

# REFERENCE COPY

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Critical

## EXPLANATION: A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

### *Editor's Note:*

*The district had previously added identical custom appeals language to this policy and to procedure JFCL-AP. MSBA generally discourages this kind of repetition because there is a tendency for the language to get revised in one document and not the other, and that is what happened here. The appeals procedure was revised in procedure JFCL-AP and voted by the Board at the 6/28/11 meeting, but the policy was not similarly revised. MSBA advises that the Board adopt the more general appeals authorization language presented here and leave the details of the appeals procedure in JFCL-AP to avoid future conflicts. I've shown revisions to this policy that will remove the conflicts between the policy and procedure.*

MSBA has revised this policy for clarity and to address changes to the A+ Scholarship Program made by the Coordinating Board of Higher Education by amending regulation 6 C.S.R. 10-2.190. This regulation now requires students to have maintained good citizenship throughout high school, not just the last three years.

MSBA has also changed some references in this policy from "A+ Schools Program" to "A+ Scholarship Program" to reflect terminology used to refer to the program in state regulations and by the Department of Higher Education. However, since most schools refer to their local program as the "A+ Schools Program," MSBA has not changed the policy title or references to the local program run within the district.

Senate Bill 638 (2016) created § 170.350, RSMo., which allows the district to include "in the student's record of good citizenship" for the A+ program the fact that the student participated in the Constitution Project of the Missouri Supreme Court. MSBA did not include this factor in this policy because this policy presumes that all students are good citizens until proven otherwise. However, districts may add this factor to the policy if they wish.

*MSBA recommends that copies of this document be routed to the following areas because the content is of particular importance to them. The titles on this list may not match those used by the district. Please forward copies to the district equivalent of the title indicated.*

	Board Secretary		Business Office		Coaches/Sponsors
	Facility Maintenance		Food Service		Gifted
	Human Resources	X	Principals		Library/Media Center
	Health Services	X	Counselor		Special Education
	Transportation		Public Info/Communications		Technology

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## A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Camdenton R-III School District encourages its students to further their education and training after they graduate from the district. For that reason, the district will participate in the state A+ Scholarship Program to provide students an opportunity to attend postsecondary education at a low cost. The district will follow the requirements as established by state law and regulation for the implementation and administration of the A+ Schools Program. The district shall employ an A+ Schools Program coordinator, as required by law.

### Program Goals

The Camdenton R-III School District has established the following goals and performance standards:

1. All students graduate from high school.
  - ▶ Ninety-five percent (95%) of all Camdenton High School students will graduate by May. This is measured by the number of students that receive Camdenton High School diplomas.
2. All students complete a selection of high school studies that is challenging and for which there are identified learning expectations.
  - ▶ Ninety-five percent (95%) of all students will complete a selection of studies by May. This is identified by those that meet state standards and measured by common assessments.
3. All students proceed from high school graduation to a college, postsecondary career-technical school or high-wage job with workplace skill development opportunities.
  - ▶ One hundred percent (100%) of students will proceed from high school to further skill development opportunities (college, military or work). This is measured by the four (4)-year follow-up survey on high school graduates.

### Citizenship Component

An important component of the A+ Schools Program is the fostering of good citizenship in our district's students. A student demonstrates good citizenship by showing respect for self, law, property and the rights of others. Students have not demonstrated good citizenship if, while in grades nine through twelve, they have:

1. Pled guilty or *nolo contendere* (no contest) to, received a suspended imposition of sentence or suspended execution of sentence for, agreed to a deferred prosecution for, or been convicted or found guilty of a misdemeanor or felony.
2. Unlawfully used or possessed drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol on or off school property ~~during the three-year period immediately prior to graduation.~~
3. Had an out-of-school suspension ~~during the three-year period immediately prior to graduation.~~
4. Violated the district's rules governing academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.).

### Participation Agreement, and Discipline and Appeal

All students wishing to participate in the A+ Schools Program must submit a completed A+ Participation Agreement. If the coordinator determines that a student who has submitted a participation agreement has violated the terms of that agreement or district policies or procedures regarding A+ participation, the coordinator will notify the student in writing, and may put the student on probation or expel the student from the program. The notice will include a statement of which condition was violated and the facts constituting the violation. The student will be provided copies of documents or other evidence supporting the documentation. The student may be put on probation or expelled from the program by the coordinator. The student or the student's parents/guardians may appeal expulsions from this program, in accordance with written district procedures, to the Board of Education. The Board will hear the student's appeal in closed session and will notify the student of its decision.

### Appeals

~~The following guidelines are established for the presentation of student complaints and grievances regarding expulsion from the A+ program:~~

- ~~1. Grievances shall be submitted in writing to the building principal.~~
- ~~2. The principal shall respond in writing to the grievance within ten (10) school days following receipt of the written grievance. If the student, after having submitted the grievance and receiving the principal's response, feels further action is needed, he or she may request a hearing with the principal.~~
- ~~3. After the hearing with the principal, if a decision is reached that further action is needed, the student may request a hearing with the superintendent.~~

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4. ~~Any student who, after having reported the grievance to the superintendent, feels that further action is needed may request a hearing with the Board of Education. Unless required by law, this hearing will be granted at the discretion of the Board. The decision of the Board shall be final.~~

~~All persons are assured that they may utilize this procedure without reprisal.~~

\* \* \* \* \*

***Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.***

Adopted: 04/14/2008

Revised: 05/09/2011;

Cross Refs: IGBD, At-Risk Students

Legal Refs: § 160.545, RSMo.  
6 C.S.R. 10-2.190

Camdenton R-III School District, Camdenton, Missouri