

BRITTON-HECLA MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE BRAVES

759 5th Street
Britton, SD 57430
Telephone: (605) 448-2234 ext. 1
www.britton.k12.sd.us



Steve Benson-Superintendent
Carrie James-Principal
Sheila Anderson- Counselor
Jon Anderson- Activities Director

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Britton-Hecla School District is to promote a positive, challenging and safe environment for every student. Our goal is to provide all students with the life skills necessary for continuous growth as productive global citizens through a cooperative effort of school, family, business and community.

WELCOME

We welcome you as a member of the Britton-Hecla student body. As a citizen of this school, you are expected to follow the rules that are established for all students. Your success in this school will be directly proportional to your efforts. Please call on your teachers for the help that you need to be successful.

COVID-19

The virus COVID-19 has impacted and changed our lives in many ways, including education. Our school strives to continue to meet our mission statement even during this time. COVID-19 may cause changes to occur at short notice to our education structure and system. Please understand this could impact and change the procedures in this handbook. See school board policy IIAB for further policies on COVID-19.

FACULTY TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

Jon Anderson	Agriculture/AD	Kelly Mills	English Language Arts
Sheila Anderson	K – 12 Counselor	Ryan Nack	Industrial Technology
Christina Bosse	Science	Jenna Peters	English Language Arts
Jennifer Carlson	Science/IT	Stacy Bennett	Computers/Tech Coord.
Gretchen Christenson	Math/English	Pat Renner	MS Teacher
Joleen Christianson	Math	Kyla Richter	Sped Director
Lisa Dawson	SPED	Jacob Skogstad	K-12 PE
Damon Scott	Social Sciences/PE	Stephanie Symens	Art/PE/Computers
Holli Medhaug	K-12 Music	Larry Telkamp	Band/Music
Rose Kraft	SPED	Elizabeth Waletich	FACS

CLASSIFIED STAFF

Jo Bush	E-mentor/Librarian	Marcia Thonvold	Para-Professional
Tracy Malpert	Admin Assistant	Hailey Stiegelmeier	Para-Professional

DAILY CLASS SCHEDULE

1 st Period	8:18-9:05	MS Lunch	11:50-12:21
2 nd Period	9:08-9:54	HS Lunch	12:24-12:50
3 rd Period	9:57-10:43	6 th Period	12:50-1:38
4 th Period	10:46-11:32	7 th Period	1:41-2:29
5 th Period	11:35-12:22	8 th Period	2:32-3:20

ACADEMICS

GRADING SYSTEM, HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATION

Grading System = the school year is divided into two semesters, each semester worth 1/2 credit. Each semester is divided into two 9-weeks periods. Report cards are issued to students every nine weeks. Student deficiency/ progress reports may be sent any time to parents of students who are in need of some type of attention. The following grading system is used in academic classes:

A = 93-100 B = 86-92 C = 78-85 D = 70-77 F = 0-69

Honor Roll = An honor roll will be made at the end of each nine week period and at the end of each semester. In order to be on the honor roll of merit, a student must have a 3.0 G.P.A. and not receive any D's or F's in an academic class. In order to be on the honor roll of excellence, a student must have a 3.7 G.P.A. and not receive any C's, D's, or F's in an academic class. Honor Graduation = At the end of four years of high school, students with a G.P.A. of 3.0 will graduate with honors, a G.P.A. of 3.5 with high honors and a G.P.A. of 3.7 with highest honors. Students who earn a 4.0 GPA or higher are considered to be ranked #1. This policy was instituted to allow for the mathematical inequity that occurs for students who take weighted classes, earn A's and take a full load of classes each year.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Britton-Hecla School and school board require that students earn a minimum of 22 credits to graduate. The BH school board has elected to follow the South Dakota graduation requirements. Listed below are the minimum requirements to receive a diploma. Use the SD department of education website to learn more about the SD graduation requirements and the endorsements students can earn.

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| <p>(1.) Four units of Language Arts – must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Writing – 1 unitb. Literature – 1 unit
(must include 1/2 unit of American Literature)c. Speech or Debate – 1/2 unitd. Language Arts elective – 1 1/2 units <p>(2.) Three units of Mathematics – must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Algebra I – 1 unitb. Math electives- 2 units <p>(3.) Three units of Lab Science – must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Biology – 1 unitb. Science electives- 2 units <p>(4.) Three units of Social Studies – must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. U.S. History – 1 unitb. U.S. Government – 1/2 unitc. Social Studies electives- 1 1/2 units | <p>(5.) One unit of the following-any combination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Approved Career & Technical Educationb. Capstone Experience or Service Learningc. World Language <p>(6.) One unit of Fine Arts</p> <p>(7.) 1/2 unit of Personal Finance or Economics</p> <p>(8.) 1/2 unit of Physical Education</p> <p>(9.) 1/2 unit of Health or Health Integration</p> <p>(10.) 5 ½ units of electives</p> |
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*Students may earn the endorsements of: Advanced Endorsement, Advanced Career Endorsement, Advanced Honor Endorsement. See SD DOE website for more information

Classes taken that do not meet college entrance requirements such as Consumer/Intermediate Math and Basic English have a weighted GPA scale with an “A” (3.5). The principal and counselor will determine appropriate weighted grading scales for classes taught with alternative delivery styles. Advanced placement and dual credit classes will have a weighted scale with an “A” (4.5).

ONLINE/ADVANCE PLACEMENT (AP)/DISTANCE ED COURSES

Students may take online, distance learning and AP courses. All online, AP and distance learning courses must have administrative approval and may not be taken in lieu of courses offered at BHHS. If a student fails or drops one of these courses they will need to pay for all expenses associated with the course, including the books.

Dual Credit Classes – Students may also take dual credit classes but students will have to pay for all fees associated with dual credit classes. By taking these classes, students forfeit their rights to participate in classroom activities, such as field trips, of the corresponding on campus offered class.

Summer Courses- Any school accredited by the SD Department of Education shall accept transfer credits earned by a student for any course taken by the student from another school accredited by the SD Department of Education outside the regular school term. However, Britton-Hecla School is only required to accept the transfer credits if the student notifies a school administrator of the credits sought prior to taking the course. If the students fails to provide the advance notice, the school may refuse to accept the credits. Coursework must meet the district and state graduation requirements to be accepted by the Britton-Hecla School.

Online Classes and Distance Learning Grading Policy:

Final/Semester Grades will be assigned per the course instructor. In the instances where an instructor does not suggest a grade, the course percentage will be assigned via Britton-Hecla’s online grading scale.

Quarter Grades will be given as suggested by the course instructor. In some instances, the course is graded as a final grade. For such instances, the Britton-Hecla e-mentor will use the Britton-Hecla School’s online course grading scale to assign a quarter grade.

For all online courses, **quarter grades** are a progress grade. The final grade is based on overall performance for the semester.

Online Course Grading Scale: A 100 – 90; B 89 – 80; C 79 – 70; D 69 – 60; F 59 and below

Apex grading follows the Britton-Hecla School District 6-12 grading scale.

SEMESTER GRADES

Semester tests, end of the semester projects, speeches, etc. will be given at the discretion of the classroom teacher. The semester test or project grade will be calculated with the 9 week grade and will not be a standalone grade. The semester grade will be calculated by averaging the two 9 weeks grades.

STUDENT CLASSIFICATION

Students will be placed in various grades according to the following criteria. To be enrolled in: Grade 10 - 6 credits; Grade 11 - 12 credits; Grade 12 - 18 credits.

HOMEWORK POLICY

The amount of homework varies with the grade level, the teacher, and the subject involved. It helps if students have a set time and place at home to study. Showing interest in your child's homework provides the opportunity to share in their learning experiences. Bringing home large amounts of homework may mean your child is not using his/her school time properly. You are invited to consult the teacher if a problem arises in this matter.

MAKE UP WORK/LATE WORK

For any absence from school, students will be given the opportunity to make up missed work. Request for teacher assistance is encouraged but shall be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor. The time period allowed for makeup work shall be one school day times the number of days missed. Students who missed the day of test reviews will take the test with their classmates the following day. It is the student's responsibility to get all work made up.

Any late work must be turned in, on or before the next regularly scheduled class. It will be assessed a 10 percent penalty. After that, work will be accepted at the discretion of the teacher.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The Britton-Hecla School wants to help students succeed and provide opportunities for students to improve their grades and complete missing work with the help of a teacher available. The following plan has been put into place to give students this opportunity.

If students are receiving failing grades, they will be required to attend the after school study hall that is held on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until they are passing their classes. Grades are checked on these days and students receive notification if they are failing a class and need to stay after school. If that day does not work for the student they need to report to the principal's office and plan an alternate time to come in and work on their grade. They also may visit with the teacher and get their grade up before the end of the day, and then report this change to the office. Students may also report to school at 7:30 to work on the failing grade if they notify the principal's office and the teacher. 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students may lose their open lunch privilege if they have failing grades.

EARLY GRADUATION POLICY

Students at Britton-Hecla High School must attend a minimum of 3½ years unless the fourth year is spent as a foreign exchange student. An early graduation means completing the following criteria:

- Letter of intent is submitted by February 1 of junior year
- Early graduation form is filled out and signed by student, parent, and school official
- Student has a 2.5 grade point average
- Student has completed 22 credits
- Required classes are completed

Early graduates will be considered graduates of the Britton-Hecla School at the time the school board confers such status upon them. Therefore, early graduates will no longer be considered members of the Britton-Hecla School student body and will forfeit those rights and privileges accorded students. However, early graduates may participate in the graduation ceremony held at the end of the school year.

ELIGIBILITY

The following guidelines will be used when determining eligibility for activities. A student must be passing six classes. Eligibility will be determined at midterm and the end of each nine week period. If a student is deemed ineligible he/she will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities for a one week period (**Seven days – Monday to the next Monday**). **Ineligible students** will have grades checked at weekly intervals (each Friday) until the student becomes eligible. During academic suspension, students may practice and travel with the team as long as no school time is missed. In addition to midterm and quarterly eligibility requirements, all students must follow SDHSAA requirements for eligibility. If a student is not passing six classes at the end of a semester, he/she will not be eligible until the following mid-term. If the student is still not passing six classes at mid-term, he/she will not be eligible until the end of the nine weeks.

Students participating in extra-curricular activities are required to abide by the following activity rules from August 1, 2020- August 1, 2021.

- 1) No consumption or possession of alcohol
- 2) No use or possession of tobacco products
- 3) No use or possession of illegal (controlled) substance
- 4) In-school or out-of-school suspension

Violation of these rules will result in the following:

- 1) First violation – One event or one week, whichever is greater
- 2) Second violation – Six weeks of non-competition or 4 weeks of non-competition if student completes an approved drug and counseling program.
- 3) Third violation – One year of non-competition, or six months of non-competition if student completes an approved drug and counseling program.
- 4) When a student goes 12 months without an additional violation, he/she will move back one level in the consequences. In order for a student to successfully finalize a penalty, the student must complete the activity season.

Reporting – All violations are reported to the administration in the following ways:

- 1) The athlete may admit the infraction to the administration. If he/she reports to the coach or athletic director, that person must report it to the administration.
- 2) The sheriff's department or probation officer may inform the administration.

3) An adult or staff may report the infraction through a signed statement, which will be shared with the accused.

The administrator, activities director, and the student need to discuss the infraction on a weekday with the penalty beginning on the first contest following that discussion. Students participating in music and drama events sanctioned by the SDHSAA are also to uphold these rules. All students are to follow the South Dakota High School Activities Association Code of Ethics and the states eligibility rules for extracurricular activities. These are on file with the athletic director, coaches and administration.

BAND & CHORUS EXCEPTION: Student participation at ball games and concerts is part of their grade. Therefore Band & Chorus members will be excluded from the Academic Eligibility policy in these instances.

PRACTICE/PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In order for students to be eligible to practice or compete in extra-curricular activities after school, they must be in school the afternoon on the day of the practice or competition. Exceptions to this rule may be doctor appointments, family emergencies or situations beyond the control of the student.

DISCIPLINE AND ATTENDANCE - POLICY DEFINITIONS

TAT – Teacher Assistance Team

Students struggling with academics or behavior issues may be referred to our Teacher Assistance Team (TAT). Our team consists of teachers, administration, counselor, school psychologist. The team will meet and brainstorm ideas for assisting teachers who work directly with the student.

Suspension After School-SAS-3:20-4:00

Students assigned to SAS will serve the suspension in the room assigned. Teachers supervise the suspension in their rooms.

Suspension Before School-SBS-7:30-8:15

Students assigned to SBS will serve the suspension in the office. Students are to report by 7:45 and are dismissed when the first bell rings.

Suspension During Lunch-SDL

Students assigned to SDL will serve the suspension in the office. Students are to report to the office and will be allowed to get their lunch when the other students have gotten their lunch. Students assigned SDL will bring their tray back to the office to eat. Students are dismissed when the bell rings.

In-School Suspension-ISS

Students assigned to ISS will serve the suspension in an assigned room. Students will be permitted to use their computers when directed by the classroom teacher. Students will receive full credit for all work completed and submitted on time to the teacher. Parents will be notified when ISS is assigned to a student. If a student is put on in-school suspension, he/she will **NOT** be able to participate in or attend extracurricular activities for that time.

Out-of-School Suspension-OSS

OSS is the denial of the opportunity to attend school for a period of time usually one to ten days and is assigned by the Principal or in some situations the Superintendent. Students are expected to complete all work assigned by the due date and will receive 70% credit if turned in by the due date. If a student is put on out-of-school suspension, he/she will **NOT** be able to participate in or attend extracurricular activities for that time.

Short Term Suspension

When a student is suspended from school for a period of three days or less.

Long Term Suspension

When a student is suspended from school for four days or more.

Long Term Removal from Class

When a student is removed from a class for behavior reasons for the remainder of a semester, the student will be given a withdrawal grade from the class and no credit given.

Alcohol Use/Drug Abuse/Chemical Abuse by Students

(Narcotics, Drugs, Alcoholic Beverages, and Controlled Substances)

Student and parent members of the school community are expected to be aware of and understand these policies and comply with them. A copy of the policy will be provided to all students and parents through our student handbooks or posted on the school website.

This policy is in effect on property owned, leased, or maintained by Britton-Hecla School District, within 1,000 feet (drug free zone statute), at all school sanctioned activities on and off campus, and in vehicles parked on school property.

A student shall not possess, use, transfer, conceal, sell, attempt to sell, deliver, nor be under the influence of narcotics, drugs, or alcohol, materials/substance represented to be a drug or controlled substance, or chemical substances which affect psychological functions or affect the educational system of the school. Students shall not engage in drug use/abuse nor possess paraphernalia specific to the use of illegal drugs. Students who use prescription drugs authorized by a licensed physician do not violate this policy if the students conform to the prescription and appropriate school policies.

The building principal or designee may use a Passive Alcohol Sensor (PAS) if there is reasonable suspicion of alcohol consumption or possession.

If the PAS indicates probable consumption, the student will be asked to take a breathalyzer test given by a law enforcement official to refute or confirm alcohol consumption. Consequences for violations of this policy are found on the discipline grid.

Procedures include, but are not limited to, notification of parents, short-term/long-term suspension, expulsion, notification of law enforcement, and recommendation for professional help for the student. Refer to School Board Policy JFCH/JFCI

BULLYING PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

The Britton-Hecla School Board supports a secure school climate, conducive to teaching and learning that is free from threat, harassment and any type of bullying behavior.

The purpose of this policy is to promote consistency of approach and to help create a climate in which all types of bullying are regarded as unacceptable.

Bullying is defined as any written or verbal expression, physical act or gesture, or a pattern thereof, which is intended to cause distress upon one or more students in the school environment.

Bullying can include the use of electronic devices. This kind of bullying often-times begins in times outside the school day, but for those instances that either occur during the school day, or have disruptive effect during the school day, school officials will take action to remedy the situation.

For purposes of this policy, the school environment includes school buildings, grounds, vehicles, bus stops and all school sponsored activities and events. A student who engages in any act of bullying is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including suspension, expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. The severity and pattern, if any, of the bullying behavior shall be taken into consideration when disciplinary decisions are made. The Superintendent, or designee, shall develop a comprehensive program to address bullying at all school levels. The program shall be aimed toward accomplishing the following objectives:

1. To send a clear message to students, staff, parents and community members that bullying will not be tolerated.
2. To train staff and students in taking pro-active steps to prevent bullying from occurring.
3. To implement procedures for immediate intervention, investigation, and confrontation of students engaged in bullying behavior.
4. To initiate efforts to change the behavior of students engaged in bullying behaviors through reeducation on acceptable behavior, discussions, counseling, and appropriate negative consequences.
5. To foster a productive partnership with parents and community members in order to help maintain a bully-free environment.
6. To support victims of bullying by counseling.
7. To help develop peer support networks, social skills and confidence for all students.
8. To recognize and praise positive, supportive behaviors of students toward one another on a regular basis.

STUDENT SAFETY

Students shall not carry or possess guns, knives, or any other instruments, which may be construed as weapons while on school property or at any school activity. Any student bringing a dangerous weapon to school shall be expelled for not less than twelve months and will be referred to law enforcement authorities. The superintendent shall have the authority to recommend to the school board that this expulsion requirement be modified on a case by case basis.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

The Britton-Hecla Board of Education seeks to maintain a school climate conducive to learning and protective of the safety and welfare of staff and students. The school system does not allow any behavior that will threaten the safety of the school. Threats, harassment and the use of profanity will be dealt with in an expedient manner with appropriate steps taken.

School officials have a right to confiscate or ask students to remove any items that would endanger the safety of other students in school. Students wearing any of the items listed in the dress code as inappropriate will be given a warning on the first offense. In the case of gang related items, law enforcement officials will be notified on the first offense. On the second offense, parents/guardians will be contacted and a short-term suspension may occur (1-10 days). The school board will handle repeated offenses.

All employees, students and guests should be able to enjoy a work and learning environment free from all forms of discrimination, including sexual harassment or bullying. Copies of these policies are available upon request. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, continual/ongoing name calling, making inappropriate comments, gestures or noises, pushing, shoving, etc.

All incidents reported will be investigated with all parties involved interviewed. If the event warrants parental and sheriff involvement, both parties will be notified. The policy as noted in the Britton-Hecla School Board Handbook will be made available to students at the beginning of the school year

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Britton-Hecla School District #45-4 does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices, or in its educational programs (including career and technical education programs) on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, or other human differences. Inquiries specifically concerning the application of Title VI, Title IX, or section 504 may be referred to:

Title VI (discrimination based on national origin/race) Special Services Director
Title IX (discrimination based on gender) Activities Director
Section 504 (discrimination based on disability) Special Services Director
Both Special Services and Activities Director can be reached at:

Britton-Hecla School District **OR**
759 5th Street
Britton, SD 57430
605-448-2234

Kansas City Office
U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights
8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037
Kansas City, MO 64114-3302
Phone: 816-268-0550
Fax: 816-823-1404; TDD: 877-521-2172
E-mail: OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov

Please note: This is a “public notice”
announcement published prior to the beginning
of each school year.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The basic responsibility for regular school attendance lies with the students and with the parents. Attendance is a part of each student's permanent record. It is the duty of the school officials to know the whereabouts of students during the school hours. Students may be excused for specific purposes only through the principal's office. Absences are categorized as Exempt, Excused or Unexcused.

When students are enrolled in school, they are expected to be in attendance for all classes. Students should consider school their number one priority and if they are absent from class, they are missing out on information that is presented.

Any student who is absent more than 9 (nine) class periods per semester will not be given credit for that class. When the student has reached the area of 4-5 absences, a letter will be sent home notifying parents of our absence policy. If a medical excuse is returned to the principal's office, sick days will not be counted towards the nine absences. School sponsored activities for which students are absent are not counted.

After the 9th (ninth) absence, the student may request an attendance review by a committee comprised of the principal, counselor, and one faculty member. In cases with extenuating circumstances, this review committee may provide options for the student to make up time for regaining credit. Excessive absence from school may result in not earning credits and advancement to the next grade.

ABSENCES

This includes all absence for sickness and for some serious emergencies, where the circumstances were not known in advance. Other absences are excused, only if they are made up by the student in advance. Pre-existing assignments are still due on the date assigned, even if the student missed school in between. Steps to follow when absent:

1. Have a parent/guardian call the office or write an excuse giving name, days absent, and reason for absence.
2. Obtain absence pass from the principal's office
3. Present absence slip to each of your teachers for assignments missed.
4. Make up all work and hand work in to teachers. Student will have two days to make up work for the first day missed and an extra day for each consecutive day missed after that.

Types of Absences

The basic responsibility for regular school attendance lies with the students and with the parents. Attendance is a part of each student's permanent record. It is the duty of the school officials to know the whereabouts of students during the school hours. Students may be excused for specific purposes only through the principal's office. Absences are categorized as either: Exempt Excused or Unexcused.

Exempt Absences

These absences will be marked in the attendance record but won't count against the number of days you can miss in a semester.

These include:

- All school sponsored activities
- Doctor/Dentist appointments verified by note from doctor
- Doctor ordered absences verified by note from doctor
- 4H events
- Funerals/Religious observations
- One college visit (during Senior year)

Excused Absences

These are absences that are known about by staff and parents. These **will count against** the number of days you may miss a class each semester. When your absence is recorded as "Excused" you will be allowed to do whatever make-up work is available, and you will receive full credit for the quality of the work you do, provided it is completed within the time frames established by your teachers.

These include:

- Doctor/Dentist appointment not verified by note from doctor
- Doctor ordered absences not verified by note from doctor
- Illness
- Parent request
- Weather Related absences

Unexcused Absences:

These are absences that are not approved by the staff and/or known by parents. Students needing to leave the school for any reason during the day must first receive permission from the office. These **will count against** the number of days you may miss a class each semester.

Failure to follow this procedure will result in an unexcused absence. Any portion of the day counts as one violation.

These include:

- Skipping School for any amount of time
- Oversleeping

TARDINESS

If a student arrives late to school, he/she reports to the office for a late slip. If a student arrives late to class, the teacher will mark the offense in the attendance system. If a student has been detained in the office or by another teacher, the student should ask for a slip from the person who detained them before going to your next class. If a student earns seven tardies, the student will be required to make up time either during lunch period or before or after school. Each success five tardies will result in additional make up time.

STUDENT DUE PROCESS

Students are entitled to due process under the law and Britton-Hecla does provide a process of appeal on judgments made by those in authority. Grievances should be filed through the proper channels according to board policy JFH in the Britton-Hecla Policy Manual in the Principal's office.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITY TICKETS

All students have the option to purchase activity tickets for \$20.00. Activity tickets give entrance to all regular season athletic events held at our school. Tickets may be purchased at the office. Lost tickets are replaced for \$1.00. All student athletes are required to buy an activity ticket to participate in athletics. No uniform will be issued until an activity ticket is purchased. Activity tickets/season passes are available for adults too, contact the high school office for more information.

BAND RENTAL

The school owns many of the higher priced instruments. The band director issues these instruments. Students and parents are responsible for the care of the assigned instrument. An instrumental rental fee is charged and is due at the beginning of the school year.

BUS CONDUCT

Bus drivers are in charge of students riding on their buses going to and from school or activities. The bus service is a privilege, not a right. Students abusing their riding privilege may have bus riding suspended.

BEVERAGES/POP/VENDING MACHINES

1. Absolutely NO pop/energy drinks will be allowed in school during the school day!
2. Only beverages that are sold in the vending machines are permitted in the classrooms. Vending machines are available all day.
3. In the event of a spill, please notify the custodian or the office immediately.
4. Students are encouraged to bring school appropriate water bottles with them to use with the water bottle filling stations throughout the school instead of water fountains.

BUILDING HOURS

Doors will be open to students at 7:45 AM if the student is under the supervision of a faculty member. In case of extreme weather conditions, students who arrive early will be admitted to the building. Students are not to be in the building after 3:45 PM unless supervised by a staff member.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Do not tamper with the fire alarms, fire extinguishers, or any electrical systems.

Anyone, who willfully destroys school property through vandalism, arson, or larceny or creates a hazard to the safety of others, will be referred to the proper law enforcement authorities and face suspension and/or expulsion.

COATS AND BACKPACKS

Students should leave their coats in their lockers during the school day. 6-12 students may carry book bags approved to carry a laptop. Book bags should be used for school related materials only. Any item deemed as contraband may result in the confiscation of a student's bag. Coats maybe hung in classrooms with coat hooks in them (for example room 106 on the bottom floor).

DISCIPLINE

The administration of the school system is well aware that if we are to have a good school system we must have a fair and efficient system of discipline. We hope that by proper administration of school rules and regulations, we will be able to teach our students the necessity of obeying proper authority, whether it is parental, civil, or school. **Please see the Britton-Hecla Discipline Guide, Bus Referral Form and Office Referral Form located at the end of this handbook for a more detailed outline.**

In most cases, the individual teacher will handle discipline. Teachers shall use their own discretion as to routine disciplinary measures to be taken regarding any student. These measures are necessary to maintain order and a stable learning atmosphere. Good behavior rewards itself through better peer and student/teacher relations and is ultimately reflective in the student's grades. Support of the teacher's decisions by the parents is important and appreciated. Parents should encourage good behavior at home. Only in the case of serious disrespect for authority or disregard for rules and regulations will the student be sent to the principal's office.

DRESS CODE

It is important to remember that we are preparing students for an occupation, not only academically, but also socially. There are group standards and students will be expected to follow them and be responsible to other people.

Generally it is the prerogative of parents to determine what is appropriate dress and grooming for their children in accordance with the age and grade of these students. It is hoped that decisions made by parents and student in these matters will reflect favorably upon the individual student, the school, and the community. In the interest of cleanliness, decency, and good taste, Britton-Hecla reserves the right to place restrictions on a student's dress and grooming, as necessary, when they create a danger to the student's health and safety, interfere with the educational process, or cause a disruption in school. Appearance should be nonrestrictive, nondisruptive, and respectful. The following are some guidelines:

1. For health and safety reasons, shoes are to be worn at all times in the buildings.
2. Head wear, such as caps, head scarves, bandanas, and hats are not appropriate and are not to be worn in the school building during the day.
3. No apparel or articles that promote or suggest alcohol, tobacco products, or drugs are allowed in school. Apparel or articles containing messages, lettering, markings or pictures that could convey profane or offensive meanings or may relate to sex, race, guns, gangs, or cults will not be tolerated if worn in school.
4. Students may not wear immodest clothing, which includes clothing that exposes undergarments or inappropriately exposes the body. No bare midriff tops, spaghetti straps, strapless tops, and low cut tops are allowed. Wide strapped tank tops and halter tops are allowed only if undergarments are not showing. As a general rule, if in doubt, it's probably not appropriate.
5. No skin should be showing from mid-thigh up.
6. Undergarments should be covered.
7. Chains hanging from pants are not permitted.
8. All coats and/or jackets are to be left in your locker and not worn in class. There are a few classrooms with coat hooks in them and students are welcome to hang their coats there if they do not fit in their lockers.
9. Shorts and skirts are permitted. They should reach mid-thigh length.

If in question, it will be the administration's discretion whether or not a student has violated the dress code. If a student is dressed offensively, any staff member has the right to ask the student to:

1. Turn the garment inside out
2. Exchange it for share-wear from the office
3. Cover it up (holes in blue jeans)

FAMILY NIGHT

In keeping with Board Policy, there are to be no school activities scheduled on Wednesday evening after 6:00 p.m. and no formal practices or rehearsals will be regularly scheduled on Sundays or other legal holidays. Any deviation from this standard procedure must be cleared through the principal's office. Teachers will also make an attempt to keep homework assignments to a minimum on Wednesday nights.

INSURANCE

The school does not assume the responsibility for accidents, which may occur during school hours. Student insurance is available to all students for a nominal fee. The school does not approve claims. Its role is to distribute information relative to the program and assist in any way necessary. Students are encouraged to participate in the program or carry their own accident insurance policy.

LEAVING SCHOOL

Students may only leave school for appointments or have had arrangements made between a student's parents and principal. Students **must inform someone in the district main office when they are leaving**. If someone in the office area is not notified and the student leaves without checking out, the absence may be unexcused.

LOCKERS

Students are assigned a locker for the storage of books, school supplies, and coats.

It is the student's responsibility to see that his/ her locker is kept locked and in order at all times. Students should not share their combination with anyone. Lockers are school property and subject to search at any time. Students have no expectation of privacy with respect to all items placed in the school's lockers. Damage to lockers may result in a fine to the student.

Gym lockers are available for students participating in sports and PE classes. Students will need to bring their own locks. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items from the lockers.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Breakfast and hot lunches are served to students daily. Meals may be purchased at a reduced rate after the required papers have been fill out and approved. Sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students are required to eat at the school for lunch. When students are done eating they will remain in the lunchroom until dismissed. With special exception and prior permission from parents and the principal's office, underclassmen students may be excused during lunchtime in rare circumstances. If this is abused, underclassmen put their future open campus lunch privilege in jeopardy.

Sophomores, juniors and seniors will have open campus for lunch and may eat in the cafeteria or leave the building. If they return to the school before the bell they will report to the lunchroom and remain with other students until the bell rings. Abusing this option, breaking other school rules, and failing grades can result in losing the privilege of open campus during lunch.

Any student who is on ISS, OSS, or lunch detention will eat at the school.

During the period of time when lunch is being served, in accordance with federal regulations, no carbonated beverages will be sold or consumed in the area where lunch is being served.

*See Appendix A for additional information on government lunch regulations.

MEDICATION

All medication should be kept in the principal's office. Students are not to keep any medication including prescriptions, Tylenol, Advil, Aleve, etc. with them or in their lockers. Parents should send a note and/or a marked bottle for their student with instructions as necessary.

OPEN CAMPUS

Open campus is defined as two open periods in a senior student's schedule, when they are not required to register for a class during second semester. Students must leave campus or go to an approved area in the building during this time. Open campus is a privilege to be earned by BHHS seniors who wish to have two open periods, and it is not a right granted to every senior. Students must achieve three of the following competencies during the prior semester to be eligible.

1. Students must not have failing class grades in any class.
2. Students must have no office referrals.
3. Students must not have excessive tardiness or unexcused absences.

The administration reserves the right to evoke open campus privileges for any student at any time for any misbehavior during school or at any school function, whether at home or away.

PARKING LOT

The parking lot located to the east of the Arena entrance is for student parking. Students are expected to follow all parking rules and regulations. These rules are as follows:

1. Students should park between the painted lines. If there is not a line on both sides of the vehicle, it is parked illegally.
2. Students may not park in areas marked for the disabled.
3. Britton-Hecla reserves the right to search student vehicles parked on school property at all times.
4. Parking lot hours are from 7:45 – 3:45. Students not staying for school related activities must move their vehicle. There is no loitering in the school parking lot.
5. Vehicles parked in the school parking lot should not have vulgar or offensive content displayed on them.

Students who park illegally or in unauthorized areas will be subject to towing.

Towing charges will be the responsibility of the vehicle's driver.

SCHOOL CLOSING

In the event of severe weather or mechanical breakdown, school may be closed or starting time delayed. The same conditions may also necessitate early dismissal. School closing, delayed starting time, or early dismissal can be found on the school website, school social media sites, announced over the Campus Call Service and also the following TV and radio stations: KSFY, KDLT, and KELOLAND and on their web sites. If no report is heard it can be assumed that school will be in session. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL IF NO REPORT IS HEARD OVER RADIO OR TV STATIONS.

SCHOOL DANCES

High school students and their dates are welcome to attend all high school dances. Students may have dates no younger than a high school freshman and no older than 21 years of age or 3 years past their intended graduation date. All dates not attending Britton-Hecla High School must be registered ahead of time with the principal. Junior high students are not able to attend 9-12 dances and will have separate dances scheduled during the school year. BHHS junior high students may only attend junior high dances.

SCHOOL PROM

The Junior/Senior Prom is intended for high school juniors and seniors and their dates. Students may have dates no younger than a high school freshman and no older than 21 years of age or 3 years past their intended graduation date. All dates not attending Britton-Hecla High School must be registered ahead of time with the principal. BH students and dates attending the prom must fill out, sign, and return the Britton-Hecla School prom contract.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The student council will consist of representatives from each class. The student body may elect a president in the spring. He/she must be a member of the junior class at the time of the election and a senior in the fall.

STUDENT RECORDS

Student records are on file in the office. Parents and students who are 18 years of age or older may view the contents of the student's accumulative record by making arrangements with the building principal or counselor. A request for a hearing on the contents of records may be made through the office of the superintendent.

TELEPHONE, CELL PHONES, PAGERS, ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students will not be called from their classes to answer the telephone, except in emergencies. The telephones in the office and classrooms are not for student use.

Cell phones – Cell phones may be used during a students' lunch session and between class sessions. Cell phones are limited to use in the cafeteria area and halls. Cell phones will be permitted in class rooms upon teacher request of the principal for academic purposes and teacher request for discretion. No cell phones are to be in the school bathrooms or locker rooms during school hours.

Personal music players are permitted in the lunch area and in the hallways. Personal music players are permitted also at teacher discretion in classrooms. **Cell phones are not to be used as music players in class.** Any use of personal music players without permission or in a restricted area will result in the confiscation of the device to the office. A second offense will result in the device returned only to a parent/guardian. A third offense will result in the student checking his/her device in at the office daily.

TEACHERS' LOUNGE

The teachers' lounge is off limits to students. If you need to see a teacher who might be in the work room, please knock on the door and wait for someone to answer.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

Students planning to transfer to another school or withdraw from school should receive instructions from the office regarding the proper procedure. "Checking out" cannot be accomplished in a few minutes. All outstanding obligations to the school must be satisfied before the student's withdrawal is complete.

Britton-Hecla Discipline Guide

	1 st Offense	2 nd Offense	3 rd Offense	Habitual Offense
Level 1 Minor Offenses				
<u>Following three documented classroom offenses:</u> Insubordination, poor/disruptive behavior, lying, fighting, inappropriate language, cheating, inappropriate computer usage, public displays of affection, inappropriate dress	-Student warning and/or office referral form signed by parents depending on severity -Time after school by discretion of the administration -ISS/OSS-Up to the discretion of administration	-Phone call home to parents to discuss next offense involving parent/teacher/administration meeting -Time after school by discretion of administration -ISS/OSS-Up to the discretion of administration	-Parent/teacher/administration meeting -PST/Behavior Plan implemented -Time after school by discretion of administration -ISS/OSS-Up to the discretion of administration	-Office referral form signed by parents -Behavior plan reassessed -ISS/OSS-Up to discretion of administration
Cell Phones-may be used during lunch and between classes -- during class time they will be shut off except for when used at teacher discretion	Cell phone will be taken by the principal and returned after school	-Cell phone will be taken by the principal and returned to parents -Office referral form signed by parents	-Cell phone will be taken by the principal and returned to the parents. -Office referral form signed by parents -Cell phone will be checked in and out of office daily for the remainder of the year	-Cell phone will be taken by the principal and returned to the parents. -ISS/OSS-Up to discretion of administration -Office referral form signed by parents
On the bus	Student meets with principal and is given a warning	-Phone call with parents	-1-5 days off of the bus	-Office referral form signed by parents -Number of days off of bus is up to the discretion of the administrator -PST/Behavior plan implemented
Level 2 Moderate Offenses				
Skipping class, Tobacco use or Possession, Matches/lighter	-Phone call home to parents -ISS/OSS up to the discretion of administration	-Phone call home to parents -ISS/OSS-up to the discretion of administration -Contact Law Enforcement	-Parent/teacher/administration meeting -PST/Behavior plan implemented -ISS/OSS-up to the discretion of the administration -Contact Law Enforcement	-Office referral form signed by parents -Parent/teacher/administration meeting/ Behavior plan reassessed -OSS-Up to the discretion of administration -Contact Law Enforcement
Intimidation, Destruction of property, Harassment, Gang signs or symbols, Severe behavior, Theft	-Phone call home to parents -ISS/OSS up to the discretion of administration	-Phone call home to parents -ISS/OSS-up to the discretion of administration -Contact Law Enforcement	-Parent/teacher/ administration meeting -PST/Behavior plan implemented -ISS/OSS-up to the discretion of administration -Contact Law Enforcement	-Office referral form signed by parents -Parent/teacher/administration meeting/ Behavior plan reassessed -OSS-Up to the discretion of administration -Contact Law Enforcement
Level 3-Severe Offenses—Law Enforcement will be contacted				
Alcohol/Drug use or possession, Endangering the lives of others, Vandalism	-Parent/teacher/administration meeting and PST/Behavior Plan -Contact Law Enforcement -OSS up to the discretion of administrator	-Parent/teacher/administration meeting -Contact Law Enforcement -OSS up to the discretion of administrator -Behavior plan reassessed		
Selling or distribution of drugs, Bomb threat, Endangering the lives of others, Possession of weapons, Assaulting staff, Combustibles	Parent/teacher/administration meeting -Contact law enforcement -OSS up to the discretion of administrator -Behavior Plan Implemented			***This guide is intended to serve as a helpful tool to parents. Please understand that all offenses are dealt with individually.

PARENT COMPLAINT FORM

This form must be filled out completely by a parent within 15 days of the date the student or when parent first knew of the decision or action giving rise to the complaint or grievance.

1. Student Name _____

2. Parent/Guardian Name _____

3. Date of Incident _____

4. Please write a brief description of the incident

5. Has this incident been reported to anyone else? _____ If so, who? _____

6. Resolution/action (filled out by building principal)

Date of meeting/phone call _____

Student/Parent Signature _____

Britton-Hecla School District 45-4

Office Discipline Referral Form

Follow-up Agreement

Student(s): _____ Referring Staff: _____

Grade: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Location:

Classroom Cafeteria Bus loading zone Other: _____

Playground Bathroom Parking lot

Commons Gym On bus

Hallway Library Special event/assembly/field trip

Problem Behavior (check most intensive):

Computer violation Tardy Tobacco Bomb threat

Abusive/inappropriate language Skip/truancy Alcohol/drugs Arson

Fight/Physical aggression Forgery/theft Combustibles Weapon

Harassment/tease/taunt Lying/cheating Public display of affection Vandalism

Defiance/disrespect/insubordination /non-compliance Dress code Other: _____

Possible Motivation:

Obtain peer attention Avoid task/activity Don't know

Obtain adult attention Avoid peer(s) Other: _____

Obtain item/activity Avoid adult(s)

Others Involved:

None Peer(s) Staff Teacher Substitute Unknown Other: _____

Administrative Decision:

Time in office In school suspension Referral to counselor Behavior Plan

Loss of privilege Parent contact Individualized instruction Out of school suspension

Conference with student Other: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

What expectations did you not meet? (circle):

Be... Responsible Resourceful Always Respectful Valuable Environmentally Safe

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____

School Bus Discipline Referral Form

Student(s): _____ Referring Bus Driver: _____

Grade: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Problem Behavior (check most intensive):

- Inappropriate language/conversations Alcohol/drugs Continues to stand/walk when given warning
- Fight/Physical aggression Theft Weapon
- Harassment/tease/taunt Vandalism of bus Other: _____ Littering
- Defiance/disrespect/insubordination /non-compliance

Administrative Decision:

1st offense: Student meets with principal and is given warning

2nd offense: Referral form is sent to parents

3rd and subsequent offenses: Bus suspension as determined by administration

****Administration has the right to suspend bus riding privileges immediately for safety purposes.**

- Time in office In school suspension Behavior Plan
- Loss of privilege Parent contact Out of school suspension
- Conference with student Other: _____

Follow-up Agreement

Name: _____ Date: _____

What expectations did you not meet? (circle):

Be... Responsible Resourceful Always Respectful Valuable Environmentally Safe

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____

Appendix A

Date Issued 7-1-2017

Effective Date 7-1-2017

Britton-Hecla School District Meal Charge Policy

Federal Requirement

The purpose of this policy is to address the need for school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) to institute and clearly communicate a meal charge policy, which would include, if applicable, the availability of alternate meals. Because all students in participating schools may receive reimbursable school meals, all SFAs must have a policy in place for children who are participating at the reduced price or paid rate, but either do not have money in their account or in hand to cover the cost of the meal at the time of service. Such a policy ensures that school food service professionals, school administrators, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations in these situations.

You can find more information about this US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) requirement at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges>.

PURPOSE OF POLICY:

The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent meal account procedures throughout the district. Unpaid charges place a financial strain on the food service department. The goals of this standard of practice are:

- To treat all students with dignity in the serving line regarding meal accounts
- To support positive situations with district staff, district business policies, student and parent/guardian to the maximum extent possible
- To establish policies that are age appropriate
- To encourage parent/guardian to assume the responsibility of meal payments and to promote self-responsibility of the student
- To establish a consistent district policy regarding charges and collection of charges

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- The food service cashier, Business Manager, Assistant Business Manager: Responsible for maintaining charge records and notifying the student's parent/guardian.
- The Parent/Guardian: Immediate payment

ADMINISTRATION

1. Families are encouraged to apply for free and reduced price meal benefits. Applications are available in the school business office or on the school website under the Food Services tab.
www.britton.k12.sd.us
2. Families are required to pre-pay for meals. Payments are accepted in the school business office daily on the day of service. Payments may also be made online at www.britton.k12.sd.us through the Campus link on the left, or mailed to PO Box 190, Britton, SD 57430.
3. Families will be notified of the school Unpaid Meal Charge Policy in writing before the school year begins and with each new transfer student. This policy will also be posted on the Food Service website.
4. **Elementary students:** Reminders are sent to parents twice per week via Campus Messenger once their child's balance falls below \$10. When a child's account becomes delinquent and the parent(s) have not contacted the school to set up a payment plan, the following consequences will be enforced.
 - Students whose balance remains below \$0 for 7 consecutive days will have their email account turned off until their account balance is replenished. (Grades 5-12)
 - Students whose balance remains below \$0 for 20 consecutive days will be offered an alternate meal in lieu of a hot meal until their account balance is replenished. Our alternate meal includes a sandwich, fruit, vegetable, and a milk and meets all nutrition requirements set in place by the USDA. The meal will be charged at the same rate.
 - All delinquent accounts at the beginning of June of the current school year will be subject to collections for payment.
 - If a child has money to purchase a reduced price or paid meal at the time of the meal service, the child must be provided a meal. SFAs may not use the child's money to repay previously unpaid charges if the child intended to use the money to purchase that day's meal.
5. **Junior High School students:** Reminders are sent to parents twice per week via Campus Messenger once their child's balance falls below \$10. When a child's account becomes delinquent and the parent(s) have not contacted the school to set up a payment plan, the following consequences will be enforced.
 - Students whose balance remains below \$0 for 7 consecutive days will have their email account turned off until their account balance is replenished. (Grades 5-12)
 - Students whose balance remains below \$0 for 20 consecutive days will be offered an alternate meal in lieu of a hot meal until their account balance is replenished. Our alternate meal includes a sandwich, fruit, vegetable, and a milk and meets all nutrition requirements set in place by the USDA. The meal will be charged at the same rate.
 - All delinquent accounts at the beginning of June of the current school year will be subject to collections for payment.
 - If a child has money to purchase a reduced price or paid meal at the time of the meal service, the child must be provided a meal. SFAs may not use the child's money to repay previously unpaid charges if the child intended to use the money to purchase that day's meal.

6. **High School students:** Reminders are sent to parents twice per week via Campus Messenger once their child's balance falls below \$10. When a child's account becomes delinquent and the parent(s) have not contacted the school to set up a payment plan, the following consequences will be enforced.
- Students whose balance remains below \$0 for 7 consecutive days will have their email account turned off until their account balance is replenished. (Grades 5-12)
 - Students whose balance remains below \$0 for 20 consecutive days will be offered an alternate meal in lieu of a hot meal until their account balance is replenished. Our alternate meal includes a sandwich, fruit, vegetable, and a milk and meets all nutrition requirements set in place by the USDA. The meal will be charged at the same rate.
 - All delinquent accounts at the beginning of June of the current school year will be subject to collections for payment.
 - If a child has money to purchase a reduced price or paid meal at the time of the meal service, the child must be provided a meal. SFAs may not use the child's money to repay previously unpaid charges if the child intended to use the money to purchase that day's meal.
7. **Alternate Meals:** No alternate breakfast will be offered. For lunch, the child(ren) will discreetly be given a tray with their alternate cold meal during the time the regular hot meal is denied. Any patron who has received an alternate meal for 5 consecutive days after having their balance below \$0 for 20 consecutive days will be denied further credit until the account is settled or satisfactory payment is made. No charging of any meals will be allowed. At this point, parents will be responsible for providing a meal for their child(ren).
8. Families may contact the school business office at 605-448-2234 ext. 1100, or email kayla.hastings@k12.sd.us to discuss payment plan options.

We have read and understand the policies of the 2018-2019 handbook as presented online at britton.k12.sd.us for Britton-Hecla Schools. If you would like a hard-copy of the handbook, please notify the 6 – 12 principal's office.

Student Name: _____

Student Grade _____

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date _____