIRE

Students are encouraged to select school clothing that is clean and comfortable to wear. Clothing should not hinder or distract from learning. Students are also encouraged to follow good hygiene and grooming practices to maintain overall body cleanliness, including clean nails, hair and teeth.

For students with a history of engaging in aggressive or self-injurious behavior nails must be kept short and rounded at all times. Short is defined by the nail not exceeding the tip of the finger. Parents will be contacted by the school nurse for students not meeting this expectation. Parents may give permission for the nurse to trim their son or daughters nails if they are not able to do so at home. If you receive a call, parents are expected to trim nails prior to returning to school the following day.

Clothing or accessories, which detract from learning and present a hazard for the wearer will not be permitted. The Building Supervisor shall have the right to make the final decision regarding appropriate dress in school as well as at school sponsored events.

Please note the following examples of unacceptable clothing and inappropriate fashion that are not to be worn at Y.A.L.E. School:

1. Students may not wear head coverings (excluding established religious headwear or medical reasons), scarves, bandanas, hats and hoods.

Note: School appropriate hooded sweatshirts will be accepted, however, students may not wear hoods on their heads while at Y.A.L.E. School or during community-based instruction. Students will be given one reminder. Subsequently, the behavior will be result in the consequences noted below.

2. Underwear and clothing resembling underwear may not be worn as external clothing or be exposed.
3. Gloves may not be worn.
4. Sunglasses, glazed or tinted glasses or costume contact lenses may not be worn unless it is a documented medical necessity.
5. Bare feet, flip-flops, bedroom slippers, shower shoes or any footwear considered a safety hazard may not be worn. Shoes or sneakers are required at all times.
6. Bare midriffs, bare shoulders or basketball-type tank tops may not be worn.
7. T-shirts and other apparel displaying suggestive, obscene, inappropriate symbolism which **may** cause disruption to learning or activities may not be worn. Examples include clothing representing or suggesting violence, sex, alcohol, substance abuse, weapons, slander, bigotry, gang membership, etc.
8. Apparel such as dresses, skirts, shorts, skorts, and garments worn over leggings or tights must reach the tip of the extended fingers when the arms are hanging normally at one's side, or four inches above the knee; at no time will a student be permitted to wear clothing that is disruptive to the educational process.
9. Untidy, torn, damaged, soiled or cut-off clothing does not conform to the Y.A.L.E. dress code and may not be worn.
10. Jackets/Coats Jackets, coats, windbreakers, warm up jackets, sleeveless vests or any type of outer garment may not be worn inside the school.
11. Jewelry and Other Accessories: Students are encouraged to refrain from wearing jewelry to school. Jewelry depicting or encouraging anything sexual, violent, alcohol or drug related or potentially dangerous shall be deemed inappropriate.
12. Pants and Shorts: Pants must be appropriately sized and worn at the waist; no chain link or personalized belts or buckles are permitted. Shorts above the knee, stretch pants, leggings (unless as described in #8) and pajama pants are not permitted.

Consequences for Inappropriate Dress: Students who do not come to school dressed appropriately:

1. May be asked to reverse a shirt or blouse, which has inappropriate material or markings on it.
2. May be asked to remove head covering, outer garment, jewelry or other accessories.
3. May be asked to wear appropriate clothes provided by the school.
4. Parents may be asked to bring appropriate clothing to school.
5. May lose the privileges of wearing that type of clothing.
6. Repeat violations may be subject to exclusion for the day in question.

PLAGIARISM

Academic honesty is expected of all students at Y.A.L.E. School. Every student is responsible for maintaining a high standard of academic ethics, personal honesty, and moral integrity. Therefore, plagiarism will not be tolerated.

Plagiarism is using others' ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. To avoid plagiarism, students must give credit whenever they use the following:

- Another person's idea, opinion, or theory
- Paraphrase of another person's spoken or written word
- Quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words
- Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawing – any pieces of information – that are not common knowledge

Submitting a borrowed or purchased paper or submitting someone else's work as one's own or allowing someone else to submit one's work as though it was his or hers also constitutes plagiarism. Consequences for plagiarism will be determined by the administrator and may affect student grade(s).

MESSAGE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Cooperation between parents and school is critical to facilitate student progress. Parents may be required to attend parent meetings with Y.A.L.E. staff and districts, pursue referrals to outside agencies, and provide insight on an as needed basis. In cases of more serious student problems such as threatened or attempted suicide, drug and alcohol abuse or other life threatening behavior, Y.A.L.E. reserves the right to make outside therapeutic involvement a prerequisite for a student's entrance or continued placement. Please refer to Parent/Student Appraisal Form found at the end of this handbook.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Y.A.L.E. School values a community of students who work together to create a productive learning environment in which all students feel safe, secure and comfortable. To this end students are expected to act responsibly in demonstrating mutual respect, trust, and

compassion. The faculty and staff work together to create a nurturing environment as they strive to meet our student's needs, instill in our children a love for learning, and develop in them an understanding of others.

Students have a right to receive respect, to be treated with kindness, and to be trusted. In turn, children are expected to study and participate actively in their learning, work cooperatively and to follow directions, to seek help in solving problems, to settle differences in an appropriate manner, to accept responsibility for their actions, to report instances of violations of which they are aware with the expectation of no retaliation for such reporting, to respect others' person and property, to use appropriate language, to dress appropriately, to be sensitive to others' feelings, and to help others.

In accordance with New Jersey Administrative Codes, 6A: 16-5.1 and 18A:25-2, the Y.A.L.E. School has a code of student conduct. These guidelines address any violations of the code and specific areas of misconduct. These may include fighting, physical contact (both that considered a danger and that not considered a danger), non-sexual harassment and bullying (both verbal and written – including notes and hit lists), internet violations, sexual harassment and bullying (verbal – both mild and severe – physical – exposing oneself or sexual assault including exposing another), and vandalism. Disciplinary sanctions include a number of responses to such disruptive behaviors ranging from an inability to earn points within a behavior program, to an expulsion. The degree of sanction is contingent upon many factors.

The first step in this process may be a conference with the Principal or designee who will designate the appropriate consequence. Dissatisfaction with the consequence may be appealed to the Principal or Director or his/her designee. Appeals can be made only in accordance with New Jersey code and statute. Students are responsible for being familiar with these policies.

To guarantee an appropriate social and educational climate, it is important that students understand that acceptable standards of behavior will be expected at all times. Discipline will be administered when any individual's actions interfere with the right of teachers to teach and students to learn. Students are reminded that any teacher or staff member in the school has the right to correct individuals at any place and at any time. Students are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly, respectful and courteous manner at all times. In the event a student acts inappropriately, there will be consequences in order to make it clear that this behavior is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

The philosophy of the Y.A.L.E. School is based on the belief that as educators, we are responsible for providing each individual with opportunities to mature intellectually, creatively, emotionally, socially, ethically and physically. Such opportunities for growth are best provided in a positive learning environment characterized by an atmosphere of openness and mutual respect for the personal worth and dignity of each person.

GOALS OF THIS POLICY INCLUDE:

1. Protection of the rights of all staff and students.
2. Protection of the rights of each individual through fair and reasonable treatment of violators of the school and district rules.
3. Development of self-discipline by clearly communicating to students their rights and responsibilities.
4. Respect for the rights and personal dignity of all students and staff in a safe school environment.
5. Compliance with Y.A.L.E. School, state and federal laws.
6. Protection and maintenance of personal as well as school property.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Y.A.L.E. School promotes a safe, secure environment for all students and staff through the School-wide Positive Behavior Support Program (SWPBS). Using this evidence-based approach, the school's well-trained staff define, model, reinforce and reward appropriate behaviors. In addition, staff help students learn and use replacement behaviors appropriate to the situation. Y.A.L.E. supports students in developing and applying adaptive behaviors to be successful in both school and future environments, such as college and careers.

The Y.A.L.E. School (SWPBS) involves a 3-tiered system:

Tier 1 is implemented with all students and provides instruction and reinforcements to encourage students to meet expectations, follow rules, and anticipate clear and consistent consequences when behavior does not match rules and expectations.

Tier 2 provides interventions for students not responding to the Tier 1 framework and may include class wide motivation systems, small group social skills instruction, or minor modifications to individual student reinforcements.

Tier 3 interventions include individualized positive behavior support plans based on functional behavior assessments and include function-based treatment protocols under the direct supervision of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENTS

A Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) is the process a behavior analyst uses to determine the function or the reason(s) for a problem behavior. An FBA may be completed for your son or daughter to identify adaptations that could possibly be made so the problem behavior would be less likely to occur and to teach ways to replace destructive, disruptive, or distracting behaviors with more socially appropriate, acceptable and satisfying behaviors as a means of communicating and getting their needs met. It is important to address challenging behavior because these can quickly become learned responses that will often interfere with academic progress, life skills, and, community involvement.

The frequency of the behavior, severity of the behavior, and behavioral history of the student, among other factors, contribute to the determination of the appropriate type of assessment. Indirect assessments (where the behavior of interest is not directly observed) such as, interviews, questionnaires, and rating scales are conducted regularly. Parents/guardians, teachers, therapists, and other providers have information about your son or daughter's problem behaviors which can inform the process of the FBA.

Y.A.L.E. also regularly employs direct measure assessments where the behavior of interest is observed over an extended period of time. Through direct observation of the behavior one may be able to identify possible occasions which evoke problem behavior and the consequences that maintain it.

In the event that the indirect or direct assessment procedures are inconclusive or do not provide sufficient information to most effectively assist the student with behavioral difficulties, additional functional assessment procedures may be used. These functional assessments involve the systematic manipulation of environmental events and are termed functional analysis. Data are collected on the student's response to the various conditions in order to better understand the environmental function of the behavior and to develop more beneficial treatment procedures. If a functional analysis is warranted, informed parent/guardian consent will be obtained prior to starting.

SAFETY-CARE/PHYSICAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

Y.A.L.E. School integrates the Safety-Care Curriculum within the school's interdisciplinary and person-centered approach. All Y.A.L.E. staff are required to complete Safety-Care training with a certified trainer to become skilled in providing a safe, secure and supportive environment for students who may experience a behavior challenge in the course of the day. Non-intrusive techniques and de-escalation strategies are employed by staff to minimize incidents and enable the agitated student to exhibit calmer, safer behavior.

If a student presents an imminent safety risk to themselves or others despite prior intervention strategies, trained staff will implement the least restrictive physical management procedure warranted by the situation and approved within the Safety-Care curriculum. Moreover, a supervisor is notified immediately, the incident is documented accurately, and the school nurse conducts an assessment of the student, which is also recorded. Parents are always notified the same day that a physical management procedure is implemented.

BEHAVIOR CONSEQUENCES

Should a student engage in serious behavior contrary to defined SWPBS expectations, the misconduct and consequences are treated in relation to their seriousness. Misconduct in classrooms including behavior which interferes with orderly classroom operation is usually handled by the teacher. In some instances, a written incident report is required. The use of obscene, disrespectful or inflammatory language in class, talking back to the teacher, refusing to report to a designated area are examples of this type of misbehavior. Rules of student behavior and discipline also apply at any school sponsored event or trips, as well as during school-to-work experiences or other community-based instruction.

LAW ENFORCEMENT JURISDICTION

More serious misbehavior in or out of the classroom may result in office intervention or involvement of the local authorities. The parent and supervisor are informed and may meet to discuss the situation. Misbehaviors at this level include fighting, gambling, internet violations, insubordination to a staff member, physical assaults on students/staff and destruction of personal or school property. School consequences may include after school plans, suspension, or individualized contingency contracts.

Criminal behavior which directly affects the safety or well-being of staff or other students most often results in immediate suspension, a parent conference and involvement of local authorities as required by the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials. Examples of this behavior are all bias acts (race, religion, color, national origin, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression must be reported on or off school grounds. Additionally, extortion, verbal, sexual and physical harassment, cyber bullying/harassment (includes but is not limited to texting of a sexual nature, creating/participating in web pages involving Y.A.L.E. School, students and/or employees), threatening phone calls to the home of a staff member, bomb threats, disorderly conduct, major vandalism, and use of alcohol/drugs are also examples of behavior that may involve local authorities. **Weapons of any nature are not allowed in school or on school property; making threats with a dangerous weapon is also subject to intervention or involvement with the local authorities.**

At times, behavior off school premises and/or outside of school hours can have an effect at school. In all matters where safety, well-being, and good order of the school is threatened, disciplinary consequences may be imposed and local authorities contacted.

If a student arrives at school under the influence of alcohol or an illegal substance, or is in possession of drugs or alcohol, Y.A.L.E. School will follow the protocol found in the school's internal document covering substance abuse misconduct. Parents may request a copy.

HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING

Policy Statement

Y.A.L.E. prohibits all acts of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying (HIB). Bullying is unwanted aggressive behavior that may involve a real or perceived power imbalance. An act of harassment, intimidation or bullying can be committed by an adult or a youth against a student. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation and/or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment. Since students learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect and refusing to tolerate HIB.

The Y.A.L.E Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy addresses reported incidents of HIB that occur during school hours, at Y.A.L.E School events, and incidents that involve students from different school districts outside of school hours. The principal will refer reported incidents that occur on a sending district board of education school bus, at a sending district board of education school sponsored function, and off school grounds that involve students from the same school district to the sending district's case manager of the student that was the target of the harassment, intimidation and bullying. Y.A.L.E School will work collaboratively with sending districts as they conduct the HIB investigation.

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Definition:

HIB means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication; whether it be a single incident or series of incidents that: (Each of these three criteria identified in the definition of HIB (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14) must be satisfied for an incident to be deemed HIB):

1. A reasonable perception of the incident being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic (such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability) or any other distinguishing characteristic that;
2. Takes place on school property, at any school sponsored function, on a school bus or off school grounds that causes;
3. Substantial disruption or interference with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students; and
4. One or more of the following –
 - a. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, the act will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his person or damage to his property; or
 - b. The act has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; or
 - c. The act creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with a student's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.

(The above definition was adapted from the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act)

Understanding Different Types of Bullying Behavior

Bullying can be direct ("face to face") or indirect ("behind someone's back"). Listed below are four types of bullying behaviors which can occur alone or in combinations:

- **Verbal** – May include name calling, taunting, teasing or making threats;
- **Physical** – May include hitting, punching, shoving, spitting, or taking or damaging personal belongings;
- **Psychological** – May include spreading rumors, purposefully keeping people from activities and breaking up friendships or other relationships; and
- **Electronic** – Includes using the internet, mobile phone or other electronic equipment to intentionally harm others.

Consequences and Remedial Actions

Concluding whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this policy requires a determination based on all of the facts and surrounding circumstances. It is only after meaningful consideration of these factors that an appropriate consequence should be determined.

School officials will impose appropriate consequences and remedial actions to any student or staff member who commits an act of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying of a student. Consequences and appropriate remedial actions for students who commit an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion. Remedial measures shall be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the problem, protect and provide support for the target of the act, and take corrective action for documented systemic problems related to harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

Y.A.L.E. reserves the right to impose supportive and disciplinary measures based on the severity of the confirmed incident of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying.

Reporting Procedures

At each school, the principal or the principal's designee, typically the anti-bullying specialist, is responsible for receiving complaints alleging violations of this policy. All school employees, volunteers and contracted service providers who have contact with students are required to verbally report and provide written report of alleged violations of this policy to the principal or the principal's designee on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident. A written report using the 338 HIB Reporting Form for personnel must be given to the principal within two days of the verbal report. All non-staff members (students, parents/caretakers, community members) should use the 338 HIB Reporting Form for Families and Caregivers. The principal or the principal's designee is required to inform the parents and sending district of all students involved in alleged incident, and, as appropriate may discuss the availability of counseling and other intervention services. The HIB 338 Form shall be kept on file at the school but shall not be included in any student record unless the incident results in a confirmed incident of HIB, results in disciplinary action or is otherwise required to be kept in the student's record under State or Federal law.

Initial Threshold Assessment

The principal, in consultation with the anti-bullying specialist, may conduct an initial threshold assessment to determine if a given allegation, IF TRUE, rises to the level where referral to the anti-bullying specialist for investigation is appropriate.

Students, parents, and visitors are encouraged to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal on the same day when the individual witnessed or received reliable information regarding any such incident. While submission of a report form is not required, the reporting party is encouraged to use the report form available from the principal of each building or in each homeroom. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action may not be based solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

School Anti-Bullying Specialist

East (Northfield) – Erica Tennant etennant@yaleschoolnj.com

West (Ellisburg) – Courtney Novak cnovak@yaleschoolnj.com & Jaray O'Neill joneill@yaleschoolnj.com

Cherry Hill - Nicole Gault ngault@yaleschoolnj.com & Robert Bell rbell@yaleschoolnj.com

North (Marlton Middle) – Marlton - Jessica Liger jliger@yaleschoolnj.com

North II (DeMasi) – Marlton - Katie Maldonado kmaldonado@yaleschoolnj.com

Atlantic I - Mullica - Barry Walker bwalker@yaleschoolnj.com

Southeast (Evans) - Ann Davidson adavidson@yaleschoolnj.com

West II-Erlton- Andrea Damiani adamiani@yaleschoolnj.com

Standard 9- CCC, Project Search- Tom Diaz tdiaz@yaleschoolnj.com

Linwood- Erica Tennant etennant@yaleschoolnj.com

Anti-Bullying Coordinator- Andrea Damiani adamiani@yaleschoolnj.com

Investigation Procedures

The school anti-bullying specialist, in conjunction with the principal, is responsible for determining whether an alleged act constitutes a violation of the Y.A.L.E. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying policy or if it should be referred to the sending district to investigate. Once an incident is determined to have occurred during school hours, at a Y.A.L.E School event, or the incident involved students from different school districts outside of school hours, the principal may appoint additional staff to assist with the investigation. All parents and the district representatives of each involved student are to be notified by the anti-bullying specialist once an allegation is made. A copy of the notification or written log of verbal notification is kept in the investigation documentation. The investigation will be completed as soon as possible, but no later than 10 school days from the date of the written report of the incident.

*Y.A.L.E School Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying Policy and reporting forms can be found on the Y.A.L.E School website at <https://yaleschoolnj.com/parents/resources/harassment-bullying/>

HATE/BIAS INCIDENTS

It is in the policy of the Y.A.L.E. School to maintain a learning and working environment that fosters respect. Any member of the school community engaging in bias or hate based conduct that either directly or indirectly causes intimidation, harassment or physical harm to another member of the school community, or disrupts the educational process, will be subject to disciplinary action. Bias or hate based conduct is defined as suspected or confirmed act directed against or occurring to a person, private property, public property or through the internet on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, sex, disabling condition, religious affiliation or sexual orientation. A bias incident need not involve an act that constitutes a criminal offense. Individuals or groups are in violation of this policy if they engage in bias or hate based conduct at school, on school grounds, while engaging in school sanctioned activities or while traveling to or from school.

These actions may have the effect of creating a hostile environment. Individuals who are not the direct recipients of such actions may also experience a hostile environment. Third party individuals will, therefore, have the same legal right to act under this policy as those directly victimized. Members of the school community who believe they have been the subject of bias or hate based conduct may report the incident to counselor or building administrator.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Building Supervisors who have probable cause to suspect that a student may be under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance will require that parents obtain and report results of blood screening, at their expense, prior to re-admittance to the program. In all instances involving alcohol or a controlled substance, including suspected use, possession or distribution, Y.A.L.E. School will follow the protocol contained in the school's internal document covering illegal activities involving drugs and alcohol. Parents may request a copy.

STUDENT ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICE

The use of electronic smoking devices is prohibited on school grounds and all other places smoking is prohibited by the New Jersey Smoke Free Air Act. Therefore, any student found using a device is in violation of law and mandatory school policy, regardless of what is in the device.

This policy sets forth the expectations that students will refrain from the use of electronic smoking devices, including e-cigarettes, e-cigs, e-pipes, and other vaping devices on school grounds:

- The use of electronic smoking devices is strictly prohibited on school property, including any Y.A.L.E. buildings, facilities, grounds, parking lots, and school-sponsored events.
- The possession of electronic smoking devices is also prohibited on school property.
- Any student found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action to be determined by building administrator.
- The school will notify parents of any violation of this policy by their child, and may involve law enforcement if necessary if vape is believed to contain cannabis or any other controlled dangerous substance.

References:

N.J.S.A. 26:3D-55 et seq

PA Act 93 of 2019

STUDENT CANNABIS POLICY

New Jersey has decriminalized Cannabis use by individuals over age 21 for recreational purposes. This Policy sets forth the expectation that students will refrain from unauthorized Cannabis use and related activities, consistent with New Jersey law, and to preserve the health, safety and well-being of the entire school community.

Students are prohibited from using Cannabis, being under the influence of Cannabis, or possessing Cannabis and/or related paraphernalia at any time while on school grounds, in school or district transportation, or while attending a school-sponsored function off the school premises.¹

Property: Where there is reasonable suspicion as to the presence of Cannabis and/or related paraphernalia, school and student property may be searched or inspected by school administration. Random searches of school and student property may also occur.

Person: Any student reasonably suspected of being under the influence of Cannabis and/or in possession of Cannabis while on school grounds, in school or district transportation, or attending a school-sponsored event, may be subject to a search of his/her person by school administrators and/or evaluation, and/or formal drug testing.

¹ This prohibition does not apply to students who are being lawfully administered Cannabis drug therapies under the care and order of a licensed physician and approved by the school.

- Preliminary evaluation may be conducted by a designated administrator, school nurse, or a certified Impairment Recognition Expert trained to detect and identify an individual's use or impairment from Cannabis or other intoxicating substances.
- Administrative discretion may be exercised to send a student for drug testing. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified of any violation of this policy and will be required to come to the school to take custody of the student. Note that while parent/guardian will be notified of any violation of this policy, and where possession is confirmed, local law enforcement will not be notified or asked to assist the school in its investigation of a student's use or possession of Cannabis.
- Discipline may be imposed on the student appropriate to the offense, up to and including placement termination.
- A referral by the administration may be made to an agency licensed to assess and treat drug abuse.
- An administrator will evaluate the student's continued participation in extra/co-curricular activities.
- A re-entrance conference with administration, parent/guardian, and the student will be held.

Any student found using, selling, or distributing Cannabis and/or related paraphernalia while on school grounds or in school or district transportation, attending a school-sponsored event will be subject to discipline, up to and including placement termination.

Reporting Requirements: Any employee or student who suspects a student may be under the influence of Cannabis due to physical appearance, observed behaviors, or other factors that indicate he or she may be under the influence or in possession of Cannabis must immediately report the suspicion to an administrator and continue to monitor the student until the student is escorted to the nurse's office or other appropriate office.

Note that such reporting will be maintained as confidential, to the extent feasible and, in light of recent legislation, must be made to the administration only and not to local law enforcement, if the report pertains to a student.

MEDICAL CANNABIS CARD

The parent of a qualifying student patient requesting the administration of medical cannabis to the student while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event must comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A. 24:6l-1 et seq. and Policy and Regulation 5330.01.

A student must be authorized to engage in the medical use of cannabis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6l-1 et seq. and that the parent or designated caregiver be authorized to assist the student with the medical use of cannabis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6l-1 et seq. The student and the designated primary caregiver(s) must complete registration with the Cannabis Regulatory Commission in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 24:6l-4.

The parent of the student authorized to engage in the medical use of cannabis must submit a written request with supporting documentation to the Principal requesting approval to have a designated caregiver(s) assist in the administration of medical cannabis to the qualifying student while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event. The Principal, in consultation with the school nurse, the school physician, and the Superintendent of Schools, will review each request and upon approval will inform the parent in writing of the approval with details for the administration of medical cannabis to the qualifying student patient. The medical use of cannabis by a qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event will only be authorized after the written approval from the Principal is provided to the parent.

Medical cannabis may only be administered to the qualifying student patient while the student is on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event by the designated caregiver(s) in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22 and N.J.S.A. 24:6l-1 et seq. The prescribed medical cannabis must be in the possession of the designated caregiver(s) at all times, except during the administration process. The designated caregiver(s) shall comply with the requirements of the Principal's written approval for the administration of medical cannabis to the qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event.

The administration of medical cannabis to a student by smoking or other form of inhalation while the student is on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event is strictly prohibited, and nothing in this policy shall be construed to authorize medical marijuana to be smoked in any place where smoking is prohibited pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 2C:33-13.

All health records related to the administration of medical marijuana to a qualifying student patient while on school grounds, aboard a school bus, or attending a school-sponsored event shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.4 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.4.

No person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution for constructive possession, conspiracy, or any other offense for simply being in the presence or vicinity of the medical use of cannabis as authorized under N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. or N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22. No custodial parent or person who has legal custody of a qualifying student patient who is a minor shall be subject to arrest or prosecution for constructive possession, conspiracy, or any other offense for assisting the minor in the medical use of cannabis as authorized under N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1 et seq. or N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.22.

STUDENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Y.A.L.E. School has outlined policies and procedures for any student in the possession or under the influence of controlled substances. Parents may request a copy of these policies from your program supervisor.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

In accordance with State Law and Regulations, no person employed or engaged in a school or education institution, whether public or private, shall inflict or cause to be inflicted corporal punishment upon a pupil attending such school or institution; but any such person may, within scope of his employment, use and apply such amounts of force as is reasonable and necessary:

1. To quell a disturbance, threatening physical injury to others.
2. To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon the person or within the control of a pupil.
3. For the purpose of self-defense, and
4. For the protection of persons or property;

and such acts, or any of them, shall not be constructed to constitute corporal punishment within the meaning and intent of this section.

In the event a student engages in behavior that places himself/herself in immediate physical danger or places others in immediate physical danger, Y.A.L.E. staff will implement emergency physical intervention procedures to ensure the safety of persons and property. All Y.A.L.E. staff are trained and certified in Safety-Care, a safety management program based upon the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis. The Safety-Care Curriculum provides strategies to reverse escalation and safely and therapeutically manage challenging behavior. All incidents that require the use of hands on Safety-Care strategies are fully documented in a Student Incident Report. Parents will also receive a phone call detailing the incident the same day of the occurrence. Parents may request an overview of the Safety Care Curriculum from your program supervisor.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Y.A.L.E. School Policy explicitly forbids any conduct or expression that may be construed as the sexual harassment of a pupil, by an employee of the school or by another pupil. The sexual harassment of a pupil includes all unwelcome sexual advances or suggestions, requests for sexual favors, and verbal or physical contacts of a sexual nature whenever such conduct has the purpose or effect of intimidation or tends to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND USE OF VIDEO RECORDINGS

Y.A.L.E. School recognizes the responsibility to provide for the safety of the school community and to protect school property. To maintain safe and secure conditions for all students, staff and property, the use of video surveillance equipment may be in place on school properties and transportation vehicles.

1. The school shall notify its students, parents and staff that video surveillance may occur on any school property or on any transportation vehicle.
2. The use of video surveillance equipment on school grounds and on other school properties shall be supervised by the building principal or designee. The use of video surveillance equipment on transportation vehicles shall be supervised by the director of transportation.
3. The use of video recordings from surveillance equipment shall be subject to the other policies of the school including policies concerning the confidentiality of student personnel records.
4. Video surveillance shall be used to promote the order, safety, and security of students, staff, and property. Recordings may be used in pupil and staff discipline matters and to provide evidence to law enforcement for prosecution purposes.
5. Video and audio recordings may be used for academic and/or behavioral programs. Staff and students agree to this usage.

SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

In accordance with State law and regulations, all Y.A.L.E. staff members, should they become alerted to the possibility of potential abuse or neglect involving a Y.A.L.E. student, are required to report such information to the NJ Department of Child Protection & Permanency (formerly DYFS) or The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. Every effort will be made to determine the validity of this information prior to contacting NJ Department of Child Protection & Permanency (formerly DYFS) or The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.

However, if there is any doubt that neglect or abuse is taking place, the mandated referral to NJ Department of Child Protection & Permanency (formerly DYFS) or The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services will be made.

STUDENT RECORDS

Student record folders are maintained on all students in accordance with State Law and Regulations. Those students or parents wishing to review a student's record shall make an appointment with the sending school district's chief school administrator.

INTERNET GUIDELINES

Y.A.L.E.'s Internet network is provided for students and staff to conduct research and to communicate with **each** other. Use of this network must be consistent with the educational mission of the school. Access to network services is provided to users who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility. It is understood that anyone using this Internet network has agreed to abide by this Acceptable Use Policy.

Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on school servers will always be private.

The following are not permitted:

- Sending, displaying or printing obscene/pornographic messages or pictures
- Using obscene language
- Using harassing, insulting, or harmful language including, but not limited to, ethnic, racial, and sexual slurs
- Playing games or using "chat" rooms to socialize
- Tampering with or damaging computer systems, networks, hardware, software, or settings
- Using another's password or trespassing in another's folders, work, or files
- Violating copyright laws
- Using the network for commercial purposes
- Printing to excess
- Unauthorized downloading of program or executable files
- Accessing social – networking websites
- Creating/participating in web pages that involve Y.A.L.E. School, students and/or employees
-

Policy violations may result in loss of privileges or legal action.

Note: Students must read and sign the Acceptable Use Policy Agreement and adhere to the procedures outlined.

TEACHER-PARENT-STUDENT CONTACT

Telephone Contact - It is the policy of Y.A.L.E. to foster open communication between teachers and parents. The following guidelines have been established in order to maintain responsible communication. Y.A.L.E. staff are obliged to direct their home communication to parents and guardians only. It is our policy that parents and students not call teachers at home. Additionally, students are prohibited from contacting staff through social-networking websites.

Direct Contact - With regard to teacher-student contact outside of school, it is the Y.A.L.E. policy that teachers must initially secure permission from building supervisors prior to contacting parents. Teachers must then receive parental approval before any arrangements for outside contact are made. Parents should have prior knowledge of any contacts or conversations that transpire between school personnel and their children. Faculty members who wish to meet with parents outside of school must obtain written permission from the Director. Personal internet contact with students or parents is forbidden. School related internet or e-mail correspondence must be done using the Y.A.L.E. School internet address, with copies sent to a Y.A.L.E. School supervisor. NO COMMUNICATION of any kind (phone, text, e-mail etc.) should ever be made from personal cell phones, personal e-mail accounts or social-networking websites.

PARENTAL QUESTIONS

Many times, parents have questions or concerns about their child's courses, particular lessons or activities. To assist parents in their understanding, the following guide is offered:

- Discuss your question with the teacher involved. If you still have questions, make an appointment to discuss your questions with the principal, supervisor, or child study team member. If you still have questions, then;
- Call the appropriate central office administrator for a conference. If you still have questions, then;
- Ask to see the Executive Director.

Remember, even though friends and neighbors may have similar questions, they probably do not have answers. Working through the Y.A.L.E. staff keeps parents in touch with the people who are responsible for answering questions, interpreting school programs and solving problems.

PARENTAL RIGHTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (PRISE) – NEW JERSEY (REVISED 2023)

Parents may access the document here:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/specialed/parents/ParentalRightsinSpecialEducation2023.pdf>

Translated Parental Rights in Special Education (PRISE) for Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, Gujarati, Hindi, Korean, Russian, Tagalog, and Haitian Creole are available here: <https://www.nj.gov/education/specialed/parents/>

ASAH, a private non-profit organization serving parents of students with special needs in New Jersey offers a “Toolkit” of resources. It can be found at <https://www.asah.org/private-special-education-toolkit/>

PARENTS RIGHTS IN EDUCATION – PENNSYLVANIA

As an important part of the IEP team, parents often have questions or need information to actively and effectively participate as IEP team members. School districts provide parents with a hard copy of the Procedural Safeguards Notice for this purpose.

The full document and related forms, can be downloaded using the link below:

<https://www.pattan.net/Forms/The-Procedural-Safeguards-Notice>

A brochure entitled “Parents’ Rights: Understanding the Procedural Safeguards Notice” is available here:

<https://www.pattan.net/Publications/Parents-Rights-Understanding-the-Procedural-Safegu>

Parents may also find it helpful to access an audio recording of the Procedural Safeguards or watch the training videos offered by the Office of Dispute Resolution. The link below provides those resources: <https://odr-pa.org/parents/parent-resource-library/procedural-safeguards-notice/>

Please note that a Spanish version of the brochure is also available to download at the site above.

Y.A.L.E. School
Acceptable Use Policy Agreement for Student Internet Use
2025-2026

- A. Purpose
The purpose of the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is to create rules and regulations governing the use of the Internet, computers, iPads, iPods and any electronic device afforded students by Y.A.L.E. Schools (Y.A.L.E.) for academic and reinforcement purposes.
- B. Acceptable Use Policies and Procedures
1. Y.A.L.E. has taken reasonable precautions to eliminate controversial material from its facilities.
 2. Student use of the Internet through Y.A.L.E. facilities is strictly limited to further educational research and/or expand upon in-class lessons using safe sites as determined by Y.A.L.E. administration.
 3. Online users during club periods and specials must adhere to the same behavioral rules and regulations that are applicable during academic classes.
- C. Prohibited Activities
1. Students are prohibited from using Y.A.L.E. Internet or computer resources or other electronic devices afforded students for academic or reinforcement purposes for inappropriate uses, including, but not limited to the following:
 - a. Downloading or making unauthorized copies of software
 - b. Using a camera feature on any electronic to make unauthorized copies of copyrighted materials (or any Y.A.L.E. materials, such as Y.A.L.E. forms or documents, including but not limited to those with names of students, teachers, etc.)
 - c. Printing or distributing unauthorized copies of copyrighted materials or any unauthorized Y.A.L.E. materials
 - d. Using software that is not licensed by the manufacturer or approved by Y.A.L.E.
 - e. Sending, posting, or forwarding messages or pictures containing defamatory, obscene, sexual or offensive statements or images
 - f. Attempting to access sites featuring pornography, terrorism, espionage, theft or drugs
 - g. Use of facilities to harass, attack, insult or stalk others
 - h. Use for reasons of no educational value
 - i. Engaging in any criminal activity in violation of local, state or federal law
 - j. Introducing a virus, harmful component, corrupted data or the malicious tampering with any of Y.A.L.E.'s computer systems
 - k. Engaging in unethical activities or content
 - l. Accessing social-networking websites
 - m. Creating a video or audio recording of instruction, class discussions, or conversations between peers, teachers, or other Y.A.L.E. staff unless authorized by a teacher, supervisor or administrator for academic purposes
 - n. Removing Y.A.L.E. electronic equipment or devices from school premises, unless approved by Campus Supervisor for remote learning activities
 - o. Attempting to access Y.A.L.E. student or staff information databases
 2. While using Y.A.L.E. facilities, users are prohibited from revealing their own personal information or the personal information of others, including but not limited to, full name, home address, social security number, telephone number.
- D. Noncompliance
1. If the AUP is violated, Y.A.L.E. will notify student as soon as practicable and afford the student the opportunity to be heard (check procedure for normal violations of school rules)
 2. In addition to other disciplinary actions, any user who does not adhere to the AUP will also be subject to:
 - a. Responsibility for full financial restitution to Y.A.L.E. or any other injured party
 - b. Indemnification of Y.A.L.E. for any damages incurred or assessed as a result of the user's inappropriate unauthorized use of a Y.A.L.E. facilities
 - c. Denial of access to Y.A.L.E. computers, iPads, other devices and Internet Access for an appropriate period of time to be determined by Y.A.L.E.
 - d. Subject to other criminal and/or civil penalty
- E. Privacy
1. Users have limited privacy expectations in the content of their communications and activities while using Y.A.L.E. facilities. Y.A.L.E. reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, and store without prior notice any and all usage of the Internet, as well as any and all materials, files, information, software, communications, and other content transmitted, received, or stored in connection with this usage.
 2. All such information, content, and files are the property of Y.A.L.E. Users should have no expectation of privacy regarding them.
- F. Consent
- By accessing Y.A.L.E.'s computers, iPads, and other electronic devices, and using its Internet capabilities, users agree to adhere to Y.A.L.E. policies regarding their use. Users further agree to report any misuse or policy violation to the Building Supervisor. Parents and students agree to hold Y.A.L.E. harmless for materials that students access or acquire, including copyright infringement violation, while using the facilities.

I have read the Acceptable Use Policy and fully understand and agree to its contents.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Student Signature: _____

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

2025-2026
PARENT/STUDENT APPRAISAL FORM

Each student intake will include a comprehensive verbal description of the curriculum, policies, and procedures of the Y.A.L.E. School. I further understand that should my son/daughter be accepted and attend the Y.A.L.E. School, exhibition of any of the following behaviors may jeopardize his/her placement:

1. Chronic physically aggressive behavior.
2. Possession, use, or sale of illicit drugs/alcohol/weapons.
3. Unauthorized leaving of the school building and/or school grounds.
4. Failure to remain in or report to the designated programming area upon staff direction.
5. Cell phone and iPod etc. use during the school day and off-task/non-sanctioned computer use.

Further, I understand and accept the following policies and procedures:

1. If my son/daughter is excluded from class based upon disruptive behavior, fails to move to a designated location as directed by a supervisor, or if deemed necessary by Y.A.L.E. School staff, I will attend a meeting at the Y.A.L.E. School upon request.
2. Students are accepted to the Y.A.L.E. Program with the knowledge that their particular profile of needs can be met within our program design. Therefore, acceptance and program structure rely upon the implementation of out of school interventions including:
 - Students on medication must adhere to the regimen prescribed by the physician.
 - Students on psychotropic or neuroleptic medication are accepted conditionally.
 - If medication is changed or discontinued, written notice must be submitted to the school by the prescribing physician. If deemed necessary, a meeting may be scheduled with Y.A.L.E. staff to discuss the medication changes and students' school performance. Lack of cooperation with this procedure may jeopardize a student's placement in the Y.A.L.E. program.
3. Random searches, including wand searches, may be utilized at the discretion of the administration.
4. If a student expresses suicidal ideation or intent, a therapist may inform the parents and request that they take their child to the crisis center where a determination can be made with regard to the child's safety. The child can return to school only when accompanied by a note from the crisis center stating he/she/they is no longer a threat to himself/herself or others.
5. If a student is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs during the school day a parent will be required to pick up the student and arrange a drug screening. The results of the screening must be provided to the school within 48 hours. The student will not be allowed to return to school until results are received by the school. If the results are positive, the school will work with parents, student, and district to make recommendations.
6. Parents are obligated to provide full disclosure of any past, present, or future behaviors which may impact any of the students at the YALE School. This disclosure includes, but is not limited to, any involvement with the legal system or NJ Office of Administrative Law regarding due process or other complaints.
7. Any history of violent behavior, sexual abuse, predatory behavior, criminal conviction, probation must be disclosed to admissions during student's intake appointment.
8. Matters involving child custody, visitation, restraining orders etc. must be communicated in a timely fashion, followed by providing the necessary documentation in writing. Y.A.L.E. School is obligated to follow the most recent court order.
9. Parents are obligated to review Y.A.L.E.'s Student/Parent Handbook including Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy with their child. Acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying (including but not limited to gestures, written, verbal, physical or technology based harassment) may jeopardize a student's placement at the Y.A.L.E. School. Parents are encouraged to direct questions to school administrators with any concerns in this regard.
10. School personnel who come in contact with a child and observe behavior or conditions that may potentially indicate abuse or neglect are required by law to report their suspicions. Suspected abuse and neglect must be reported to child welfare authorities without delay, and subsequently to law enforcement. It then becomes the responsibility of the state authorities to investigate and take appropriate action.
11. Given enrollment in a public school setting parents are aware that repeated instances of loud, disruptive, dangerous behaviors, including elopement, may result in the consideration of a more appropriate setting.
12. Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to communicate directly with a Y.A.L.E. School principal and/or sending district representative whenever there is concern about their child's educational program (for example: goals, objectives, instruction, academic group placement, progress reports, behavior management and/or social-emotional functioning).
13. Parents/Guardian acknowledge if visiting or enrolled students engage in unsafe, disruptive and/or dangerous behavior, Y.A.L.E. staff, trained in Safety-Care (interventions based on extensive clinical research and drawn from the field of Applied Behavioral Analysis), will utilize strategies to prevent crises and support students in a humane and safe manner.
14. The covert or overt use of electronic recording devices is strictly forbidden without the expressed consent of a Y.A.L.E. Building Supervisor.
15. Students exhibiting mental health and/or behavioral symptoms not identified in their records or Y.A.L.E. admissions intake, will be referred to an outside agency or behaviorist/ mental health practitioner for an evaluation and/or treatment if the student's needs exceed Y.A.L.E.'s clinical scope of practice; daily attendance expectations during the referral process will subsequently be determined by the IEP Team.

SIGN-OFF

I have read and I have been given a copy of the **2025-2026** Student/Parent Handbook and the Parent Appraisal Form and agree to abide by all of its provisions.

Parent/Guardian Signature

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Student Signature

Date