

Traugher Junior High School



Student/Parent Handbook
2009-2010 School Year

OSWEGO COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #308

4175 ROUTE 71

OSWEGO, ILLINOIS 60543

630-636-3080

www.oswego308.org

District #308 Mission Statement:

The mission of Oswego Community Unit Schools, a unique partnership of students, staff, families and community, is to ensure each student develops the capacity to thrive as a successful contributing citizen by providing exemplary educational experiences in a safe, caring and responsive learning environment.

TRAUGHBER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

570 COLCHESTER

OSWEGO, ILLINOIS 60543

630-636-2700

Home of the Panthers

**CELEBRATING OUR PAST
PURSUING OUR SUCCESSES
SHAPING OUR FUTURE**

Dr. Ralph P. Kober, Principal
Mrs. Rene Garren, Assistant Principal
Ms. Amy Zientek, Assistant Principal

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STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to display the attributes of Traughber P.R.I.D.E. each and every day.

Panthers are expected to put forth their very best effort in everything that they do!

Reinforce all the positive attitudes you have learned. Be sure to keep yourself energized and do the right thing – even when no one is watching!

Importance of hard work, great study habits, working together, and building positive relationships is the foundation of a well rounded experience here at Traughber Junior High!

Daily affirmations of positive behaviors. Make a positive impact each and every day!

Expectations are goals that we strive for in everything that we do. Make a difference at Traughber Junior High and be an important part of your school experience.

CAFETERIA EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to behave in the lunchroom as they would in a classroom: get to the cafeteria on time as detentions may be issued for repeated tardiness, follow the rules set forth by the lunchroom supervisors, respect others, and realize that if these expectations are not followed, students may be assigned to an alternate location to eat. Student safety is very important, and following rules in the lunchroom is a must.

CELL PHONE EXPECTATIONS

Students must adhere to the following guidelines with respect to having a cell phone at school. Cell phones are allowed at Traughber Junior High, however, the cell phone must be kept in his/her locker and turned off at all times. Students must have a cell phone permission form completed prior to bringing the phone to school.

CLOTHING EXPECTATIONS

Clothing should be worn as it is intended to be worn, specifically; pants are to be worn around the waist. The dress and grooming of a student is the responsibility of the student and parents/guardians. Student dress and grooming must meet reasonable standards of health, cleanliness, safety and standards of the community. Hats, headwear, lined coats, headbands, bandanas, handkerchiefs, gloves, sunglasses, pacifiers, glow sticks and inappropriate and/or unsafe footwear are not to be worn during the school day and must be left in student's locker.

Students are not allowed to wear clothing which disrupts the educational process, including clothing that:

1. Has comments, pictures, slogans, or designs that are obscene, profane, lewd or vulgar, including clothes that symbolize or represent profanity or sexual innuendo;
2. Advertises drugs, tobacco products, or alcoholic beverages; or
3. Symbolizes gangs or gang activities.

In addition, all students must wear clothing covering their complete shoulder to mid-thigh area. Clothing that is suggestive, extremely tight fitting, or fails to cover the midriff, such as halter-tops, tops with spaghetti straps, shredded clothing, night wear/slippers, etc. is not allowed. Clothing expressing political views is allowed, as long as the views are not expressed in a lewd, obscene or vulgar manner.

Teachers and staff members are to send students who are not following the dress code to the main office. Students wearing improper attire will be detained by the administration until proper attire is obtained, otherwise the student may be sent home. The administration has final determination on appropriate dress. If a student is sent home, the absence from school will be treated as an unexcused absence.

DANCE EXPECTATIONS

Tickets to dances will be sold during lunches and at the dance, you need a ticket to enter. Students may not leave Traughber after school if they plan on attending a dance that starts at 3:30. Students may not leave before the dance is over, unless a parent comes to the door to sign them out - **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Rides need to be here by the ending time of the dance; rides not here in a reasonable amount of time may result in students not attending future dances. (The office will not be open for phone calls) Concessions will be sold at the dances. All school lockers (gym and hall) will be locked until the dance is over, students may gather their books after the dance. All school rules apply and proper school attire (dress) is required. Be sure to have fun!

DETENTION PROCEDURES & EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS

If a student receives a detention for failure to comply with any school rule, the detention assigned will be for 30 minutes. If a student chooses not to show up for his/her assigned detention, he/she will then receive a 60 minute detention. If a student again chooses not to show up for this detention, he/she will now receive a Saturday School Intervention. If the administration feels that the detention is not effective in changing behaviors, additional consequences may be needed.

The following things should be kept in mind when serving detentions:

When a student is attending a detention, they need to show up on time, and with all their belongings. When the detention is over, the student will leave the building immediately. No student will be allowed to return to their locker.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR/SPORTING EVENT EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to follow all school rules while as a spectator at any extracurricular event. Students that cause issues will be asked to leave, and this may result in not being allowed to return for the remainder of the season. Students are also expected to have their rides pick them up when the event is concluded; rides not here in a reasonable amount of time may result in students not attending future extra-curricular/sporting events.

GRADE EXPECTATIONS

Standard Grading Scale: A: 90% - 100%, B: 80% - 89%, C: 70% - 79%, D: 60% - 69%. Quarterly grades will carry the weight of: A = 4 points, B = 3 points, C = 2 points, D = 1 point and F = 0 points.

Student academic achievement is assessed in terms of the attainment of measurable specific skills in each of the core academic areas. (See board policy on grading 6:280R) Students who do not attain a .75 grade point average or higher in any one of the core academic areas; Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, will be required to attend a summer school program for the specific core academic area in which they have not met the .75 grade point average. The cost of the summer school program will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

If a student receives three F's over the course of the year in any one academic core area, the student will automatically qualify for the summer school program in the core academic area in which the three F's were received. In this case the .75 grade point average would not apply due to the lack of progression and mastery over the three quarters of the school year.

HALLWAY EXPECTATIONS

Hats, head coverings, and outerwear coats should be placed in the locker and remain there until the end of the day. Students should walk in a reasonable manner and at a reasonable speed in the hallways at all times. Sufficient time is provided to pass from one class to the next. Students should show proper respect to all other people in the hallways at all times. Shoving or other physical aggression in the hallways is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Students should speak in a calm, relatively quiet voice in the hallways. Shouting and screaming are inappropriate in the hallways and will not be tolerated.

Students are not allowed in the hallways before or after school without a valid pass from a staff member. All students will meet at the bus drop off area and wait outdoors until doors are opened.

PASS EXPECTATIONS

Passes are included in the student assignment notebooks. Passes will be given on a limited basis. Passes will not be given to students who:

- a) forget items necessary for class (supplies, textbooks, homework)
- b) request counselor passes in non-emergency situations
- c) fail to maintain the behavioral expectations that are defined in the student/parent handbook

Passes may be given at the teacher's discretion for emergency visits to the washroom or nurse. Students who are ill should be sent with a pass to the nurse's office for necessary care.

Teachers dismiss all classes and students in a timely manner after the bell has rung to mark the end of the period. However, if it is necessary to retain a student for a period of time that may make the student tardy for the next period, a pass should be issued.

Students that wish to visit a teacher before or after school must have a pass from that teacher. Students that do not have a valid pass will not be allowed to visit that teacher.

BUS RIDE REQUESTS

On the occasion that a student needs to ride a different bus route with another student, rather than his/her scheduled bus route, the following steps must be followed:

1. **BOTH** parents must write a note with the reason why the switch in the route. The note should include both students' names, grades, and the date that the switch is needed.
2. **BOTH** students must bring the notes to the office. An administrator must approve the switch, and sign both notes.
3. One of the students will be called to the office to pick up the approved bus notes before the end of the day.
4. **BOTH** students must present the bus driver with the approved notes upon entering the school bus.

FIELD TRIP ELIGIBILITY

It is the goal of Traughber Junior High to include all students in field trips. We have two types of field trips, curriculum enhancing and student incentive trips. The eligibility criterion for each type of trip is different.

Curriculum Enhancing Field Trips

Students who receive disciplinary action from the following list will be excluded from curriculum enhancing field trips if the trip occurs within 60 student attendance school days from the date of completion of the disciplinary action:

Eight or more detentions, two or more Saturday Schools, any number of in-school interventions, or any number of out-of-school suspensions

Parent contact will be made through a “warning” letter and/or an “exclusion” letter sent by the school office when a student is in danger of losing, or has lost, field trip eligibility.

In addition, students who display continuous non-compliant behavior, are constantly uncooperative (especially in large groups or unstructured settings), or who engage in frequent disruptive behavior toward peers and staff may be excluded from curriculum enhancing field trips at the discretion of the supervising teacher(s) and/or the school administration.

Teacher Initiated Waivers of field trip eligibility can be arranged at the discretion of the supervising teacher(s) involved. This waiver is to be initiated **ONLY** by the teacher(s) directly involved in arranging and/or supervising the field trip. Waiver requests initiated by parents and/or students **WILL NOT** be honored, as the teacher(s) involved will be assuming full responsibility of the student for the duration of the field trip. If a waiver agreement is to be used, a contract will be developed and signed by the requesting teacher, the student, and his/her parents or guardian, detailing the parameters to be considered. The waiver and the contract are to be reviewed by school administration prior to final acceptance of the field trip waiver.

Student Incentive Field Trips

The “Panther Party” field trips occur following the first and second semester and are designed to reward those students who have consistently displayed outstanding behavior and true Traughber P.R.I.D.E. throughout that current semester. Specifically, this field trip encourages **P**anthers that are **R**einforcing **I**mportant **D**aily **E**xpectations. Therefore, students who receive any of the following actions will forfeit their opportunity to attend a “Panther Party”:

Two or more detentions, any number of Saturday Schools, any number of in-school Interventions, any number of out-of-school suspensions

Student eligibility is determined on a semester basis, therefore a student may be eligible for a second semester trip even if he/she was not eligible during the first semester. Eligibility for the “Panther Party” can not be waived through the teacher initiated waiver process as it can for curriculum enhancing field trips. Other student incentive field trips may occur. The eligibility for these trips is to be determined by the teacher(s) directly related to coordinating the trip, as this/these teacher(s) have initiated the trip and will assume full responsibility for the students involved.

REGULAR SCHOOL DAY BELL SCHEDULE FOR 2009-2010

Homeroom	8:00	-	8:14
1 st Period	8:14	-	8:55
2 nd Period	8:59	-	9:40
3 rd Period	9:44	-	10:25
4 th Period	10:29	-	11:10
5 th Period	11:14	-	11:55
6 th Period	11:59	-	12:40
7 th Period	12:44	-	1:25
8 th Period	1:29	-	2:10
9 th Period	2:14	-	3:00

EARLY DISMISSAL DAY BELL SCHEDULE FOR 2009-2010

Homeroom	8:00 - 8:07
1 st Period	8:07 - 8:33
2 nd Period	8:37 - 9:03
3 rd Period	9:07 - 9:33
4 th Period	9:37 - 10:03
8 th Period	10:07 - 10:33
9 th Period	10:37 - 11:03
5 th Period	11:07 - 11:42
6 th Period	11:46 - 12:21
7 th Period	12:25 - 1:00

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY BELL SCHEDULE FOR 2009-2010

Homeroom	8:00 - 8:15
1 st Period	8:15 - 8:33
2 nd Period	8:37 - 8:55
3 rd Period	8:59 - 9:17
4 th Period	9:21 - 9:39
5 th Period	9:43 - 10:01
6 th Period	10:05 - 10:23
7 th Period	10:27 - 10:45
8 th Period	10:49 - 11:07
9 th Period	11:11 - 11:30

STUDENT ADVISORY BELL SCHEDULE FOR 2009-2010

Homeroom	8:00 - 8:05
1 st Period	8:05 - 8:44
2 nd Period	8:48 - 9:27
3 rd Period	9:31 - 10:10
ADVISORY	10:14 - 10:39
4 th Period	10:43 - 11:22
5 th Period	11:26 - 12:05
6 th Period	12:09 - 12:48
7 th Period	12:52 - 1:31
8 th Period	1:35 - 2:14
9 th Period	2:18 - 3:00

STUDENT MANAGEMENT INTERVENTIONS

Detention is a set amount of time to be served before, during, or after school for students who violate provisions of the discipline policy. Detentions will be served on Tuesday and Thursday each week. Detentions will either be from 3:10-3:40, or 3:10-4:10. **Students who receive a detention will not be allowed to attend any extra-curricular activity on the day the detention is served.**

Saturday School Detention shall take place Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. following the violation of school policy. It is an alternative to an out-of-school suspension.

In-School Intervention means the exclusion from classes. Student school work must be completed during the intervention and is due upon the student's return to class in order to receive credit.

Out-of-School Suspension means the exclusion from school for a period not to exceed ten school days in accordance with the provision of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-22.6). The absence will be considered unexcused with only tests and major projects, as determined by individual teachers, being allowed to be completed for credit. It is the student's responsibility when suspended to contact his/her teachers for make up work. When out-of-school suspensions appear ineffective in changing behavior, a recommendation to the Board of Education for expulsion may be made. Students suspended are not allowed to be on school property or at school functions.

Final Warning is an understanding among the student, the parent/guardian(s), and the administration that the student is to observe all school rules and other stipulations set forth by the administration. If a student violates the provisions of the final warning, the student will be recommended for expulsion. A student may be placed on final warning when the administration deems it necessary.

TESTING INFORMATION

The **Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT)** measures individual student achievement relative to the Illinois Learning Standards. The results give parents, teachers and schools one measure of student learning and school performance. The areas covered on the tests are Math, Reading, Writing, and Science.

The **NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)** are state-aligned computerized adaptive assessments that provide accurate, useful information about student achievement and growth in the areas of Reading and Math. The immediate results are tailored to all members of a student's learning team. NWEA reports allow educators to investigate the impact they are making in each student's life. This test will be given two times a year, one in fall (September) and one in spring (April) to all 6th and 7th graders.

The **Explore Test** is a program designed to help students, teachers, counselors, and parents learn more about the student. The information that is received through EXPLORE will give everyone a good idea of how well prepared the student is already in English, Math, Reading and Science. It will also help the student to understand what it's going to take to set goals for the future and how to achieve those goals. This test is usually given in October to all 8th grade students only.

Local District Assessments are given in each classroom. These tests are designed from the curriculum, and allow teachers to see areas of need to be covered within the classroom. These assessments are given to all students at varying times throughout the year.

Traugher Junior High School
Student Activities, Clubs, Sports, and Programs
2009 - 2010

Welcome to the junior high school experience with all it has to offer students with a variety of talents, abilities, and interests! Listed below are descriptions of the many choices available to our students to be involved in a positive and interactive way during their junior high school years.

Interscholastic Sports
Fall Season

Boys' and Girls' Cross Country

Cross Country is a challenging individual yet very much a team sport. This is the only interscholastic sports activity that is offered to all boys and girls from 6th grade to 8th grade. The most important thing you will learn is to challenge yourself and improve yourself everyday that we run. Cross Country is open to all students of all abilities and you will have coaches and teammates that will push you and encourage you to do your very best. Our season runs from the first week of school until the middle of October and our competition is excellent.

7th and 8th Grade Girls' Volleyball

This volleyball program is open to all 7th and 8th grade girls. This sport takes place during the fall season and is held after school and Saturdays. Athletes must have a current physical on file prior to trying out for the team. Tryouts begin the second day of school and take place for the next 2-3 days immediately after school. Teams are usually chosen and posted by the third day. There is a \$30 fee that each member on the team must pay for the season. The season consists of two or three games during the week after school and a few tournaments on Saturdays. Practices will be determined by each coach.

7th and 8th Grade Boys' Soccer

Soccer at the Junior High level consists of ten to twelve games including the Prairie Conference soccer tournament at the end of the year. Practice will be held everyday that we don't have a game. The season usually lasts just over a month.

The goal of Junior High soccer is to have fun and develop your skills so that you will be ready to participate at the High School level. Players at this age have different skill levels and we try to take that into consideration when training. We try to plan practices so that all players, from the most skilled to the beginners, learn something new. If you come to practice and work hard all players are guaranteed to play during the games.

Winter Season

7th Grade Boys' Basketball

Tryouts for this team are usually around the middle of October. Tryouts last for two days and then a team is selected of 15 players. Practice is everyday after school and on most Saturday mornings. The season is typically around 15 games and runs through December right up until Winter Break. Any student interested in trying out for the team must have a valid sports physical and sports waiver signed prior to participating in tryouts.

8th Grade Boys' Basketball

Basketball is an interscholastic sport played from mid October until winter break. The activity is open to all 8th grade boys. Teams are selected on a tryout basis, and will vary in number from 15 to 18. Players are held to high standards as students and as young men. Eligibility is kept on a weekly basis. Participants must have an updated physical on hand with the nurse, and must pay a \$30.00 fee. Practices are held from 3:15 until 5:30 and on Saturday mornings. Players are expected to attend practices and games. Players will be required to dress in shirt and tie for all away games. Players must also have rides from practices and games if the late bus route is unavailable

Wrestling

Wrestling is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boys who are looking to participate. We are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for students that want to learn the sport of wrestling. We will offer a learning atmosphere that is appropriate for all skill levels and experience ranging from the fundamentals and basic rules of the sport to advanced technique for those wrestlers ready to compete at the highest levels. There are no try outs or cuts involved. We meet Monday through Friday after school until 5:00 P.M. Parents are expected to be on time to pick up their children. All participants must have a recent sports physical, a signed sports waiver, and pay a thirty dollar activity fee.

Spirit Squad

This sport is for 7th and 8th grade girls who want to celebrate their Panther Pride. Spirit Squad combines cheerleading skills and techniques with dance skills and techniques. During 7th and 8th grade boys' basketball games, the girls cheer on the sidelines. At half-time, they perform a dance routine. Our season runs mid-October through December. This is a great opportunity for girls to experience both cheerleading and dance before they need to choose one or the other in high school. Our girls are enthusiastic, energetic and have infinite amounts of Traugher Spirit!

7th Grade Girls' Basketball

The 7th Grade Girls Basketball Team will consist of student athletes looking for a competitive challenge against other young ladies in our surrounding area schools. The team concept and commitment to the team will be stressed as well as the encouragement to improve and be an active participant. Everyone comes into the program with different abilities, but will leave knowing they were an important and intricate part of the team. Tryouts and practices are required and an important way to demonstrate your abilities. Please keep your eyes and ears open for upcoming announcements in December and early January.

8th Grade Girls' Basketball

Basketball is an interscholastic sport played from early January until early March. The activity is open to all 8th grade girls. Teams are selected on a tryout basis, and will vary in number from 15 to 18. Players are held to high standards as students and as young women. Eligibility is kept on a weekly basis. Participants must have an updated physical on hand with the nurse, and must pay a \$30.00 fee. Practices are held from 3:15 until 5:30 and on Saturday mornings. Players are expected to attend practices and games. Players will be required to dress in Sunday-best for all away games. Players must also have rides from practices and games if the late bus route is unavailable

Spring Season

7th and 8th Grade Girls' Soccer

Soccer at the Junior High level consists of ten to twelve games including the Prairie Conference soccer tournament at the end of the year. Practice will be held everyday that we don't have a game. The season usually lasts just over a month.

The goal of Junior High soccer is to have fun and develop your skills so that you will be ready to participate at the High School level. Players at this age have different skill levels and we try to take that into consideration when training. We try to plan practices so that all players, from the most skilled to the beginners, learn something new. If you come to practice and work hard all players are guaranteed to play during the games.

Track and Field Team

This sport is offered to seventh and eighth grade girls and boys. Practice begins the Monday school returns from spring break and runs Monday thru Friday for the duration of the season. To participate, a student needs a completed athletic physical on file with the nurse prior to the first practice, an interscholastic sports waiver completed and turned into the coach, and a thirty dollar sports fee paid in the main office. If it happens to be the student's third sports team of the season, the thirty dollar fee is waived. Events include; long jump, triple jump, high jump, shot put, discus throw, hurdles, and short and long distance running events.

Intramural Sports

1st Quarter

Flag Football is an intramural activity for all Traugher students. Students need to have an insurance waiver on file and pay a \$5 fee. Football meets on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday - weather permitting - from 3:10 until 4pm. The season runs during the first 9 weeks of the year, until mid-October.

Boys' Basketball is for boys in the 1st quarter of the school year. All boys in 6th, 7th and 8th grade are invited to participate in basketball intramurals, which requires a \$5 fee and a signed intramural sports waiver that is available in the school office. Boys have the opportunity to play in games and participate in basketball drills. The dates will be provided ahead of time and take place in the school gymnasium after school.

2nd Quarter

Girls' Intramural Basketball is open to all sixth, seventh, and eighth, grade girls. Meetings begin with the start of the second quarter and continue until the beginning of winter break. Time will be spent working on individual basketball skills, knowledge of the game, and playing full court basketball games. Participants must turn in a completed intramural sports permission slip and pay a five dollar fee in the main office.

Weightlifting Intramurals is for both boys and girls in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. This intramurals is for students interested in keeping in shape, lifting weights and working out with friends. Weightlifting starts second quarter. You will learn weightlifting terms, weight room rules, keep track of your daily progress, and how to use the weightlifting machines properly. Warm-ups and cool-downs will be stressed. We will meet Monday through Thursday. Listen for announcements.

3rd Quarter

Intramural Floor Hockey is offered 3rd quarter for any student in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade. Both boys and girls are able to participate in this activity. We meet 2-3 times per week and a schedule will be determined by the sponsor. The cost to join is \$5 and you also need to fill out an Intramural sports waiver form which is available in student services. There will be an announcement at the start of 3rd quarter and informational flyers in the hallway before the activity starts. Come out and experience the sport of floor hockey, hope to see you there!

Badminton Intramurals is open to all students and will begin at the start of third quarter. We play twice a week (Tuesday and Thursday) from 3:15-4:15. The goal of Badminton Intramurals is to learn the basics of the game and play in a fun and supportive environment. You will have the opportunity to play both doubles and singles in league and/or tournament settings depending on the amount of participants. If you just want to play for fun without worrying about winning or losing that is alright to.

4th Quarter

Intramural softball and kickball is fun way to meet other students and get exercise. The sponsors offer a learning atmosphere that is appropriate for all skill levels and experience. We teach the fundamentals and basics of twelve inch and sixteen inch softball in a fun and supportive environment. Softball and kickball is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boys and girls. There are no try outs or cuts involved, as we're just out to have fun! We meet in the spring two or three days a week. All participants need to fill out an intramural form and pay a five dollar fee.

Co-ed Volleyball Intramurals takes place during the 4th quarter of school. This intramural sport open to all 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Students will meet after school from 3:10 - 4:30 pm usually on Mondays, Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. There is an intramural sport waiver form that must be turned into the coach as well as a \$5 intramural fee that must be turned into the office. Students participating in intramural volleyball will experience games against each other as well as some basic skills instruction during these sessions.

Student Activities and Clubs

Graphic Arts Club is open to all students and it will begin Monday, November 3rd at 3:15. The goal of Graphic Arts Club is to learn the basics of Adobe Photoshop so that you can create effective and creative designs that will catch people's eyes and hopefully make them say, "How did they do that?" We do several projects throughout the year including changing yourself into a superhero, designing and creating a stop-motion animation movie, and participating in online design challenges that test your imagination.

Jazz Choir is a co-curricular choir sponsored by Traugher's Choir Director. Jazz Choir offers an opportunity for choir students to learn basic jazz style singing. Sixth, Seventh and Eighth grade choir students are eligible to join. The Jazz Choir rehearses on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 7:15-7:55. Students must attend all rehearsals and performances. The Jazz Choir performs for all scheduled concerts. There is no fee involved to participate in Jazz Choir.

Homework Club is an opportunity for students to work in a quiet study setting to finish homework, get a little extra help from teacher sponsors, and maybe even meet a friend! We meet each Monday and Thursday after school from 3:10 until 4:00 pm, and we welcome students from all grades. Parents need to complete a permission slip for participation to ensure parents and program sponsors are aware of student attendance. Students are not required to attend each session, but we love to have them attend regularly to help build the community environment and reinforce the benefits of good regular study habits.

Drama All students are welcomed to try out for the after school plays. The plays are presented twice a year, with tryouts in September and January. Material for these plays is chosen to reflect a family friendly experience. The director incorporates opportunities that span acting to tech theatre. Rehearsal or tech time is generally scheduled immediately after school. This allows the student plenty of homework time. There is no cost to join this program, but occasionally the student may be asked to help put their costume together. Students of all three levels have found this a terrific training ground for future work in theatre.

Environmental Club is for students interested in improving and maintaining the natural environment of the school and community. It is a place where students can share their ideas, explore their interests and take an active role in promoting the "Go Green" concept. This year we will work on the Traughber Habitat Restoration Project which includes a prairie restoration and growing native plants for the butterfly garden. Students will also promote recycling of paper, plastic and aluminum and plan events for Earth Day.

Environmental Club will meet every other Thursday from 3:15-4:00.

All students are welcome to attend.

Chess & Game Club

Girls and Boys, if you like to play Chess (any level – you don't have to be a Grand Master!) or other games, please join us on Fridays after school from 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center. Chess tournaments will be held so you may challenge your worthy opponents. It's not just about Chess! We also play other games like Scrabble, Risk, Uno, Rummicube, Yahtzee, and Backgammon. You can also bring your own favorite games from home and teach the rest of the group how to play. All you need is a permission slip to join!

Rocket Club is where students will learn about space and also build rockets. We will launch rockets once a month. Each month we will spend time building our own rocket, painting them, and launching them at the school. We will also spend one week each month studying space. This club is open to any Traughber student. There is a cost. You need to buy your own rocket. Prices can range from \$5.00 to \$20.00 depending on what rocket you want to buy. Meeting Time: Tuesdays after school until 4:00

Science Club offers an opportunity for students to explore the world of physical science. The activities the club will be participating in will be bridge and tower building. The students will design, build, and test a bridge and tower. The goal is to create a bridge and tower that weighs the least but holds the most weight.

Jazz Band is open to 7th and 8th grade musicians enrolled in band at Traughber. Jazz Band requires an audition by the director and will have standard jazz instrumentation: 2 alto saxes, 2 tenor saxes, 1 baritone sax, 4 trumpets, 4 trombones, 1 drum set player, 2 keyboards. Students will perform at contests, concerts, selected festivals and the Jr. High Coffeehouse. Jazz Band will rehearse before school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Natural Helpers Natural Helpers is a peer-helping program. The Natural Helpers program is based on a simple premise: Within every school, an informal “helping network” exists. Students with problems naturally seek out other students whom they trust. The Natural Helpers program uses this existing helping network and provides training to students who are already perceived as “natural” helpers. It gives them the skills they need to provide help more effectively to young people who seek them out. The Natural Helpers program is designed to meet three basic goals:

- To teach Natural Helpers effective ways to help their friends
- To teach Natural Helpers positive ways of taking good care of themselves
- To teach Natural Helpers ways to contribute to a safe and supportive school environment

Student Council Student Council is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders who enjoy helping others in the community. Activities include school dances, concession stand working, helping out at school activities, and more. If you like to help others, then this is the club for you. Meetings are held twice a month on Thursdays at 7:15 am in order to discuss service opportunities. Student council members are required to do service hours, and need 10 service hours per semester. Officers are elected in September.

Yearbook Yearbook involves not only taking pictures of the events around Traughber, but being creative in writing as well. Yearbook members meet every Tuesday after school until 4:15. Students help write captions for pictures, as well as stories and interviews. The yearbook is done on a computer program, which makes typing and editing much easier. If you would like to be part of the fun in creating our school’s yearbook, then this is the club for you!

Newsletter Club Extra! Extra! Read all about it! The Newsletter Club creates, edits, and publishes the Panther Perspective, our school newspaper, which is distributed to our school community and viewed on our school webpage. This is an exciting opportunity for those students interested in gathering and sharing news and stories about our school.

Panther Pride Club Focuses on school assemblies and other activities that help our students, staff and school community to celebrate the achievements and spirit of our school. This club is for our energetic Traughber-ites that want to help us celebrate our school.

*Traughber
Junior High*



Sports Handbook

PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES CODE OF CONDUCT

We believe that interscholastic athletic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. We also believe that the highest potential of sports is achieved when participants are committed to pursuing victory with honor according to six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship (the “Six Pillars of Character”). This code applies to the parents of all student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Trustworthiness - Be worthy of trust in all you do.

- Integrity - Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; do what’s right even when it’s unpopular or personally costly.
- Honesty - Live and act honorably; don’t allow your children to lie, cheat, steal or engage in any dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Reliability - Fulfill your commitments; do what you say you will do; be on time; when you tell your children you will attend an event, be sure to do so.
- Loyalty - Be loyal to your school and team; put the team above your interests and those of your child.

RESPECT

Respect - Treat people with respect all the time and require the same of your children.

- Class - Live and cheer with class; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; compliment extraordinary performance; show respect for all competitors.
- Disrespectful Conduct - Don’t engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort, including profanity, obscene gestures, and offensive remarks of a sexual nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- Respect Officials - Treat contest officials with respect; don’t complain about or argue with official’s calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.
- Respect Coaches - Treat coaches with respect at all times; recognize that they have team goals beyond those of your child. Don’t shout instructions to players from the stands; let the coaches’ coach.

CARING

Caring - Being kind and caring, and to treat others the way that you want to be treated. Demonstrating caring will model kindness and compassion for others and discourage selfishness.

- Encouragement - Encourage your children, regardless of their play; offer positive reinforcement. Demonstrate sincere interest in your child’s play.
- Concern for Others - Demonstrate concern for others; never encourage the injury of any player, official, or fellow spectator.
- Empathy - Consider the needs and desires not only of your child but of his and her teammates; help promote the team concept by encouraging all team members, understanding that the coach is responsible for determining playing time.

RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility - Accept responsibility for our choices both action and inaction.

- Importance of Education – Stress that student-athletes are students first. Be honest with your children about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Place the academic, emotional, physical and moral well-being of your child above the desires and pressures to win.
- Role-Modeling – Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a positive role model for your children.
- Self-Control – Exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to demean others.
- Integrity of the Game – Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble on your children's games.
- Privilege to Compete – Assure that you and your child understand that participation in interscholastic sports is a privilege, not a right, and that they are expected to represent their team, school, and family with honor – on and off the field of play.

FAIRNESS

Fairness – Treat all competitors fairly; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.

CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship - Obey the laws and rules. A person who demonstrates citizenship listens to their coaches, referees and parents. Citizenship reminds us to do our share for our community and protect our environment.

- Know the Rules – Maintain a thorough understanding of all applicable game and competition rules.

TRAUGHBER ATHLETICS

It is our goal to provide the most meaningful athletic experiences that we can for our youngsters. The area of athletics provides valuable experiences for our youth that could not be provided in any other way.

Intramural

The intramural program is open to Traughber students at all grade levels. Students may participate in one intramural activity per quarter. The intramural will not be open to students who are members of the interscholastic team of the same sport. For instance, the members of the boys' interscholastic basketball team will not be allowed to participate in the boys' basketball intramural. This will be the case for all interscholastic sports. (Girls volleyball, soccer, boys and girls basketball) We especially want to encourage our sixth graders to participate in intramurals since they are ineligible to participate in the interscholastic program; with the exceptions of wrestling and cross country. Intramurals will begin immediately after school. Students should have rides home present at 4:00pm.

Interscholastic

In order to assure adequate playing time, we have had to set a maximum number of participants on athletic teams. Places on the team are gained through a "tryout" procedure. Prior to the tryout, students must have a record of a physical given within one year (good for one year from date of physical exam) on file at school.

It will be necessary for athletes at the junior high level to pay a user fee. The user fee is \$30 per sport, with a maximum of \$60 per year. Being on a team does not guarantee playing time. The intramural program guarantees the participant playing time, interscholastic programs do not. The interscholastic program relies on the judgment of the coaching staff.

All student athletes trying out for a position on an interscholastic sports team MUST HAVE A COMPLETED PHYSICAL ON FILE AT THE SCHOOL PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN THE TRYOUT PROCEDURE. Our main concern is for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of our students. This policy regarding physicals is in effect for all interscholastic sports throughout the year. We thank you for your assistance in this matter.

We do not believe that our athletic program must have an overwhelming win/loss record in order to be successful. However, youngsters must learn that through sacrifice, hard work, and perseverance, some degree of success can be achieved.

Interscholastic sports programs will begin their athletic practices right after school. Students will be expected to be dressed and ready to practice. On game days, students will be supervised by their coaches until game time.

Students will be transported by the district bus service to each away contest. Students may ride home from the contest when the parent signs the student out with the coach. The parent is responsible for confirming this with the coach. A parent may not sign out any students other than their own without consent of the coach and the other student's parents.

The interscholastic programs that are offered for seventh and eighth graders at Traughber include:

- Boys - Soccer, Cross-Country, Basketball, Wrestling, Track
- Girls - Soccer, Cross-Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Track, and Spirit Squad

Sixth grade students are allowed to participate in the sports of cross-country and wrestling.

We appreciate parental involvement in their children's activities. We realize the cost in time as well as in equipment is tremendous.

Should you have any questions regarding the athletic policies of Traughber Junior High, please discuss your concerns with your child's coach, or call our Athletic Director, Miss Angie Smith, Assistant Principals Rene Garren or Amy Zientek, or Principal, Dr. Ralph Kober. The school phone number is (630) 636-2700.

ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

The following schedules are subject to change or to be adjusted by the coach/sponsor.

Intramurals

1 st Quarter	3:10-4:00	Boys' Basketball, Flag Football
2 nd Quarter	3:10-4:00	Girls' Basketball, Weightlifting
3 rd Quarter	3:10-4:00	Badminton, Floor Hockey
4 th Quarter	3:10-4:00	Softball, Volleyball

Interscholastic

Fall	3:10-4:30	Cross-Country	Winter	3:00-5:00	Wrestling
	3:10-5:00	Boys Soccer		3:10-5:00	Spirit Squad
	3:10-5:30	Volleyball		3:00-5:30	Basketball-Boys/Girls
Spring	3:10-5:00	Track			
	3:10-5:00	Girls Soccer			

Student Lockers (Hallway)

The corridors in which the student lockers are located will not be open to students after 3:30 p.m. during athletic contests. Students and the performing athletes, including the cheerleaders will need to take their books, coats, and all other needed belongings with them to the gymnasium.

Participating in "After School" Activities Following Absence

Students who are scheduled to perform/compete in an after-school event/competition must be in attendance for the majority of the school day. This means that a student who plans on participating must be present in the building for a minimum of five (5) full class periods the day of the event/competition. Allowances for "extenuating circumstances" will be reviewed on an individual basis with the coach/director, athletic director, assistant principal, or the principal.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

The students who will need to meet eligibility requirements are: interscholastic athletes, statistic personnel, and managers.

Student athletes must pass all but one of their classes to continue being academically eligible. This determination will be made by the teacher on the basis of that present grade cumulative from the beginning of the quarter.

- Any student who fails two (2) or more subjects on a quarter report card is automatically ineligible for the entire following quarter. Students who are ineligible for the entire quarter may not participate in practice.
- Any student who receives two (2) F's on a weekly basis may practice, but may not participate in an athletic event until the eligibility sheet states the student no longer has two (2) F's.

Student athletes are expected to cooperate fully with all school personnel. Although the eligibility process tends to cover most situations, we cannot anticipate every eventuality. Part of the learning process designed for athletes is adherence to rules as well as utilizing the after-school study hall (Wednesdays) to ensure high academic goals. Individuals may be disciplined for failure to cooperate.

Athletes also have a responsibility to the coach to arrange a ride home after practices and games in a timely fashion. Families are reminded that our coaches are NOT EXPECTED to remain after practice/games to supervise athletes awaiting rides. Athletes may need consequences if the problem is not corrected.

Hopefully, the dismissal of a student athlete will not occur. We would hope that if remediation of a problem is needed, the coach will be able to work out a solution which is agreeable by all. However, should dismissal be necessary, the parents may appeal the decision to school administration.

OSWEGO COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #308 **ATHLETIC RULES AND REGULATIONS**

General Philosophy

The administration believes that every person associated with athletics should emulate an appearance, conduct, and attitude that are reflective of his/her school and sport. We also believe that the following rules and regulations are necessary for developing character that will be beneficial toward the total growth of an individual participating in athletics at Traugber Junior High.

A. Athletic Appearance

Each athlete should not attract undue attention, but should be representative of that sport and the school.

B. Training Rules and Regulations for Athletes of School District #308

The following rules have been established by the Athletic Department. All athletes are expected to follow these training rules. Coaches are required to enforce these rules. Any violations of existing rules shall NOT be served concurrently with the general school discipline policy.

CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

The Traughber Junior High School Athletic Department Waiver form must be completed before being allowed to try out, practice, and participate for each sport. There is a separate form for Interscholastic (between other schools) and Intramural (between teams made up from Traughber students only). These forms are included in this booklet for your reference.

- 1) Parents must fill out and sign the Traughber Junior High School Athletic Waiver. All designated areas of the form must be completed, including the insurance information section.
- 2) The athlete shall sign where indicated, verifying his/her intent to comply with all training rules.
- 3) For interscholastic sports, student athletes must have on file in the health office a current physical exam. These exams are valid for one year from the date performed by the doctor. If the exam expires during a sports season, a new one must be presented to the nurse before the one-year expiration date is reached.
- 4) A student athlete must have passed 5 classes the previous quarter and must presently be passing 5 classes during the present quarter.
- 5) User fees must be paid prior to the first contest.

Unusual circumstances will be handled by the athletic director and/or school administration on a case by case basis.

Traughber Junior High School will provide an equal opportunity to all students to try out for a team in any sport. Participation in summer programs or camps will not be a determining factor in the selection of athletic teams for any sport.

Additionally, we, as a school, ask our student athletes to conform to the rules and conduct themselves in a way that shows support, respect, and appropriateness for the adults who are assigned to officiate the athletic events. We would also ask that adults who are present to support their student athletes show the same level of respect to officials. We demand respect from our student athletes and strongly believe that spectators should provide the positive example from which our school community can be proud of.

DIRECTIONS TO SPORTING EVENTS

Bednarcik Junior High - 3025 Heggs Road, 636-2500

- Wolf Road east to school

Cowherd Middle School - 441 N. Farnsworth, Aurora 978-3760

- Montgomery Road to Hill Avenue, turn LEFT, Hill to New York Street, turn RIGHT, New York to Farnsworth, turn LEFT.
- Route 34 West to Orchard, turn RIGHT, Orchard to Indian Trail, turn RIGHT, Indian Trail to Farnsworth, turn RIGHT.

Drauden Point Middle School - 1911 Drauden Rd, Plainfield 815-577-4900

- Plainfield Road to Route 126, turn LEFT, Route 126 to County Line Road, turn RIGHT, County Line to Caton Farm Road, turn LEFT, Caton Farm to Drauden Point Road, turn RIGHT.

Herget Middle School - 5 S 530 Deerpath Rd, Aurora 301-5006

- Orchard to Indian Trail, turn LEFT, Indian Trail to Deerpath, turn RIGHT

Heritage Grove Middle School - 12450 S. Van Dyke Road, Plainfield 815-439-4810

- Wolf Road to Route 30, turn RIGHT, Route 30 to 127th Street, turn LEFT, 127th Street to Van Dyke Road, turn LEFT.

Indian Trail Middle School - 1005 N. Eastern Ave., Plainfield 815-436-6128

- Plainfield Road to Route 126, turn LEFT, Route 126 to Eastern Avenue (past Route 59, 2 blocks past RR tracks), turn RIGHT.

Ira Jones Middle School - 15320 Wallin Rd, Plainfield 815-267-3600

- Plainfield Rd to Route 126, turn LEFT, Route 126 to Van Dyke Rd, turn RIGHT, Van Dyke Rd to Ottawa, turn RIGHT

Jefferson Middle School - 1151 Plum Street, Aurora 844-4535

- Route 34 West to Orchard, turn RIGHT, Orchard to Galena Blvd., turn RIGHT, Galena to Randall Road, turn LEFT, Randall to Plum Street, turn RIGHT.

Jewel Middle School - 1501 Waterford, North Aurora 264-4700

- Route 34 West to Orchard, turn RIGHT, Orchard to Oak Street, turn RIGHT, Oak to Forest Ridge Drive, turn LEFT, Forest Ridge to Waterford, turn RIGHT.

Kaneland Middle School - 1 N 137 Meredith Road, Maple Park 365-3005

- Route 34 West to Route 47, turn RIGHT, Route 47 to Harter Road, turn LEFT, Harter to Dauberman Road, turn RIGHT, Dauberman to Kesling Road, turn LEFT.

Plainfield Central High School - 611 W. Fort Beggs Drive, Plainfield 815-436-3200

- Plainfield Road to Route 126, turn LEFT, Route 126 to James Street, turn RIGHT, follow James to school on left.

Plainfield South High School - 77800 Caton Farm Road, Plainfield 815-254-1713

- Plainfield Road to Route 126, turn LEFT, Route 126 to County Line Road, turn RIGHT, County Line to Caton Farm Road, turn LEFT.

Plano Middle School - 804 S. Hale Street, Plano 552-3608

- Route 34 West to Hale Street, turn LEFT.

Sandwich Middle School - 600 S. Wells Street, Sandwich 815-786-2138

- Route 34 West into Sandwich, to Wells Street, turn LEFT

Timber Ridge Middle School - 2101 Bronk Road, Plainfield 815-439-3410

- Plainfield Road to Route 126, turn LEFT, Route 126 to County Line Road, turn RIGHT, County Line to Caton Farm Road, turn LEFT, Caton Farm to Bronk Road (1 block east of Route 59), turn RIGHT.

Van Horn Woods - 17301 Lily Cache Rd, Plainfield

- Route 126 to US 30/IL 59, turn RIGHT, Route 59 to Rolf Rd, turn LEFT, Rolf Rd becomes Lily Cache Road

Washington Middle School - 231 S. Constitution Drive, Aurora 301-5017

- Route 34 West to Route 31, turn RIGHT, Route 31 to Prairie Street, turn LEFT, Prairie to Edgelawn, turn RIGHT, Edgelawn to Kensington, turn LEFT, Kensington to Alschuler Drive, turn RIGHT, follow Alschuler around curve to school

West Aurora High School - 1201 W. New York Street, Aurora

- Take Orchard to Galena, RIGHT on Galena to Randall, LEFT on Randall to Plum Street, RIGHT on Plum to school

Yorkville Intermediate School - 103 E. Schoolhouse Road, Yorkville, 553-4594

- Route 71 West to Route 126, turn RIGHT. Route 126 is called Schoolhouse Road. School is located just before Rout 47.

Yorkville Middle School - 920 Prairie Crossing, Yorkville 553-4544

- Near the intersection of Route 71 and Route 126.

Student ID# _____ Physical dated: _____
(Valid for one year from the currently dated physical form)

TRAUGHBER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

INTRAMURAL SPORTS WAIVER

I, * _____, parent or legal guardian of
Parent/legal guardian's name

* _____, give permission for my child to
Student's Full Name

Participate in Intramural Sports.

Name of Intramural Sport: _____

She/He does not have the insurance offered through the school district, but we are satisfied that the insurance policy we carry is sufficient for this purpose. In the event of an accident and/or injury, we do hereby agree to hold harmless and indemnify the Oswego Community Unit School District #308, its employees and agents.

Our Insurance Company: * _____

Insurance Policy Number: * _____

Parent's Signature: * _____

Date: * _____

Home Phone: * _____

Parents' Cell Phone: * _____

Student currently in grade (circle): 6th grade 7th grade 8th grade

Student ID# _____ Physical dated: _____
(Valid for one year from the currently dated physical form)

TRAUGHBER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS WAIVER

I, * _____, parent or legal guardian of
Parent/legal guardian's name

* _____, give permission for my child to
Student's Full Name

Participate in Interscholastic Sports.

Name of Interscholastic Sport: _____

She/He does not have the insurance offered through the school district, but we are satisfied that the insurance policy we carry is sufficient for this purpose. In the event of an accident and/or injury, we do hereby agree to hold harmless and indemnify the Oswego Community Unit School District #308, its employees and agents.

Our Insurance Company: * _____

Insurance Policy Number: * _____

Parent's Signature: * _____

Date: * _____

Home Phone: * _____

Parents' Cell Phone: * _____

Student currently in grade (circle): 6th grade 7th grade 8th grade