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## Britton Deerfield Schools

October 16, 2026  
Britton Deerfield Schools  
Middle School & High School

### Subject: Important School Reminders and Expectations for Students and Families

Dear Britton Deerfield Middle School and High School Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the end of the first quarter of the 2026–2027 school year, we want to take a moment to thank our students, families, and staff for a wonderful start to the school year! We are grateful for the continued support and partnership of our Britton Deerfield families. Your involvement and commitment play an essential role in making our schools a positive, safe, and successful learning environment.

As we move forward, we would like to address several concerns that have recently arisen within our schools. We believe that open communication and collaboration between home and school are essential to maintaining high expectations for student behavior, safety, and responsibility. We appreciate your assistance in reinforcing the following school policies and expectations with your children.

#### 1. Food, Beverages, and Outside Deliveries

Over the past several weeks, we have noticed an increasing number of students arriving at school with energy drinks, specialty coffees, and other beverages.

**As a reminder, only plain drinking water is permitted outside of designated eating areas during the school day. Food and other beverages are not permitted in hallways, at lockers, in locker rooms, or in classrooms.**

This expectation is in place for several important reasons:

- **Health and Sanitation:** Food and sugary beverages contribute to pest-control concerns and additional cleaning expenses. Maintaining clean, sanitary facilities is essential to providing a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff.
- **School Nutrition Guidelines:** Our district participates in the USDA School Breakfast and Lunch Programs and must maintain compliance with applicable nutrition and food-service regulations.
- **Building Maintenance:** Spills, discarded containers, and food waste create unnecessary maintenance concerns and take valuable resources away from other district priorities.

**Beginning Monday, October 19, 2026, students arriving with unauthorized beverages will be required to dispose of them before entering classrooms.**

Additionally, we want to remind families that students are not permitted to order or receive outside food or beverage deliveries during the school day. This includes DoorDash, Uber Eats, restaurant deliveries, and other similar services.

Parents and guardians may drop off a lunch for their child at the school office; however, that lunch will be provided to the student only during their regularly scheduled lunch period and must be consumed in the cafeteria.

We recognize that many of these beverages are expensive, and we encourage families to help students avoid unnecessary waste by leaving these items at home.

## **2. Vaping and Prohibited Substances**

A second, and particularly serious, concern involves an increase in vaping incidents among students. Since the beginning of the school year, we have addressed numerous situations involving students possessing or using vaping devices in restrooms, locker rooms, and other areas of our buildings.

Unfortunately, despite disciplinary interventions, these incidents have continued. We have also identified situations involving students concealing vaping devices throughout school facilities and, even more concerning, students distributing or selling these products to other students.

**Vaping presents significant health and safety concerns, violates school policy, and creates unnecessary disruptions to the educational environment.**

To address this growing concern, the district is implementing additional preventative and enforcement measures, including the use of vape-detection technology and increased involvement of law enforcement when appropriate.

**Britton Deerfield Schools maintains a zero-tolerance policy regarding vaping and prohibited substances.**

Students found in violation of district policies will face disciplinary consequences, which may include:

- Referral to law enforcement, when appropriate.
- School disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.
- Suspension or possible expulsion, depending on the nature and severity of the violation.
- Additional consequences for student-athletes under the district's athletic code.

For student-athletes, violations may result in the loss of one-third of an athletic season, including portions of a subsequent season when applicable. A second offense may result in suspension from athletics for one calendar year, while a third offense may result in permanent removal from athletic participation, consistent with district athletic policies.

We ask all parents and guardians to have meaningful conversations with their children about the serious health risks associated with vaping, the legal consequences of possessing or distributing prohibited substances, and the importance of making responsible decisions.

**Our expectation is clear: Vaping, the distribution of vaping products, and the use or possession of prohibited substances will not be tolerated at Britton Deerfield Schools.**

We are committed to protecting the health, safety, and well-being of every student and maintaining an environment where learning remains our highest priority.

## **3. Student Supervision and Expectations at Extracurricular Events**

Our final concern involves student attendance and supervision at extracurricular activities, particularly athletic events held outside the regular school day.

**All students in grades K–8 must be accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult when attending school-sponsored extracurricular activities, including athletic events.**

Recently, we have experienced an increasing number of situations in which younger students are dropped off at events and left unattended for extended periods. This creates significant safety and supervision concerns for both students and district personnel.

While we encourage our students and families to attend school activities and support our Patriots, we must ensure that these events remain safe and enjoyable for everyone.

We also ask families and community members to observe the following expectations:

- All spectators must enter through designated main entrances or admission gates.
- All attendees must pay the required admission fees unless otherwise authorized.
- Students and spectators are not permitted to enter school buildings through unauthorized doors or entrances.
- Individuals must not access the athletic complex by crossing the drainage ditch or using areas outside designated entry points.
- Students are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior, respect school facilities, and follow the directions of school personnel at all events.

Admission fees help support the athletic programs and extracurricular opportunities we are proud to offer our students. Following established entrance and supervision procedures also allows us to maintain appropriate security and accountability at school events.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that all students attending these activities are properly supervised and that everyone follows district expectations.

### **Working Together for Our Students**

At Britton Deerfield Schools, we take great pride in our students, staff, families, and communities. Our goal is not simply to enforce rules, but to teach responsibility, promote positive decision-making, and provide a safe, respectful, and productive environment where every student can succeed.

We understand that addressing these concerns requires a partnership between school and home. Your support in discussing these expectations with your children and reinforcing the importance of following school policies makes a meaningful difference.

**We remain committed to maintaining high standards for student behavior, safety, and accountability while continuing to provide the quality educational experiences our families expect and deserve.**

Thank you for your continued trust, cooperation, and dedication to Britton Deerfield Schools. Together, we can ensure that our schools remain places where students feel safe, supported, and prepared for success.

**Proud to be Patriots!**

Sincerely,

**Britton Deerfield Schools Administration**