



THOMASVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT HANDBOOK
2023-2024

THOMASVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



Student Handbook

2023-2024

The logo is a stylized four-pointed star. The outer points are yellow with a textured, hand-drawn appearance. The inner points are red, also with a textured appearance. The center of the star is white. The text is centered within the star.

THOMASVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

ALMA MATER

*Where roses bloom 'neath stately pines
Our alma mater stands,
Here knowledge, truth, and harmony
In peace walk hand in hand.*

*We raise your banner red and gold,
High for all to see,
May your colors give us hope
Where'er life's path may lead.*

*When memories bring back days gone by
And glories once fulfilled,
Our loyal hearts will swell with pride,
Our school, dear Thomasville*

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MISSION & BELIEF STATEMENTS

MISSION STATEMENT

Developing students to be life-long learners and productive, responsible citizens.

BELIEF STATEMENTS

The entire family at Thomasville High School believes:

- All individuals have the right to a safe and secure environment in which to learn.
- Education is a shared responsibility that involves students, parents, the school, and the community.
- Academic excellence requires high expectations and standards.
- Excellence in education requires the use of innovative technology, research-based instructional strategies, and continual assessment of student achievement.
- All students can learn and should have a variety of opportunities to demonstrate their achievements and abilities.
- Each student has unique characteristics, gifts, and talents with which to contribute to the learning environment.
- Each student is responsible for his or her own actions and is aware that all actions have consequences.

THOMASVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

INTRODUCTION

The Thomasville City School System is an independent school system founded in 1900. It is one of the oldest school systems in the state, and it was founded well before most of the county school systems were established. City taxes and state funds support the system for students whose parents live inside the city limits.

The Thomasville City School System has been recognized as among the best in the state having produced many distinguished adults and community leaders in Thomasville and throughout the country.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

A school council is a local school advisory body composed of the school principal, two teachers, two parents or more (or guardians), and two members of the business community. It meets quarterly and provides advice and recommendations to the principal and the local board of education regarding a variety of issues, such as student achievement goals, curriculum and instruction, school and community communications, and local school board policies. School Councils were created by the A+ Education Reform Act of 2000 (House Bill 1187). Meeting times are posted well in advance each month at the school.

REQUIRED OCR NOTIFICATIONS

Thomasville City Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to local organizations and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Name and/or Title: Jeremy Rayburn, Title IX Coordinator

Address: 315 South Hansell Street

Telephone: 229-225-2634

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

POLICIES

Thomasville High School endeavors to provide the best possible opportunity for each student to receive a quality education. This can only occur in an environment that will allow students and teachers to function without the interference of disruptive or uncooperative behavior. The school program will be administered in a manner that ensures the teaching/learning process can take place in the most effective manner for the school population as a whole. School officials cannot and will not allow a person under the jurisdiction of the school who expresses dissent in a destructive or disruptive manner, or whose conduct is such that it interferes with the teaching/learning process of the school to remain in the school.

The school administration will make and enforce rules and regulations to ensure the safety and effective operation of the school program, even though the rules and regulations and manner of enforcement are not stated in this handbook. Such rules and regulations will not violate existing board of education policy or laws.

The Thomasville City Schools System does not discriminate in education programs and activities or in employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. These policies, rules and regulations are hereby declared to be regulatory in nature, and shall not be construed as giving rise to any substantive or vested rights. The school district reserves the right to amend, suspend, repeal, modify, or revoke all such policies, rules, and regulations at any time as to all persons, without incurring any obligation with respect to the old or existing policy, rule or regulation.

TITLE I

We are very proud of our teachers and feel they are ready for the coming school year and are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. As a Title I school, we must meet Federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined in Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher meets State qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are highly qualified.

**2023–2024
SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Preplanning	Monday-Friday	July 31,- August 4, 2023
Open House	Friday	August 4, 2023 1-3pm
First Day for Students	Monday	August 7, 2023
Labor Day Holiday	Monday	September 4, 2023
End of First Nine Weeks	Thursday	October 6, 2023
Teacher Workday/Student Holiday	Monday	October 16, 2023
Fall Break	Monday-Friday	October 9-13, 2023
First Day Second Nine Weeks	Tuesday	October 17, 2023
Thanksgiving Holiday	Monday-Friday	November 20-24, 2023
First Semester Exams	Monday-Thursday	Last week of the semester
Winter Holidays	Friday - Thursday	Dec 22, 2023-Jan 4, 2024
Teacher Workday/Student Holiday	Friday	January 5, 2024
First Day Third Nine Weeks	Monday	January 8, 2024
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	Monday	January 15, 2024
End of Third Nine Weeks	Thursday	March 7, 2024
Teacher Workday/Student Holiday	Friday	March 8, 2024
First Day Fourth Nine Weeks	Monday	March 11, 2024
Spring Break	Mon-Fri	April 1-5, 2024
Underclassmen Honors Program	Tuesday	May 9, 2024 7pm
Senior Final Exams	Monday-Thursday	Week of May 6th
Senior Honors Night	Monday	May 13, 2024 7pm
9 Weeks Exams	Monday-Friday	May 13-17, 2024
Last Day for Students	Friday	May 17, 2024

Graduation	Friday	May 17, 2024 at 7:00pm
Post Planning	Monday-Tuesday	May 20-21, 2024
Memorial Day Holiday	Monday	May 27, 2024

Thomasville High School Honors Program

Underclassmen Honors Night May 8 Tuesday 5:30 PM MPMS Auditorium
Senior Honors Night May 13 Monday 7:00 PM MPMS Auditorium

***Dates are subject to change. Please visit the website calendar for updated calendar events.
The calendar can be found at tcitys.org.**

Open House Dates

Friday August 4, 2023 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

BELL SCHEDULE FOR A REGULAR SCHOOL DAY

Bell Schedules may change for various school activities, but the normal day is as follows:
(Times may vary for start and end of periods)

Please see the school website(s) for up-to-date schedule information. Websites may be accessed at:
<http://www.tcitys.org/>

Block	Schedule	
	7:15	Building Opens/Breakfast Served
	7:45	Breakfast Ends
	7:55	First Bell Rings
1	7:55- 9:20	1st Block
2	9:25- 10:50	2nd Block
FLEX	10:55 - 11:30	
3	11:35 - 1:35	3rd Block (Lunch)
4	1:40 - 3:05	4th Block
	3:05	Dismissal

EXAM SCHEDULE

First Semester

1st Block, 4th Block	Monday, December 11, 2023
1st Block, 4th Block	Tuesday, December 12, 2023 (B day classes)
2nd Block, 3rd Block	Wednesday, December 13, 2023
2nd Block, 3rd Block	Thursday, December 14, 2023 (B day classes)

Second Semester

1st Block, 4th Block	Monday, May 13, 2024
1st Block, 4th Block	Tuesday, May 14, 2024 (B day classes)
2nd Block, 3rd Block	Wednesday, May 15, 2024
2nd Block, 3rd Block	Thursday, May 16, 2024 (B day classes)

- No test should be given early, unless special permission is given by the Administration.

SENIOR FINAL EXAMS

Senior Final Exams will be administered

May 6-10

We will be on a regular class schedule for this week.

Administration

Mr. Bryson Daniels
Principal

Mr. Daryl Jones
Assistant Principal
Thomasville High School

Ms. Santana Adaway
Assistant Principal
THS - Scholars Academy

Dr. Artez Sims
Assistant Principal
THS - Scholars Academy

Mr. Jeremy Rayburn
Athletic Director
Thomasville High School

Please see the school website(s) for a complete, updated list of faculty and staff at
<http://www.tcitys.org/>

GENERAL INFORMATION

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Student Achievement Pyramid of Interventions:

The Georgia Pyramid of Interventions/RTI is a robust school improvement framework which is guided by data-driven decision making and time-proven practices to proactively address the needs of all students. There are four tiers of intervention. **Tier 1**, Standards-Based Classroom Learning, is high-quality instruction in a standards-based classroom structure. All students participate in Tier 1. A variety of measurements are used to determine student progress, including universal screenings. **Tier 2**, Needs-Based Learning, is available for students who are exceeding academic expectancies or not making expected progress. Data-driven decisions identify these students and supplemental instruction is provided. **Tier 3**, SST-Driven Learning, is for students who are not making progress with the supplemental instruction of Tier 2 and are at risk for failure. The SST or Student Support Team consists of a variety of educational specialists (e.g., classroom teachers, school psychologists, counselors, speech-language pathologists, etc.) that participate in the problem-solving process to identify the intensive, research-based intervention needed by each student. **Tier 4** is specially designed instruction/learning and is developed specifically for students who meet the eligibility criteria for special program placement. Tier 4 provides instruction that is targeted and specialized to meet students' needs. This would include formal gifted education services for students who qualify for special education and related services for eligible students. Tier 4 does not represent a location for services, but indicates a layer of interventions that may be provided in the general education class or in a separate classroom setting.

Counseling

The counselor works with individual students, small groups, and large groups. Topics discussed through classroom guidance activities include study habits, responsibility, self-esteem, conflict resolution, organizational skills, and bullying.

Psychological Services:

Thomasville City Schools employs full time psychologists. Psychologists provide direct consultation concerning student academic, behavioral or social difficulties, assist with the Pyramid of Interventions, assist in determining eligibility for special education and gifted programs, and also develop in-service programs for the professional staff.

Special Education Services:

These services (Tier 4) serve all exceptionalities including Intellectual Disability, Specific Learning Disability, Emotional Behavior Disorder, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Vision Impairment/Blind, Orthopedically Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Autism, Significant Developmental Delay, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Speech-Language Impairment. Services are available for students ages 3 through their 21st birthday. Students may need special education services for part of the day or for the whole day based on their needs. Individual Education Programs (IEPs) are developed by a team that consists of the parents, the special education teacher, the regular education teacher, and a representative from the local education agency (Thomasville City Schools). The IEP is reviewed

annually to determine if the child is making progress and if he/she continues to meet eligibility for these services.

Gifted Services

Gifted services (Tier 4) are provided for students who have met Gifted eligibility in accordance with the state of Georgia rules and regulations. Services are available for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade and may be provided through collaboration in the regular classroom or in a resource setting. All services are in accordance with state approved service models taught by certified gifted instructors and are designed to meet students' gifted needs.

Nomination for evaluation for the Gifted Program may be requested by a teacher, parent, the student or peer.

504 Plans

Students who have a disability that significantly impacts learning but does not require special education services may qualify for a 504 Plan. The term impairment, as defined in Section 504, may include any disability, long-term illness, or various disorders that "substantially" reduces or lessens a student's ability to be successful in the educational setting because of a learning-, behavior- or health-related condition. This plan is collaboratively developed by a team that can include the parent, teachers, guidance counselor and building administrator. Accommodations are developed to ensure that a child is not discriminated against due to a disability.

OTHER INFORMATION

Media Center

Hours of Operation: 7:40 AM – 3:00 PM

- During the school day, students are admitted to the media center with a pass. Passes are issued to the students from the subject area teacher. Upon entering the library, students must show the pass to the media specialist or paraprofessional at the circulation desk. If the student leaves before the end of the period, the pass must be signed by one of the library staff.
- Respect for others is of highest priority; therefore, students are encouraged to practice self-control and to be aware of acceptable conduct for library use. Any student who fails to display appropriate behavior may be denied the use of the library for a limited period of time.
- Proper procedures must be followed for checking out and returning books. The media specialist provides an orientation at the beginning of each school year describing all procedures in the library.
- Students are permitted to use the computers in the library for educational purposes. The media specialist provides training regarding the use of the Internet. Students must have submitted their Internet User Agreement Form to be able to access the Internet; this includes parental permission. Internet usage is curriculum based and is not to be used for personal reasons.

Parking

Parking for school staff and students will be reserved. The first three rows closest to the entry of the New Gym are reserved for the staff at Thomasville High School, with the remaining two rows

(nearest to Hansell Street) and the stadium parking lot available for student parking. Scholars Academy staff will park either on Glenwood Drive or between the Scholars Academy and the MPMS Cafeteria. Student parking on the Scholars Academy campus will be in the stadium parking lot. Student parking permits must be purchased from the bookkeeper at each campus. Stadium parking should be purchased at the Scholars Academy with the bookkeeper. Permits will be sold to seniors first, then juniors and finally sophomores and freshmen. **You must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance before purchasing a decal.** The cost is \$25.00 for the school year. Misconduct involving the use of an automobile on campus will not be permitted. This includes speeding and any other reckless use of an automobile. Students found in violation will be subject to disciplinary action ranging from detention, fines, loss of parking privileges on campus, **towing of a vehicle**, or out of school suspension depending upon the severity of the infraction. **Due to very limited parking available at THS, parking will be strictly enforced.**

Initiations

All initiation activities are prohibited. This includes athletic teams, school organizations and clubs as well as off-campus organizations and clubs. Organizations and individuals violating this policy, either by action or dress, will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include suspension.

Pictures

June 16-17- Senior Formal Pics

September 19- Underclassmen and Senior Formal Make-Up

October 24- Underclassmen Make-Up and Senior Formal Last Call

March 6- Group/Club/Team Pics

Class Rings

The school allows students to purchase class rings. The school does not profit from this sale. Students are provided this information during the spring of their sophomore year.

Gym Lockers

Only school locks may be used on lockers. Any other locks will be cut off. Lockers are school property and may be searched with reasonable suspicion.

Visitors

As a general rule, students are not allowed to have visitors on campus or in the classroom. In some cases where visitation is necessary, prior permission must be granted. Parents are always welcome to visit their child; however, they must meet them in the front office. **All visitors must sign in at the front office before entering the school or meeting with a student. Passes worn by approved visitors must be visible at all times while on campus.**

Fundraising

Items being sold by student organizations in order to raise funds must have prior approval by the Superintendent or their designee. All funds connected with student organizations or classes are to be deposited with the bookkeeper each day. A financial statement for each organization/club/class/athletic team will be made each spring to the faculty sponsor/advisor.

Commercial Advertising

Commercial advertising in any form is not to be distributed at school by students or teachers.

Parties & Gifts

The Thomasville City Board of Education policy on school parties limits the number of parties for kindergarten through sixth grade and prohibits school parties for grades 7-12. Gifts to teachers, administrators, student teachers, secretaries, etc. for which money would be collected from students is also prohibited.

Textbooks

Students may be issued textbooks, which remain the property of the Thomasville City Board of Education. Students and their parent(s) are responsible for books and other resources issued to them. The parents will be required to pay for any textbooks or other materials not returned. Failure to make required payments will result in the student being placed on an obligations list and ineligible to receive their diploma until their debt has been cleared.

Deliveries

Non-parental deliveries for students will not be permitted. Deliveries such as balloons and flowers for students will not be accepted at any time. **Restaurant food delivered to students for lunch is against school system policy.**

Lockers

Lockers will be available for purchase from the front office at Scholars Academy. The price for lockers will be \$10.00. The locker rental fee includes the entire academic year.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Through individual advisement sessions, each student is presented with information about the various curriculum options available at THS. The counselors are also available to discuss testing such as the SAT, ACT, PSAT, ACCUPLACER, EOC assessments and EOPAs. Each school year, each counselor visits classrooms to discuss programs of study, credits, testing, and graduation plans. Parents may make appointments with a counselor to discuss their child's program of study, college and/or career plans, or any other areas of concern.

Placement in Classes/Scheduling

1. Students and parents should consult with a guidance counselor prior to enrolling in any class to ensure proper placement in the classes needed to meet graduation requirements.
2. No classes will be changed after the first two weeks of school. Sometimes a student and his/her family believe that the student would benefit from a course even though the student's previous academic achievement does not match the level specified for the course. A student may not have earned the expected grade in the course preceding the one in the description. In this situation, the student and his/her family may enroll in the more difficult course in spite of the lower grade in the prerequisite course with the understanding that the staff does not recommend that level for the student. ***The student commits to remaining in the more difficult course throughout the school year and understands that the teacher will not reduce the standards and expectations of the course.***

Students will be placed in classes according to the following criteria:

- Teacher recommendation
- Grades earned/courses previously passed
- Test scores
- Interests and career goals
- Student/parental course requests

New Student Registration

New students or transfer students must register at the District Board of Education Office located at 404 N. Broad Street (Floor 3) and supply the following as needed:

- Registration application
- Withdrawal form with current grades
- Any 504, IEP or IAP information
- A current certificate of immunization
- An ear, eye and dental screening
- Copy of a certified birth certificate
- Social security card
- Attendance and discipline records
- A transcript
- Proof of residency (utility bill, cable bill, phone bill, etc.)
- Georgia High School Association Enrollment Form

Withdrawal of a Student

Withdrawal of students will be handled by the registrar accordingly:

- The principal or designee will share options with the student and the parent(s).
- The student will complete a withdrawal form by getting the necessary signatures.

Academic Reporting

Infinite Campus

Thomasville City Schools will be utilizing Infinite Campus as the primary student information system. Parents may access up-to-date student information, including grades and attendance through the IC Parent Portal. Please see the TCS website or the school guidance department for further information.

We are required by law to release any and all academic or directory information requested by any state or federal agencies. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact your child's counselor.

The grading scale is:

- A = 90 – 100
- B = 80 – 89
- C = 70 – 79
- F = Below 70

Grade Calculations

Georgia Milestones Assessed Courses:

Courses that require the End of Course Test are weighted 80% from course instructional assessments and 20% from the End of Course Exam.

U. S. History
Biology
American Literature/Composition/English 2130
GSE Algebra 1

Non Georgia Milestones Courses:

100% based on instructional assessment.

Grading Categories

Formative Assessments - 50%

Summative Assessments - 50%

Progress Reports

- Summary progress reports will be available on request of the parent/guardian. Parents/guardians will have access to Infinite Campus to view the student's progress at any time.
- Parents may request a conference with their child's teacher(s) by contacting the school office.

Honor Graduate with Distinction

A student must maintain a 90 or above cumulative average in academic course subjects while taking a minimum of 75% advanced or higher courses during his/her high school career.

Honor Graduate

A student must maintain a 90 or above cumulative average in academic course subjects.

National Honor Society Graduate Designation

A student must be a National Honor Society Member in good standing and have a good disciplinary record. To maintain membership, students must:

- Maintain an 85 average in academic subject areas.
- Demonstrate character, leadership and participate in required community service projects.
- Attend NHS meetings.

- Must maintain a 90% attendance rate in ALL scheduled classes.
- Complete 75% advanced or higher level classes.

Students must adhere to all National Honor Society bylaws.

Class Rank

Class rank will be determined by numeric average in academic courses beginning with students who have taken a minimum of 75% advanced or higher courses during his/her high school career. A ten point addition will be given to Advanced Placement courses with national AP designation offered on Thomasville High School campuses. Ten points will also be awarded for academic dual enrollment courses.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The valedictorian will be the student who has attended Thomasville High School for at least his/her last two years of high school and has the highest cumulative GPA, grades 9-12. The determination is made at the mid-term of the fourth nine weeks of each senior year cycle. All grades must have been earned from a regionally accredited school. The same criteria applies for the selection of the student who is salutatorian of the class. **(Students eligible for early graduation that are not active Thomasville High School students during the second semester of their senior year may participate in the spring graduation ceremony but will forfeit all standings in class rank.)**

Promotion Requirements

To be promoted from 9th to 10th grade, a student must earn **five (5) credits. Three (3) credits must be core academic classes (Math, Science, Social Studies, ELA)**

To be promoted from 10th to 11th grade, a student must earn **eleven (11) credits. Six (6) credits must be core academic classes (Math, Science, Social Studies, ELA)**

To be promoted from 11th to 12th grade, a student must earn **seventeen (17) credits. Nine (9) must be core academic classes (Math, Science, Social Studies, ELA)**

To graduate, a student must earn a minimum of twenty-three (23) credits.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from Thomasville High School, a student must earn a total of 23 credits that includes:

- 4 units of English Language Arts to include 9th Grade Literature, American Literature and two additional Language Arts courses
- 4 units of Mathematics to include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one additional Mathematics course
- 4 units of Science to include Biology, Environmental Science or Chemistry, Physical Science or Physics, and one additional Science course (the 4th science unit may be used to meet both the science and elective requirements)

- 3 units of Social Studies to include American Government, Economics, World History and US History (this will be 4 units if both American Government and Economics are offered as full year courses)
- 1 unit of Health and Personal Fitness (0.5 unit of Health and 0.5 unit of Personal Fitness)
- A total of 3 units required from: CTAE and/or Foreign Language and/or Fine Arts (students planning to enter or transfer into a University System of Georgia institution must take two units of the same foreign language)
- 4 additional elective units for all students

Graduation Ceremony

The Thomasville City Schools will hold its annual graduation on May 17, 2024. During the graduation ceremony, any individual(s) interrupting the ceremony which includes celebrating, cheering, or talking loudly will be escorted out and not allowed back in. The number of tickets per graduate will be determined based on the class size. The graduates will receive their allotment of tickets at graduation practice.

Career Pathways

Students are required to earn three credits toward completing a Career Pathway. The following Pathways are offered at THS. Pathway courses may also be taken independently as electives.

Air Force Junior ROTC	Healthcare Science
Business and Technology	General Mechanics and Welding
Plant Science and Horticulture	Modern Language/Fine Arts
Early Childhood Education	

Programs Offered

Scholars Academy

The Scholars Academy is an accelerated college preparatory magnet program serving 6th-12th graders who are highly motivated and goal-oriented students interested in pursuing a curriculum which is more rigorous than that found in a traditional middle school or high school. Housed on the campus of MacIntyre Park Middle School, the Academy is organized as a “school within a school,” providing full access to athletics, band, and other extracurricular activities of the main schools. Admission is by portfolio application. For more information about Scholars Academy, please visit the website. <http://sa.tcitys.org/>

Dual Enrollment

Dual Enrollment is a program that allows high school students to take approved college-level coursework for credits toward both high school and college requirements. An application process must be completed to participate in this program. Please see your counselor for further information.

City Virtual

The CITY Virtual Program is an innovative, non-traditional learning platform facilitated through the online website called Courseware. A student may be enrolled as a full-time virtual student or a hybrid student taking traditional brick-and-mortar classes along with virtual classes. Enrollment into the virtual program requires an application and teacher recommendation. Transfer students will need to fill out a TCS enrollment packet and provide transcripts. Students enrolling in the virtual program will be required to be academically on track for graduation and in good academic standing from the previous school year.

EXALT

Exalt is used for credit recovery, TCPC re-enrollment, transfer students for scheduling purposes virtual students that take most of their classes at THS, and homebound students. Enrollment is open until the end of the first quarter, but enrollment by a current student will be case by case after the first two weeks of school. There must be a justification for the placement of students in the EXALT program. Semester Courses can be scheduled within the first two weeks of the second semester. Early completers will conference with the EXALT teacher to make a plan for the remainder of the school year. Students that are on track and currently passing all courses will be allowed to take another virtual course. Students that are not on track and/or failing any course will use the exalt period as a study hall and grade repair.

TCPC (Thomasville City Performance Center)

TCPC is an alternative educational program for students whose behavior prevents them from participating in classes on the main campus. All coursework will be conducted through the TCS-Approved program.

New Beginnings

New Beginnings is an online program for Thomasville High School students to complete their academic requirements. The program allows students the opportunity to complete their required coursework at home through an approved software program by the district. Students must be 16 years of age to apply for the program and must receive approval by a parent/guardian and the principal or other designated administrator. Students who wish to come back to Thomasville High School after New Beginnings will require a placement meeting from the New Beginnings and THS

administrative staff for approval. This is a non-punitive program where students can participate in school functions and events.

Scholarship Eligibility

See a guidance counselor for more information about current scholarship offerings.

Academic Honor Code

Refer to the TCS District Honor Code

Test Administration

Information about test administration, dates, registration, or fees can be obtained in the guidance office. Tests offered and administered at Thomasville High School are:

End of Course (Georgia Milestones Assessments)

The Georgia A+ Educational Reform Act of 2000 requires that End of Course Tests be administered in high school in four subjects. The End of Course Tests will be taken when a student takes one of the following courses:

U. S. History
Biology
American Literature/Composition/ English 2130 (Dual Enrollment)
GSE Algebra 1

All students seeking a Carnegie Unit in a course requiring an EOC assessment **MUST** take the EOC assessment.

A student's performance on these tests will count 20% of their final class grade and can potentially cause a student to fail the course.

PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test)

The PSAT gives first hand practice for the SAT. Pending approval of state funding, the PSAT is given to all 10th graders free of charge. Any 9th or 11th grader may take the PSAT by signing up and paying a fee of \$20. This assessment is used as the National Merit Qualifying test for the 11th graders. Any 11th grader earning a high enough score and having the required grade point average may qualify for scholarships to colleges of his/her choice.

SAT /ACT

Colleges use these exams as a predictor of success at the post-secondary level. Either test may be used for admission requirements. Registration materials are available in the guidance office.

Students are encouraged to begin taking either test their junior year of high school. You may schedule an appointment with your counselor to determine if you qualify for a fee waiver.

ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

The ASVAB is used for screening and entrance for all branches of the military. It is free to all 11th and 12th graders. The ASVAB is given two times per year (October and April)

ACCUPLACER

Post secondary schools use this exam to determine dual enrollment program readiness, if you do not meet the required HOPE GPA 2.6.

END OF SEMESTER/SUMMER SCHOOL

*There is a limit to the amount of classes students can take per summer school and credit repair session

SUMMER SCHOOL

SummerSchool is an opportunity for a student to retake a course in which he/she was not academically successful in earning credit toward graduation. Summer School options allow students that have completed seat time and calendar requirements to earn credit based on competency of the content standards. Credit recovery is **NOT** an individual contract between students and teachers to retake individual content items or strands of a course in which a student has not achieved mastery. Credit Recovery courses are complete courses containing all content on which the student will demonstrate mastery before receiving a new grade. In general, credit recovery programs are intended for students who have been previously unsuccessful in a specific course and need an additional review of the material in order to earn credit for the course.

Credit earned through Summer School will not replace the failing grade on the student transcript. The failing grade and the credit recovery course grade will both be recorded on the student's transcript. All grades recorded on the transcript are used to calculate your GPA (this includes both a student's overall GPA and their HOPE Scholarship GPA). The students enrolled in Credit Recovery will take all **pre-tests, post-tests and final exams at THS**. Credit recovery courses are conducted using a TCS-approved program.

Rules and Regulations: The setting for this is Summer School at THS and all student rules and dress code regulations will be strictly enforced. If students are breaking the rules then they will be asked to leave because there is not a punishment procedure during the summer. Students will be asked to sign a contract before they begin the Summer School session and they must abide by the rules they are signing off for. Payment deadlines will be strictly enforced and we will not create exceptions based on summer plans/vacations. There will be an attendance/tardy policy put in place and students are required to abide by them or they run the risk of losing the opportunity to gain credit. Students are required to put in a required amount of seatime.

CREDIT REPAIR

Credit repair is an instructional extension opportunity for a student to earn credit for a course they failed in the previous semester. Students may enroll in Credit Repair courses in January and/or May. To be eligible for credit repair a student must have a final average of **65** or better and have exhibited mastery on the appropriate End of Course Test if applicable.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Thomasville High School offers many opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities. All participants are required to follow the guidelines for participating in an extracurricular activity. THS organizations include the following:

School Leadership

Student Government Association (SGA)

Academic Organizations

Thomasville High School Helen M. Fortney Chapter of National Honor Society

In order to be considered eligible to receive an invitation to join the Helen M. Fortney Chapter of the National Honor Society, a student must have a cumulative academic average of **85** with at least 75% of a student's coursework advanced level or higher (academic courses consist of math, science, English, social science, and foreign language). Incompletes must be cleared before evaluation for membership can be completed. Attendance and discipline records are also reviewed, and teacher recommendations considered before an invitation to join the honor society is extended.

Members are expected to uphold the National Honor Society pillars of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Further detailed information regarding requirements for maintaining good standing in the honor society can be found in the National Honor Society handbook.

General Clubs

- Key Club
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Georgia Bar Mock Trial
- Latin Club
- Mathletes
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Rotary/Interact Club
- Model United Nations
- Youth Assembly
- Academic Team
- History Club
- Science Olympiad
- Art With a Purpose
- Breakfast Club

Career , Technical, Agricultural Education (CTAE) Student Organizations

- FBLA - Future Business Leaders of America
- FFA – National FFA Organization
- FCCLA - Family Career and Community Leaders of America
- HOSA - Future Health Professionals
- AFJROTC- Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps

Performance Clubs

- Symphonic Band
- Marching Band
- Jazz Ensemble
- Red Hots Dance Line
- Literary Team
- One Act Play
- Spring Musical
- String Orchestra/Rose City String

ATTENDANCE

Thomasville High School is obligated by law to enforce compulsory school attendance laws. Students below the age of 16 are required by Georgia law to attend school except for occasions of personal illness, death in the family or religious holidays. A student should be marked absent if he or she has missed 30 minutes or more of instructional time. If your child has been excessively absent or tardy due to personal illness, the school must have a written statement from his/her physician to confirm a chronic medical condition. Extended absences or unusual patterns of absences will be referred to the Director of Student Services and will be investigated.

Arriving to School

Supervision of students is between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm

- It is **critical** that students arrive at school **on time** to avoid disruptions to instructional time.
- Students should remain outside in the designated areas until the first bell rings. Students eating breakfast will be allowed to enter the cafeteria or the Bulldog Cafe' no earlier than 7:30 AM.
- After students arrive at school, they **may not leave without parental permission**. Students must sign out at the front desk in the main office when leaving school **for any reason**. **Students may not leave campus for lunch.**

Tardy to School

- All students will arrive at school on time daily. Students must be **in the classroom by 7:55 AM**.
- Students arriving after the tardy bell will report to the front office for a late pass. **Failure to follow proper sign-in procedure will result in disciplinary consequences.**
- Tardiness will be excused for the following reasons: illness, doctor's appointment, dental appointment, late bus, court appearance, or funeral.
- Students will be responsible for bringing a note to the attendance office for each excused check-in by the end of Day 3.
- The number of tardies for consequences will start over each 9 week period.

Additional Attendance/Discipline Expectations

- **Excessive Absences may result in loss of credit in any course.**
- **Leaving or missing any portion of a class without permission is skipping or cutting class and will be handled according to the guidelines in the TCS Student Code of Conduct**

- **In School Suspension (ISS) is often assigned to avoid a student missing educational opportunities while completing a consequence for misbehavior. Refusal to complete ISS will result in OSS, but OSS will not be given in lieu of ISS. Any student who refuses ISS and forces OSS will complete the ISS assignment upon their return to school.**

Consequences to Number of Unexcused Tardies to school:

- **1st - 4th tardies-** Warning (No Action)
- **5 - 9 tardies-** Administrative Lunch Detention (Students Lunch Period) and parent contact.
- **10-12 tardies-** In School Suspension and parent contact
- **13-15 tardies-** Out of school Suspension and an attendance contract

Tardy to Class Expectations:

- Students must be inside their classrooms as the bell begins to ring.
- Teachers and administration determine if a student is tardy.
- The administration and staff will be conducting hallway sweeps throughout the year to ensure student safety and optimize classroom instruction.

Consequences to Class tardies:

- **1st-4th tardies-** Consequences will be determined at the discretion of the teacher.
- **5th + tardies-** Will result in administrative disciplinary consequences.

Signing Out of School

- Students must report to the nurse's office to use a phone to contact their parents or guardians if they're sick. This includes the use of their cell phone. **Students may not talk on cell phones anywhere other than the main office.**
- **Students must have a pass from a classroom teacher and permission from the receptionist to use the telephone.**
- Any note brought to school for a student to sign out must have a telephone number to verify the note. If parents can't be reached, students will not be allowed to sign out. If students cannot provide a parent note, the parent must sign their child out in the front office.

- Forged notes will be subject to disciplinary action.
- Students should **NOT** ask to sign out for business appointments, reporting to work early, job hunting, running errands, to pay a bill, getting lunch, or other personal reasons.
- Students are responsible for making up any work they missed while they were signed out from school.
- **Students are not allowed to sign themselves out of school.**

Excused Absences

EXCUSED absences will be handled by the front office.

- Absences and early dismissal can be EXCUSED only for the following reasons **with written documentation**:
 - Doctor's Appointment
 - Governmental Court Order
 - Death in Family
 - Observance of a Religious Holiday
 - Voting
 - Attendance that could be hazardous to others
 - Five excused days per year resulting from military parent(s) on leave

Hospital/Homebound

If you are likely to be absent from school for a minimum of 10 days or more as a result of a medical condition, you may be eligible to participate in the Hospital/Homebound Program. The student or parent should inform the guidance office as soon as possible so that necessary arrangements may be made.

Make-up Work

- It is the student's responsibility to obtain work from teachers whose classes have been missed and complete assignments within the time frame allotted by the teacher.
- Parents are encouraged to request assignments for students who are absent for two (2) or more consecutive days by emailing individual teachers.

DISCIPLINE

Introduction

It is the desire of the Thomasville City School System that all students should have every possible opportunity to take advantage of the instructional programs offered. Our school provides students with support and incentives for promoting positive behavior, as well as structure and consequences for negative choices that would distract from a productive learning environment. There are two programs in place designed to offer positive reinforcement for our students:

- **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS):** PBIS is a systematic approach to teaching and managing behaviors in our school with a goal of maintaining a positive environment so all students can achieve academically and socially.

The purpose of the disciplinary procedures listed below are to ensure that all students are well aware of the actions that violate school rules and of the consequences of such behavior. **It should be pointed out that this list of infractions is not inclusive and as such a student committing an act of misconduct not listed will nevertheless be subject to the discretionary authority of the teacher, principal or other administrator.**

Punishment short of suspension/expulsion shall be handled according to the procedures stated in Policy JCDA of the Student Code of Conduct which is provided by Thomasville High School.

HALL AND CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- Be prompt to class.
- The teacher, not the bell, dismisses the class. If the teacher keeps you late after class, you are to obtain a pass from that teacher and go directly to your next class.
- **Students are not to leave the classroom without a pass from the teacher.** There shall be no running, horseplay, or distractions in the halls or restrooms.
 - Students will not be allowed out of class during the **first nor the last 15 minutes** of a period.
- Students leaving a classroom with permission from the teacher are to leave all electronic communication devices in the classroom they are returning to. This is a student safety precaution.
- The use of electronic communication devices in all restrooms are prohibited. This is a student safety precaution.
- All electronic devices are to be secured in the classroom at the beginning of each class.

Possible Consequences

The following list of items may be used as a consequence for failure to follow board policies or school rules and guidelines:

- **Conferences (may include student, teacher, parents, or outside agencies)**
- **Suspension of privileges**
- **In-School Suspension (ISS)**
- **Out of School Suspension (OSS) (maximum of 10 days per event)**
- **Teacher Detention**
- **Administrative Detention (“Time Out”)**
- **Lunch Detention**
- **Placement in the Performance Center**
- **Referral to Tribunal**
- **Referral to the Thomasville Police Department**
- **Opportunity Room**

Notwithstanding the recommended maximum dispositions contained in these rules, an administrator acting through and with the concurrence of the superintendent may refer a student to a Tribunal Hearing for disciplinary action arising out of the violation of any of these rules. Upon such referral, the Tribunal committee may take such action, after proper notice and hearing, as it shall deem appropriate, including suspension and/ or expulsion. Students and parents should also note that students’ discipline records follow students from school to school and from grade to grade.

Three Step Procedure

Other than acts of extreme incivility or acts that threaten the health, safety and well being of other students, the following steps will be taken by the teacher before submitting a behavior referral into Infinite Campus for administrative action.

Step 1: A documented and discrete 1 on 1 conversation with the student that clearly outlines and explains the behavior infraction and possible consequences of such action.

Step 2: A documented communication with the parent/guardian of the student. This can be an email, phone communication or message that clearly outlines and explains the behavior infraction and possible consequences of such action.

Step 3: A documented (in Infinite Campus) teacher assigned detention or “Opportunity Room” placement approved by Administration.

***After** those steps have been taken and repeated infractions continue, the teacher will submit a behavior referral in Infinite Campus for administrative follow up.

In School Suspension

The purpose of the In School Suspension program located at Thomasville High School is to provide an alternative to the standard practice of sending students home when it becomes necessary to suspend them from regular school activities. Although “out of school suspensions” are still sometimes necessary, we hope to use the ISS to achieve two broad objectives with most students:

- **To make students aware that their behavior is inappropriate and not in their overall best interest;**
- **To provide students with the opportunity to make up work missed during the suspension.**

Students assigned to ISS are physically removed from the regular school setting and placed in a designated classroom at Thomasville High School. The program begins at 7:55 A.M. and ends at 3:05 PM. daily. **Students assigned to ISS are expected to report directly to the front office as soon as they arrive on campus each day of their assignment.** Breakfast and lunch will be served in the ISS classroom. Students are to be counted absent until their name appears on the attendance sheet for being in ISS.

The length of time of ISS assignment depends on the severity of the behavior problem.

ISS provides an opportunity for students to continue their instructional program in a closely supervised and highly structured environment and at the same time provides an incentive for behavioral change. Students are in attendance at school and are therefore counted present.

The intent of ISS is to encourage students to exhibit appropriate behavior in school, and at school sponsored functions, therefore reducing the possibility of being assigned to ISS on a repeating basis. Because the suspension is in school rather than at home, school attendance is increased.

Students who do not fulfill the behavior expectations for the In School Suspension (ISS) program will receive additional consequences. Students who refuse to fulfill the assigned consequence may be suspended out of school (OSS) and will be required to complete the ISS assignment before returning to class. OSS does not negate ISS days assigned.

Out of School Suspension

Students who have been suspended from school will not be allowed during the period of suspension to participate in any extracurricular events or to attend any school-sponsored events. Suspended students are not allowed on any school system property.

The Board of Education may also place a student on probation who is readmitted to school following suspension or expulsion, and the terms of probation will be determined on an individual basis. If the terms of probation are broken, the student will be referred to the Tribunal for further disciplinary actions.

Liability of Parents

H.B. 1450 passed by the 1982 Georgia General Assembly includes “Parents and guardians of minor children will be liable for their willful or malicious damage to school property up to \$5,000 plus court costs.”

Academic Honor Code

In its attempt to instill ethical values and academic integrity, Thomasville City Schools stands squarely against cheating. As an attempt to pass someone else's work off as one's own, cheating at its root is an act of dishonesty. It compromises the integrity of those involved, destroys the community of learning, and distorts the system of academic evaluation for students and faculty alike. Widespread cheating fosters game-playing, pursuit of grades for their own sake, and getting something for nothing-attitudes fundamentally at odds with the school's desire to foster genuine and enthusiastic love of learning in an atmosphere of love and respect. While recognizing the strength of both the temptation to cheat and the pressure to cooperate in cheating, the school cannot overlook even casual cheating without compromising its mission. Thus cheating will not be tolerated.

Cheating includes - but is not limited to - the passing of answers on quizzes and tests; the seeking, receiving, or transmitting of specific information about questions on a test; the lending or copying of homework; use or possession of cheat sheets in the testing room; and acts of plagiarism.

The term plagiarism, perhaps, requires further explanation. Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas as if they were one's own. To avoid plagiarism when using another person's thoughts, the writer must acknowledge the origin of the ideas and use quotation marks to indicate borrowed language. Within the context of a specific class, a writer may ordinarily incorporate into his paper ideas *discussed* in that specific class without crediting the teacher or fellow-students. In that case, there is clearly no intent to disguise the intellectual debt. However, published material including passages and ideas from handouts and class texts must always be attributed.

The burden for enforcing this code of honesty falls on both students and teachers. Students should not lend their work out to others. If one student seeks another's assistance on an assignment, the assistance should be given in *face-to-face instruction* - not by passing written work from one student to another. The student who ignores this advice and makes his/her answers or work available to another shares responsibility and consequences if cheating occurs. The student will automatically receive discipline as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and a probable zero for the assignment.

The faculty member who discovers a student preparing to cheat outside his/her own classroom setting (during an examination, in the library, or in the hallway, for example) will report the incident to the pertinent teacher. The classroom teacher who discovers or receives evidence of cheating will:

- At an appropriate time, confront the suspected student and, upon confirmation that cheating has taken place and conferral with an administrator, register a grade of F as the assignment or test grade. The F grade can range from a 0% to the highest F possible in the teacher's grading scale, completely at the discretion of the teacher. This decision should balance a strong consequence for academic dishonesty with the support necessary for the student to move ahead successfully, having learned from his/her mistake.
- The teacher will also notify the student's parent(s) of the specific offense. The administration will maintain a record of these proceedings in the student records system until the student graduates or otherwise discontinues his/her enrollment at Thomasville High School.
- If a second act of cheating occurs, a conference will be requested with the student's parents to discuss the infraction. The second offense will result in a minimum of 1 day in ISS.

Thomasville High School Dress Code

We believe students should dress for success. Part of being in school is learning how to dress for different occasions and situations, and within the norms of the community and setting. The principal or other duly authorized school official shall determine whether any particular style of dress, apparel, grooming or use of emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols violate this rule. The dress code is in effect as long as the student is on campus on any day school is in session. Students must be in compliance with the dress code upon entering the building to avoid discipline consequences.

Specific Dress Code Provisions:

- No emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols where the effect thereof is to distract unreasonably the attention of other students or otherwise to cause disruption or interference with the operation of the school.
- Clothing or accessories depicting disruptive words, violence, vulgarity, drugs, alcohol, weapons, or disrespect for others will not be allowed.
- **Earbuds/Headphones/Bluetooth use is prohibited inside the classroom(s) at Thomasville High School. The only exception being is if a teacher directs the student(s) to use their headphones for instructional purposes.**
- No bare midriffs, tank tops, halter tops (one shoulder out, tube tops) low or revealing necklines, spaghetti straps, sleeveless tops, sheer top or bottom clothing that do not cover foundation garments. All tops and blouses should be long enough to be able to be tucked in. No stomach or back area should be exposed. Leotards, tights, leggings, or joggings may be worn with an appropriate top that reaches four (4) inches above the knee.
- Any sleeveless jerseys must include a full T-Shirt underneath.
- No bedroom or bathroom apparel, shoes or accessories are to be worn or carried into the school building. Including but are not limited to (blankets, pillows, bonnets, hair wraps, wave caps) Students may bring or wear jackets.
- No sagging pants or shorts, no low waist pants or low rider pants. **Pants must be worn around/over the hips at the natural waistline.**
- Clothing that is tight/form fitting or tied to be tight may not be worn.
- All short dresses and shorts must reach within four (4) inches above the knee. (This also includes high-low dresses and skirts with lining underneath). For any garment with a slit, the slit must not go higher than four (4) inches above the knee.
- **Anything that impairs the visual recognition of the face, head or hair are prohibited from being worn in the building. This includes but is not limited to hats, hoods, scarves, headbands, wave caps, bandanas, shower caps, sun glasses or other head coverings. This is a safety issue and applies to all students.**
- Jeans with holes that are above the knee are prohibited. However, students may wear leggings underneath the holes of their jeans.
- Please see an administrator for clarification prior to wearing any items to school that may be questionable. The principal or designee has final authority over all dress code matters.

Before purchasing school clothes, parents and students should consider not only how tight the clothing will be, but also how the clothes will shift when the student sits down. Any student found in

violation of these standards will be sent to the office. The student's parents will be contacted and the dress code violation **must be corrected before returning to class.** **Time out of class will be unexcused. If the violation cannot be corrected in a timely manner, the student will be sent to ISS until it can be corrected.** Further disciplinary action may also be taken if the violations are deemed chronic. The administration reserves the right to amend or modify the dress code to ensure safety or improve the atmosphere for learning.

Electronic Devices and Accessories

Students are allowed to use their cell phone/electronic device before and after school, at or in eating areas and between class changes **as long as it does not impair a verbal instruction.** Playing of music or other audible sounds is strictly forbidden. **At no time inside the building is talking on a cell phone allowed unless directed to do so by an adult.** Students who need to use a cell phone for talking to a parent must report to the front office. During instructional time (class time), cell phones/electronics can only be used with teacher permission for instructional purposes.

Students may possess or use personal electronic devices on school property or at school-sponsored events according to the following guidelines:

- Personal electronic devices including cell phones may not be used to cause any disruption in the educational process or for unethical or illegal purposes. Prohibited uses include, but are not limited to, cheating on assignments and/or tests, harassing or bullying others, and taking or distributing unauthorized photographs or recordings of other people.
- Personal electronic devices may not be used to access any obscene, threatening or otherwise inappropriate material via any form of electronic communication.
- Personal electronic devices may not be used for any activity prohibited by the THS Code of Conduct, to circumvent THS network security or for any unauthorized access to or inappropriate use of the THS computer network.
- THS **will not** be responsible, or liable for, the theft, loss, data loss, damage, destruction, misuse or vandalism of any student's personal electronic device brought onto THS property.
- Students who continue to break cell phone policy run the risk of not being allowed to have their cell phone at school. It is a privilege to have a cell phone on a THS campus, not a right.
- Any student who refuses to give their electronic device to an adult, upon request, will be referred to an administrator.

If a student is found to be in violation of the Cell Phone Policy, the personal electronic device (cell phone, etc.) can be confiscated by **any** school personnel. Refusal by a student to surrender the device will require further disciplinary action and may result in ISS/OSS.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Thomasville City Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain a parent or guardian's written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Thomasville City Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised Thomasville City Schools to the contrary in accordance with Thomasville City Schools procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Thomasville City Schools to include information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as the football program, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent. [Note: These laws are Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).]

If you do not want Thomasville City Schools to disclose any or all of the types of information designated below as directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Thomasville City Schools in writing by September 1st of each school year or within 30 days of enrollment if your child is enrolled after September 1st. Thomasville City Schools has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Date and place of birth
- Major student interests and training
- Dates of attendance
- Highest Grade level achieved
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- The most recent and previous educational agency or institution attended

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)–

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
- Sex behavior or attitudes;
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
- Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of–

- Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
- Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –

- Protected information surveys of students;
- Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
- Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law. *Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:*

Thomasville City Schools
Attn: Jennifer Turnbull
Director of Federal Programs
404 N. Broad St., FL-3
Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-2600
turnbullj@tcitys.org

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20222-5920

100% Tobacco-Free School Policy

The Thomasville City School Board recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors, and school facilities. The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for students and that the Board's acceptance of any use of tobacco products implies school approval, if not endorsement, of such use. In addition, the Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted smoke, for the students, employees and visitors to the school campus. Finally, the board recognizes that it has a legal authority and obligation pursuant to the Georgia Smokefree Air Act of 2005 (O.C.G.A. 31-2a-1 et seq.), the federal Pro-Children's Act (Title X of Public Law 103-227), the Georgia Youth Access Law (GA. Code ANN.§ 16-12-171 2004) and the No Child Left Behind Act.

Tobacco Use Prohibited

No student, staff member or school visitor is permitted to use any tobacco product, including the use of E-Cigarettes, at any time, including non-school hours 24 hours per day, seven days per week:

- In any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by Thomasville City Schools
- On any school grounds and property – including athletic fields and parking lots – owned, leased, rented or chartered by Thomasville City Schools; or
- At any school-sponsored or school-related event on campus or off campus

In addition, no student is permitted to possess a tobacco product. The policy may permit tobacco products to be included in instructional or research activities in public school buildings if the activity is conducted or supervised by the faculty member overseeing the instruction or research and the activity does not include smoking, chewing, or otherwise ingesting the tobacco product.

Tobacco Products and Tobacco Use

Tobacco products are defined to include cigarettes, candy cigarettes, chewing tobacco, blunts, blunt wraps, pre-wrapped blunt cones & tubes, cigars, cigarillos, bidis, pipes, e-cigarettes, cigarette packages or smokeless tobacco containers, lighters, ashtrays, key chains, t-shirts, coffee mugs, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products. Tobacco use includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products including Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS).

School Grounds and Property

School grounds and property means and includes land, school facilities and school vehicles used for the provision of academic, extracurricular programs and administration by the district. School grounds include playgrounds and recreational places. School grounds include that portion of land, school facilities and other facilities owned by municipalities, private entities or other individuals during those

times when the school district has exclusive use of a portion of such land, school facilities, or other facilities for the provision of extracurricular programs.

Time of Day

“Any time” or “at all times” means during normal school and non-school hours – 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Signage

Signs declaring all school grounds and property as tobacco-free will be posted in all school buildings and vehicles. Signs will be posted at all vehicular entrances to school grounds and building entrances, and in all indoor and outdoor athletic facilities.

Enforcement for Students

Consequences for students engaging in the prohibited behavior will be provided with the school’s behavior management plan. Students who violate the school district’s tobacco use policy will be referred to the guidance counselor, school nurse, or other health or counseling services for all offenses for screening information, counseling and referral. All student violators will have access to an Alternative to Suspension (ATS) program. The ATS program will provide up-to-date information on the many consequences of tobacco use at school, offer techniques that students can use to stop tobacco use at school, and provide referrals to local youth tobacco cessation programs. Parents/guardians will be notified of all violations and actions taken by the school. School may also use community service as part of the consequences. Suspension will only be used after a student has several prior violations or refused to participate in other outlined measures.

Enforcement for Staff and Visitors

Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with personnel policies and may include a verbal warning, written reprimand, or termination. Visitors using tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on school property or leave the premises. If they refuse, law enforcement officers will be contacted to escort the person off the premises or cite the person for trespassing in case the person refuses to leave the school property. In the case of a violation within the building of a school, the person is in violation of the Georgia Smokefree Air Act of 2005 (O.C.G.A. 31-2a-1 et seq.) and the federal Pro-Children’s Act (Title X of Public Law 103-227) and subject to a fine. Signage will be prominently posted in all visitor’s areas and school staff and officials will communicate policy to visitors upon arrival and infractions.

Enforcement at Outdoor School Sponsored Events on Campus Grounds

All outdoor school-sponsored events on campus (Ex. Athletic events, meetings or functions by community groups renting school property) must be tobacco free. The policy must be clearly stated in all contracts, correspondence and verbal and written announcements to all attendees and contractors.

Enforcement at School Sponsored Events Off-Campus

All indoor and outdoor school-sponsored events in venues (ex: rented arenas, stadiums, halls, theaters) must be tobacco free. The policy must be clearly stated in all contracts, correspondence and verbal and written announcements to all attendees and contractors.

Opportunities for Cessation

The administration will identify and offer programs and services for students who are ready to quit tobacco use. The administration will identify and offer programs and services for school staff who use tobacco products to support them in complying with the policy that prohibits tobacco use on school grounds and during school-related events and assisting those staff who are ready to quit smoking or other tobacco use.

Prevention Education

The administration will identify programs or opportunities for students (inside and/or outside the classroom) to gain a greater understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use and the impact of tobacco use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean and inviting school environment.

Parent Communication

Thomasville City Schools offers a parent communication system through Infinite Campus. Infinite Campus is a web-based program that allows parents to access their child's information such as discipline, attendance, and grades in the classroom (including communication with teachers on assignments, tests, etc.). Parents must complete a registration form which will allow them to view all of their children's information with one account. **This form may be picked up at the school or downloaded from the district's website under Technology; then Resources (Documents).** The assignment of a username and password is completed at the district office. Each parent will receive a written notice of the assigned username and password from the SIS coordinator Kim James, 229-225-2600.

Communication of information will be delivered through a variety of methods – Facebook, School/System/Teacher Webpages, Cell Texts, Auto Dial Messaging, Traditional Home Mailings, E-Mails, Electronic Billboards, Community Announcements (newspaper, CNS Scroll, Church and Business Flyer Distribution).

NUTRITION

Student Handbook Information from School Nutrition Program (all schools except Jerger)

MEALS AT SCHOOL

The Thomasville City Board of Education has taken advantage of a program offered for our students called the **Community Eligibility Provision**. Under this program all students in the Thomasville City Schools, with the exception of Jerger Elementary students, will be provided meals during the school day at no charge. This option covers one breakfast and one lunch each school day. Parents will not need to complete a Family Meal Application for this program

Students will still have an individual cafeteria account and enter their student ID number anytime they eat a school meal. Students may purchase a second meal at the standard price listed below for an adult or a visitor meal or purchase extra items from their cafeteria account balance. Money can be applied to student accounts by sending money with the student or thru the on-line program of **MYSCHOOLBUCKS**. Parents/guardians may view their child/children's cafeteria balance once parents/guardians have established a Parent Registration thru **MYSCHOOLBUCKS**. If parents need assistance with **MYSCHOOLBUCKS** call Mrs. Denise Wagner at (229)225-2666 ext. 1005

Meal Prices for Second Student Meals, Adults and Visitors:

	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Dine-in	\$2.00	\$4.00

(FYI Note – Principals- Individual schools are encouraged to include specific school information on breakfast time and policy for students and parents/guardians.)

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

**Thomasville City Schools
School, Parent, and Family Engagement Policy
Thomasville High School
School Year 2023-2024
Revision Date 04/16/2018**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Thomasville High School** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116 (b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Thomasville High School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, twoway, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- A. Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.

- B. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- C. Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- D. Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Thomasville High School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

- School Council meetings
- Leadership Team meetings
- Parent/Teacher conferences
- Survey
- Parent Advisory Committee

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Thomasville High School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting(prior to November 1st), at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- School Website
- Auto Call System
- Flyers
- Student Handbook
- Posters around school
- Remind 101
- Social Media

COMMUNICATIONS

Thomasville High School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be distributed and communicated by:

- Student Handbook
- Front Desk Parent Engagement Binder
- Parent Resource Center
- Hard Copy sent home with each student
- School Website
- Parent/Teacher Conference

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Thomasville High School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- Parent Advisory Committee Revision (March-April)
- Parent, Family and Community Revision Meeting (April)
- Peer Leadership Team
- Faculty Meeting

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Thomasville High School will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- School Parent Survey
- Review Comprehensive Needs Assessment
- Review School Improvement Plans
- Budget Planning of 1% set-aside for Parent Engagement

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Thomasville High School will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Family Connections
- Vashti and Georgia Pines
- Parent Resource Centers
- Archbold Memorial Hospital
- Thomas County Health Department
- Faith Based Organization
- Local YMCA's in Thomas County
- Bright from the Start
- Civic and other Non-Organizations
- Boys and Girls Club of Thomasville
- Raising Highly Capable Kids

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Thomasville High School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement

- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
 - Georgia Milestones
 - Mid Term Reports
 - Infinite Campus
 - Weekly Progress Report (if requested)
 - Career Expo
 - FAFSA Workshop

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Thomasville High School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Parent Resource Center
- Weekly Professional Learning Planning
- Faculty Meetings

Thomasville High School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- Mid Term Progress Reports
- Report Card Night/Open House
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Parent Engagement Workshops

Thomasville High School will involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.

- Schedule parent teacher conferences as needed
- Varied Technology Orientation times
- Administrative Escorted Parent Classroom Visits
- Report Card Night/ Open House

Thomasville High School will pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

- Raising Highly Capable Kids
- Parent Teacher Conferences

Thomasville High School will develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

- Underclassmen Awards Night/Seniors Awards Night
- Kiwanis, Exchange and Rotary Club
- Student of the Month
- Baccalaureate
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes Banquets

STUDENT AND PARENT COMPACT



**School-Parent Compact
Thomasville High School
School Year 2023-2024
Revision Date 3.4.2022**

School-Parent Compact
Thomasville High School
School Year 2023-2024
Revision Date 5.22.2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,
Thomasville High School students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families, agree
that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement as well as describes how the school and
parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The parents, students and staff of Thomasville High School partnered together to develop this school-
parent compact for achievement. Teachers suggested home learning strategies, parents added input
about the types of support they needed and students told us what would help them learn. Parents are
encouraged to attend annual revision meetings held in the month of April of each year to review the
compact and make suggestions based on student needs and school improvement goals. Parents are also

encouraged to participate in the annual Title I parent survey that is also used as a tool to collect parent

feedback regarding the current Title I programs and policies.

To understand how working together can benefit your child, it is first important to understand the

district's and school's goals for student academic achievement.

Thomasville City Schools Goals (District):

1. Develop a district-wide literacy plan to increase the percentage of students scoring Level III and

IV on the ELA GMAS by 3% by reducing the percentage of students scoring Level I and Level II.

2. Increase the percentage of students scoring Level III and Level IV on the Math GMAS by 3% by

reducing the percentage of students scoring Level I and Level II.

Thomasville High School Goals:

1. Increase percentage of students moving from level I (Beginning Learner) to level II (Developing

Learner) by 10% in all subjects.

2. Increase the four year and five year* cohort graduation rates by 3% for all students and subgroups.

3. Decrease the total number of discipline referrals by 5% from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023.

4. Increase Stakeholder Communication by 5%

FOCUS AREAS

Algebra

Create equations that describe linear, quadratic and exponential relationships between quantities.

Represent equations and inequalities graphically

Biology

Understand Cellular Genetics and Heredity

English Language Arts

Understand vocabulary to enhance reading and writing

To help your child meet the district and school goals, the school, you, and your child will work together

to:

SCHOOL/TEACHER Responsibilities:

Thomasville High School will:

1. We will use collaborative planning time in the academic core classes:

Revise lesson plans weekly

Revise curriculum maps as needed

Revise multi-step, extended response performance tasks to ensure student engagement and their knowledge of Georgia Standards of Excellence and Literacy Standards

Implement assessments to align with required curriculum bi yearly which include the GSE and Literacy Standards according to the TKES Guidelines, FIP Modules and Best Practices.

Will utilize the Media Center Paraprofessional to assist students with lessons and activities relating to content standards by creating assignments with which students in English classes will visit the Media Center as a class two times per year.

Use a variety of research-based instructional strategies including but not limited to graphic representations and organizers, note taking, homework, summarizing vocabulary development, group work, formative assessment, differentiation, technology, goal setting, feedback, interdisciplinary connections, collaborative teaching and questioning techniques.

2.

We will provide additional learning opportunities: After school Math and English Tutoring, Credit Repair (at the end of each semester), Credit Recovery, Summer School, Milestones Interventions, etc.

We will notify parents as needed for conferences and student academic and/or behavior concerns

We will adhere to all accommodations and modifications outlines in students IEP's and 504.

3.

We will collect and analyze discipline data from each year during the Leadership Team meetings monthly.

We will review and revise current discipline policies, procedures, consequences, roles and duties.

We will identify teachers who may need additional training and support.

We will provide preemptive guidance for chronic offenders in the freshman class to ensure success throughout their high school career by utilizing our behavioral interventionist.

We will use PBIS to effectively communicate with families and community members to support positive behavior interventions and support through a

variety of activities and rewards.

4.

We will provide a parent and student resource center at the school with materials and media that can be given away or checked out to assist the parents, family and community with educational, social and emotional resources.

We will communicate parent involvement activities by email, school websites, flyers, electronic newsletter, alert system, marque, social media, and the local newspaper.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

We, as parents, will:

1.

I will as a parent establish a relationship with my child's teacher.

I will as a parent communicate with the teacher each nine weeks or reach out to the teacher when needed.

I will as a parent create a study environment at home and encourage my child to attend tutoring sessions (if needed) in the school building.

2.

I will as a parent become involved in my child's academic progress and check infinite campus bi-weekly and routinely check that my child is on track for college and career or next steps.

3.

I will as a parent participate in parent-teacher conferences, provide constructive feedback, learn ways to support my student's goals and discuss them with my student.

4.

I will as a parent check the school's website and/or social media at least once a week for updates and events.

I will as a parent inform the schools front office of updated contact information when phone number and/or address changes.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

We, as students, will:

1.

I will attend the GA Milestones Workshops provided by the course teacher and

the Parent Engagement Coordinator prior to Georgia Milestones Testing to receive additional material and tutoring prior to the testing date.

I will attend after school tutoring when needed in the subjects of Math and English.

2.

I will routinely refer to my Graduation Course Requirement Checklist, which will be given out to all freshmen from their guidance counselor. During the advisement process I will confer with my guidance counselors to stay on top of the graduation requirements.

3.

I will help promote a school environment that supports good behavior and will achieve behavioral incentives.

4.

I will commit myself to the development of becoming a world-class citizen and learner.

COMMUNICATION ABOUT STUDENT LEARNING:

Thomasville High School is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about

children's learning.

Some of the ways you can expect us to reach you are:

Monthly Newsletter

Infinite Campus

Google Classroom

Parent-Teacher conferences

Emails to parents on student's progress

Text messaging/Phone Calls

Social Media

ACTIVITIES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS:

Thomasville High School offers ongoing events and programs to build partnerships with families.

Parent-Teach Conferences

Parent Workshops

FAFSA and Road to College Nights

Volunteering/Observing

Please sign and date the next page acknowledging that you have read, received and agree to this

School-Parent Compact. Once signed please return the form to your school's Parent Involvement

Coordinator, Mrs. Ponder. We look forward to our School-Parent Partnership.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Please sign and date below acknowledging that you have read, received and agree to this School-Parent Compact. Once signed please return the form to your school's 1st period teacher. We look forward to our School-Parent Partnership.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

School Representative Signature:



2023-2024 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Thomasville City Schools Board of Education supports all students' rights to learn. To do so, each student must be in a school climate that is satisfying and productive without disruptive behavior by any student infringing upon the rights of others.

Therefore, it is the policy of the Board of Education that each school within this system shall implement the district's age-appropriate student code of conduct, which is designed to improve the student learning environment by improving student behavior and discipline. Schools may address discipline identified within student handbooks or similar publications, but these publications should comply with and be consistent with the district's student code of conduct. The student code of conduct will comply with state law and state board of education rules and will include the following:

1. Standards for student behavior are designed to create the expectation that all students will behave themselves in a manner that facilitates a learning environment for themselves and other students. The standards are designed to encourage students to respect each other, school system employees and any other persons attending school functions. The standards are also designed to motivate students to obey student behavior policies adopted by this Board and to obey student behavior rules established at each school within this school system.
2. Student support processes are designed with appropriate consideration given to the severity of a behavioral problem. Support services are available at each school, school system, and other public entities, including community organizations that address behavioral problems students are experiencing.
3. Progressive discipline processes are designed to create the expectation that the degree of discipline imposed will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior leading to the discipline and will consider the discipline history of the student and other relevant factors, while ensuring that each student receives the due process mandated by federal and state law.
4. Parental involvement processes designed to enable parents, guardians, teachers, and school administrators to work together to improve and enhance student behavior and academic performance. The process should enable parents, guardians, and school employees to communicate freely their concerns about student behaviors which detract from the learning environment.

The student code of conduct should be distributed to each student at the beginning of the school year and upon enrollment of each new student. The parents/guardians will be requested to sign an acknowledgement confirming receipt of the code of conduct and promptly return the acknowledgment to the school. The student code of conduct will be available in the school office.

This code was developed in conjunction with Georgia school laws pertaining to student discipline in elementary and secondary public education outlined in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.), commonly called the Georgia Code (specifically, O.C.G.A. 20-2-730 – O.C.G.A. 20-2-769). Such a code is mandated in O.C.G.A. 20-2-735. The behavior code is reviewed on an annual basis.

It is the purpose of the Thomasville City School System for each school to operate in a manner that will provide an orderly process of education and that will provide for the welfare and safety of all students who attend the schools within the district. In accordance with that purpose, all schools require students to always adhere to the student code of conduct to facilitate a learning environment for themselves and other students. These standards for behavior require students to respect each other and school district employees, and to obey the established student behavior rules.

The district's primary goal is to educate, not to punish; however, when the behavior of an individual student comes in conflict with the rights of others, corrective actions may be necessary for the benefit of that individual and the school. Accordingly, students shall be governed by regulations and rules set forth in the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct is effective both during and outside normal school hours, meaning:

- a) At school or on school property at any time;
- b) Off school grounds at any school activity, functions or events and while traveling to and from such events;
- c) En route to or from school or school-related activities;
- d) School bus stops;
- e) In vehicles provided for student transportation by the school system; and
- f) Off school system property if: (a) the student's off-campus conduct results in the student being charged with a criminal offense (or delinquent act) that would be a felony if committed by an adult and the off-campus conduct either makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to the educational environment or disrupts the school environment; or (b) the student's off-campus expressive behavior (including, but not limited to, written communication, internet postings, communication through social media, cyber bullying [threats or harassment], or texting) could reasonably be expected to come to the attention of school officials and create a substantial risk to the safety of students, staff or others and/or a risk of substantial disruption to the school, program or school environment.

Any student charged with or convicted of the commission of any felonious crime may be denied the right to attend classes by the Superintendent when the Superintendent determines that the continued presence of the student in school will have a substantially disruptive effect on the school environment. Such denial may be continued until the Superintendent determines that the presence of the student will no longer have a disruptive effect. Any student who is denied the right to attend school may appeal the Superintendent's determination to the Board of Education. The appeal must be submitted within 3 days after notice of denial is received.

READMISSION AND APPEALS

Any student denied the right to attend school by the Superintendent, may, at any time during the term or expulsion submit a petition stating the grounds supporting the petition based on new evidence.

The Board may, in its discretion, allow the student presenting the petition to appear before the Board in person.

The Board shall act on the petition within three weeks after receiving the petition. The student shall be notified of the Board action by a letter from the Superintendent.

Before any student who has been denied the right to attend school is eligible to re-enter school, the student and the parents must attend a conference at the office of the school principal.

Any action of the Board may be appealed to the State Board of Education. Implementation of the Board's action, however, need not be postponed pending the outcome of the appeal. Such appeal shall be in accordance with Georgia Code Section 20-2-1160 and regulations of the State Board of Education governing such appeals.

Teacher Reporting Information

A teacher has the authority, consistent with Board policy and applicable law, to manage his/her classroom, discipline students, and refer a student to the principal or designee to maintain discipline in the classroom.

Any teacher who has knowledge that a student has exhibited behavior which violates the student code of conduct and repeatedly or substantially interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in the class or with the ability of such student's classmates to learn should file a report of such behavior with the principal or designee. The principal and teacher should thereafter follow the procedures set forth in Georgia law, specifically O.C.G.A. 20-2-737-738.

Student behavior which violates state or federal laws as specified in O.C.G.A 20-2-1184 will result in a report being filed with police and district attorney.

The Superintendent and/or designee shall develop procedures and guidelines as necessary for the implementation of this policy and law.

Searches

School officials are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of students, staff, and visitors pursuant to applicable law. **When reasonable suspicion exists, school officials may search students whom they believe have either violated a particular law or rules of the school.** The scope of the search will be reasonably related to the purpose of the search and not excessively intrusive considering the age and gender of the student and the nature of the suspected infraction.

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspection of vehicles on school property. Students should not expect their vehicles or vehicle contents to remain private if excising the privilege of parking on campus.

Student lockers, desks, and all school and classroom storage areas are school property and always remain under the control of the school. These areas are not private. Periodic general inspections of these areas may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, and without student consent.

School computers and school technology resources are not private and are open to school review at any time.

If a search yields illegal or unauthorized materials, such materials should be turned over in person to the School Resource Officer or proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Disciplinary Consequences

Once it has been determined that a rule(s) was violated, the principal or designee will afford the student oral or written notice of the charges. If the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an explanation of the evidence the school authorities have and an opportunity to present his/her side of the story. The administrator will follow a progressive discipline process, when possible. The degree of discipline to be imposed by each school administrator will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior of the particular student and will take into account the student's discipline history, the age of the student, and other relevant factors. Disciplinary consequences may include restorative practices, in-school suspension (ISS), short-term suspension, long-term suspension, expulsion, and/or referral for a disciplinary hearing. Disciplinary hearings may result in assignment to an alternative education program, long-term suspension, expulsion, or permanent expulsion from all Thomasville City Schools. In addition to discipline, behaviors may also be reported to law enforcement at the District's discretion and as required by law, including O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1184 and 19-7-5.

Suspension/Expulsion

If a student is removed from regular class assignments for more than one-half of the school day, written notice of this assignment to in-school suspension must be sent to the parent. The student's parent/guardian should be notified of in-school suspension and out-of-school suspension (OSS) as soon as possible. This notification should be confirmed in writing no later than two school days after the suspension begins. This notification should contain the charges, a description of the alleged acts, and the number of days and dates of the suspension. The written notification should be delivered to the student's parent/guardian either in person or by first class mail to the last known address of the parent/guardian. If notification is delivered in person, a written confirmation of delivery should be obtained.

Students under Out of School (OSS) suspension or expulsion shall not participate in or attend school activities on or off-campus or be present on any Thomasville City School property until the student is physically readmitted to the classroom.

If less than the number of suspended days remain in the complete grading period or regular school year, the suspension/expulsion will continue into the next regular school year or complete grading period.

Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student

A "chronic disciplinary problem student" is defined by law as a student who exhibits a pattern of behavioral characteristics which interfere with the learning process of students around him or her and which are likely to recur. Any time a teacher or principal identifies a student as a chronic disciplinary problem student, the principal shall inform the parent or guardian of the student's disciplinary problem. Notification should be by either first-class mail or certified mail with return receipt requested and telephone call. The principal should request that at least one (1) parent or guardian attend a conference with the principal and/or teacher. The purpose of the conference would be to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan.

Before any chronic disciplinary problem student is permitted to return from suspension or expulsion, the school to which the student is to be readmitted should request by telephone call or by either certified mail with return receipt requested or first-class mail that at least one parent/guardian schedule and attend a conference with the principal, or principal's designee, to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan. At the discretion of the principal, a teacher, counselor, or other person may attend the conference. The principal will note the conference in the student's permanent file. Failure of the parent/guardian to attend shall not preclude the student from being readmitted to the school.

PART 1: DISCIPLINARY RULES

The following code provisions apply to student behavior AT ANY TIME while on school property, engaging in or attending a school-sponsored event, while using school technology resources or, in

some cases, off-campus. The decision to charge a student for violation of this Code of Conduct shall be made by the administration of the local school. If the local school administration is uncertain as to the interpretation of the Code of Conduct, they are to contact the system office of student discipline.

The following behaviors are a violation of this Code of Conduct:

Rule	Description
00	Continuation
01	Alcohol
02	Arson
03	Battery
04	Breaking & Entering - Burglary
05	Computer Trespass
06	Disorderly Conduct
07	Drugs, Except Alcohol and Tobacco
08	Fighting
09	Homicide
10	Kidnapping
11	Larceny/Theft
12	Motor Vehicle Theft
13	Robbery
14	Sexual Battery
15	Sexual Harassment

16	Sex Offenses
17	Threat/Intimidation
18	Tobacco
19	Trespassing
20	Vandalism
22	Weapons - Knife
23	Weapons - Other
24	Other Incident for a State-Reported Discipline Action
25	Weapons – Handgun
26	Weapons – Rifle/Shotgun
27	Serious Bodily Injury
28	Other Firearms
29	Bullying
30	Other- Attendance Related
31	Other- Dress Code Violation
32	Academic Dishonesty
33	Other – Student Incivility
34	Other – Possession of Unapproved Items
35	Gang-Related

36	Repeated Offenses
40	Other Non-Disciplinary Incident
42	Electronic Smoking Device
44	Violence Against a Teacher

Rule 00. Continuation

An event with multiple incidents for a single action has occurred.

Rule 01. Alcohol

Violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol. This includes possession, sale, use, transmission, manufacture, purchase, or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, or possessing related paraphernalia during a school activity, function, or event on or off school grounds or while under school supervision. Students under the influence or consumption of alcohol may be included if it results in disciplinary action.

Contact SRO and Student Services

- **Level 1**
 - Unintentional possession of alcohol
- **Level 2**
 - Under the influence of alcohol without possession
- **Level 3**
 - Violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol.

Rule 02. Arson

Unlawful and intentional damage or attempted damage to any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device. This includes property belonging to, rented by, or on loan to the school system and property belonging to school employees or to other students. (Note: Possession of fireworks or

incendiary devices must be reported as “Possession of Unapproved Items”. Use of such items should be reported as Arson.)

Contact SRO and Student Services

- **Level 2**
 - Attempt to commit arson or use of matches, lighters or incendiary devices at school; includes but not limited to the use of fireworks. Includes but is not limited to trashcan fires without damage to school property.
- **Level 3**
 - Intentional damage as a result of arson-related activity or the use of an incendiary device. Includes but not limited to setting fires to school property

Rule 03. Battery

Actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against his or her will or intentionally causing bodily harm to an individual. (Note: The key difference between battery and fighting is that fighting involves mutual participation.)

Contact SRO and Student Services

- **Level 1**
 - Intentional physical attack with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in no bodily injuries
 - Includes but not limited to pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, pinching, slapping, and other intentional physical confrontations
- **Level 2**
 - Intentional physical attack with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in mild or moderate bodily injuries
 - Includes but not limited to pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, pinching, slapping, and other intentional physical confrontations that result in mild or moderate injuries
 - Participate in consensual physical hazing/initiation or bodily modifications (e.g. tattooing, branding, and piercing).

- **Level 3**

- Intentional physical attack with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in severe injuries or any physical attack on school employee (coded as assault if reasonable apprehension of immediately receiving a violent injury is present, but no contact made), unless such physical contact was in self-defense as provided by O.C.G.A. § 16-3-21.

- Includes, but is not limited to choking, pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, pinching, slapping, and other physical confrontations resulting in severe injuries;
- Includes any physical attack on school employee;
- Physical attack on teachers should be reported as Violence Against a Teacher (44);
- Includes incidents serious enough to warrant calling the School Resource Officer (SRO) or Police;

Rule 04. Breaking & Entering – Burglary

Unlawful or unauthorized forceful entry into a school building or vehicle (with or without intent to commit theft). (Note: The key difference between Trespassing and Breaking & Entering – Burglary is that Trespassing does not include forceful entry into the school building.) ***Contact SRO and Student Services***

- **Level 3**

- Unlawful or unauthorized forceful entry into a school building or vehicle (with or without intent to commit theft).
 - Parent Contact
 - Out of School Suspension (OSS)
 - Recommendation for Tribunal Hearing
 - Contact School Resource Officer

Rule 05. Computer Trespass

Use of school computers for anything other than instructional purposes or unauthorized use of a computer or computer network with the intention of deleting, obstruction, interrupting, altering, damaging, or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer, network, program(s) or data.

The District, or any school, is NOT responsible for personal electronic devices on school property or at District/school sponsored events. The District/school administrator or designee may confiscate electronic devices.

▪ **Level 2**

- Violate the District's Internet User Agreement or Acceptable Use Policy in any way.
- Copy computer programs, software or other technology provided by the District for personal use; download unauthorized files; or use school technology resources for personal gain or private business enterprises.
- Gain or attempt to gain unauthorized access to the District's computer data, network, system, Internet connections, e-mail accounts, or intranet or to any third party's computer system, data, or network, such as:
 - Malicious tampering, phishing, or hacking activities;
 - Intentionally seeking information about passwords belonging to other users;
 - Disclosing a user's password to the District's computer network, System, Internet connections, E-mail accounts, Software, or Intranet to other individuals. Students, however, may share their passwords with their parents.
 - Modifying passwords belonging to others;
 - Attempting to log in through another person's account;
 - Attempting to gain access to material that is blocked or filtered by the District;
 - Accessing, copying, or modifying another user's files without authorization;
 - Disguising a user's identity;
 - Using the password or identifier of an account that does not belong to the user;
 - Engaging in uses that jeopardize access into others' accounts or other computer networks or systems.

▪ **Level 2/Level 3**

- Use or participate in using personal or school technology resources to distribute or display inappropriate material. Inappropriate material does not serve an instructional or educational purpose and includes but is not limited to the following: (See (17) for bullying using technology) (In any event, SRO must be notified):
 - Is profane, vulgar, lewd, obscene, offensive, indecent, sexually explicit, pornographic or threatening;
 - Advocates illegal or dangerous acts;

- Causes disruption to Thomasville City Schools, its employees or students;
- Advocates violence;
- Contains knowingly false, recklessly false, or defamatory information;
- Is otherwise harmful to minors as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act.
- Refusing to comply with reasonable directions/commands of school staff regarding responsible use of technology, and/or use of visual recording devices without permission of a school administrator.
- Use of recording devices to record misbehaviors or to violate the privacy of others.
- **Level 3**
 - Attempt, threaten, or actually damage, destroy, vandalize, or steal private property or school property while using school technology resources on or off school grounds (SRO must be notified of such incidents).
 - Purposely look for security problems, attempt to disrupt school technology resources, or engage in any activity that monopolizes or compromises school technology resources.

Rule 06. Disorderly Conduct

Any act that substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others.

- **Level 1**
 - Creating or contributing to a moderate disturbance that substantially disrupts the normal operation of the school environment but doesn't pose a threat to the health or safety of others.
 - Engage in horseplay or rough or boisterous activities. School administrators will use discretion in determining acts of horseplay/rough or boisterous activities as opposed to other prohibited activities, such as intentional physical contact.
 - Engage in amorous kissing or similar public or other displays of affection.
- **Level 2**
 - Occupy or block any school building, part of school grounds, entrance, exit, or normal pedestrian/vehicular traffic on school grounds or adjacent grounds so as to deprive others of access.

- Use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, false statements, or any other conduct that causes, may cause, or attempts to cause the disruption of any mission or function of the school or poses a threat to the health, safety and/or welfare of students, staff or others.
- **Level 3**
 - Pull a fire alarm without authorization or without the belief that a true emergency exists.
 - Threaten to plant a bomb or falsely inform others that a bomb or other explosive has been planted on school property or at a school-sponsored event (SRO must be notified of such incidents).

Rule 07. Drugs, Except Alcohol and Tobacco

Unlawful use cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or equipment or devices used for preparing or using drugs or narcotics. Includes being under the influence of drugs or substances represented as drugs. Code includes over-the-counter medications if abused by the student. Also includes intentionally smelling or inhaling fumes from any substances (for example: glue, solvents) for the purpose of becoming intoxicated. ***Offenses are cumulative at the Elementary, Middle, and High School levels. Contact SRO and Student Services***

- **Level 1**
 - Unintentional possession of prescribed or over-the-counter medication. Does not include
 - the possession of narcotics or any illegal drugs.
- **Level 2**
 - Any medication prescribed to a student or purchased over the counter and not brought to the office upon arrival to school.
- **Level 3**

A student shall not:

 - Possess, consume (eaten, digested, injected, inhaled, etc.), receive, purchase, transmit, store, or be under any degree of influence of illegal drugs, narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, synthetic cannabinoid drugs, cannabis, inhalant, synthetic cathinone drugs (e.g. bath salts) or any other substance listed under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act or any substance believed by the student to be alcohol or an illegal drug. **Legal intoxication is not required for**

violation of this rule. First-time offenders may be required to attend a drug intervention program in addition to any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate.

- Possess, transmit, store, buy, sell, or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to sell, or otherwise distribute any drug-related paraphernalia, which may include vaporizers (For electronic cigarettes, see Tobacco Use/Cigarette Products).
- Falsely present or identify a substance to be an illegal drug or use/consume/buy/sell/distribute/possess/transmit compounds or substances meant to mimic the effects of drugs.
- Buy, sell or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to distribute or attempt to buy, sell, or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to distribute illegal drugs, narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, or marijuana, or any other substance listed under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act, or any substance falsely identified as such, or is believed by the purchaser to be an illegal drug, narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, or marijuana, synthetic cannabinoid drugs, cannabis (including but without limitation to marijuana, hemp, THC, etc.), inhalant, synthetic cathinone drugs or any other substance listed under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act. There is no requirement that there be an exchange of money, goods, and/or services to find a violation of this rule.
- Sniff or be under the influence of inhalants and/or other substances.
- Over-The-Counter Medication
 - Possession of all over-the-counter medication on school property must be pursuant to Operating Guideline JGCD – Medication. A student is prohibited from selling, distributing, or possessing with intent to distribute any over-the-counter medication. Over the counter medications specifically include, but are not limited to, stimulants (e.g., diet pills, caffeine pills, etc.), nicotine replacement therapies such as nicotine gum and candy, nicotine lozenges, nicotine patches, nicotine inhalers, nicotine nasal sprays and the like. For electronic cigarettes, see Rule Tobacco Use/Cigarette Products.
- Prescription Medication
 - Possess prescription medication not prescribed for the student. All prescription medication prescribed for a student must be in compliance with written parent authorization and adherence to Operating Guideline JGCD – Medication. In addition, a student shall not sell, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute any prescribed medication on school property. If the prescription drug is a controlled substance under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act, the student shall be found to have violated the appropriate portions of the above.

Rule 08. Fighting

Mutual participation in a fight involving physical violence where there is no one main offender and intent to harm. **(Note: The key difference between fighting and battery is that fighting involves mutual participation.)**

- **Level 1**
 - A physical confrontation between two or more students with the intent to harm resulting in no bodily injuries.
- **Level 2**
 - A physical confrontation between two or more students with the intent to harm resulting in mild or moderate bodily injuries.
- **Level 3**
 - A physical confrontation between two or more students with the intent to harm resulting in severe bodily injuries.
 - Students that violate the school policy on fighting **three (3) or more** times during the same school year.

Rule 09. Homicide

Killing of one human being by another.

Contact SRO and Student Services

- **Level 3**
 - Includes but not limited to shooting, stabbing, choking, bludgeoning, etc.
 - 10 days OSS and hearing referral

❖ Off-Campus Misconduct

□ Off-campus misconduct for which a student may be disciplined includes, but is not limited to, any off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony, or felonious conduct for which a student has been arrested, criminally charged/indicted, adjudicated to have committed, or convicted; and conduct which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. **(Contact Director of Student Services and SRO)**

Rule 10. Kidnapping

The unlawful and forceful abduction, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will.

Contact SRO and Student Services

- **Level 3**
 - The unlawful and forceful abduction, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will.

❖ Off-Campus Misconduct

□ Off-campus misconduct for which a student may be disciplined includes, but is not limited to, any off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony, or felonious conduct for which a student has been arrested, criminally charged/indicted, adjudicated to have committed, or convicted; and conduct which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. **(Contact Director of Student Services and SRO)**

Rule 11. Larceny/Theft

The unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property of another person without threat, violence, or bodily harm. **(Note: The key difference between larceny/theft and robbery is that the threat of physical harm or actual physical harm is involved in a robbery.) Contact Director of Student Services and SRO**

- **Level 1** – The unlawful taking of property belonging to another person or entity that does not belong to the student with a **value up to \$100.**
 - Includes but not limited to theft by taking, theft by receiving stolen property, and theft by deception.
- **Level 2** - The unlawful taking of property belonging to another person or entity that does not belong to the student with a **value between \$100 and \$250.**
 - Includes but not limited to theft by taking, theft by receiving stolen property, and theft by deception.
- **Level 3**
 - The unlawful taking of property belonging to another person or entity that does not belong to the student with a **value exceeding \$250.**
 - Includes but not limited to theft by taking, theft by receiving stolen property, and theft by deception.
 - May be used for students that violate the school policy on larceny/theft *three (3) or more times* during the same school year

❖ Off-Campus Misconduct

□ Off-campus misconduct for which a student may be disciplined includes, but is not limited to, any off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony, or felonious conduct for which a student has been arrested, criminally charged/indicted, adjudicated to have committed, or convicted; and conduct which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. **(Contact Director of Student Services and SRO)**

Rule 12. Motor Vehicle Theft

Theft or attempted theft of any motor vehicle. **Contact SRO and Student Services**

▪ **Level 3**

- Code includes theft of car, truck, motorcycle, ATVs, golf carts, or anything that is self-propelled.
 - 10 days OSS and hearing referral

❖ Off-Campus Misconduct

□ Off-campus misconduct for which a student may be disciplined includes, but is not limited to, any off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony, or felonious conduct for which a student has been arrested, criminally charged/indicted, adjudicated to have committed, or convicted; and conduct which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. **(Contact Director of Student Services and SRO)**

Rule 13. Robbery

The taking of, or attempting to take, anything of value that is owned by another person or organization under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. **(Note: The key difference between larceny/theft and robbery is that the threat of physical harm or actual physical harm is involved in a robbery.) Contact SRO and Student Services**

▪ **Level 3**

- Robbery without the use of a weapon
 - Taking something by force or threat of force

- Robbery with the use of a weapon
 - Weapons may include but are not limited to guns, knives, clubs, razor blades, etc.
 - 10 days OSS and hearing referral

❖ **Off-Campus Misconduct**

□ Off-campus misconduct for which a student may be disciplined includes, but is not limited to, any off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony, or felonious conduct for which a student has been arrested, criminally charged/indicted, adjudicated to have committed, or convicted; and conduct which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. (Contact Director of Student Services and SRO)

Rule 14. Sexual Battery

Oral, anal, or vaginal penetration against the person's will or where the victim did not or is incapable of giving consent; touching of private body parts of another person either through human contact or using an object forcibly or against the person's will or where the victim did not or is incapable of giving consent. **Contact SRO and Student Services**

- **Level 3**
 - Includes but is not limited to rape, fondling, child molestation, indecent liberties and sodomy
 - 10 days OSS and hearing referral

❖ **Sexual Molestation:**

□ Sexual molestation is defined as a student doing any immoral or indecent act to or in the presence of another person, without that person's consent, with the intent to arouse or satisfy the sexual desires of either the student or the other person. This includes a student forcing another person to make physical contact with the student's intimate body parts, such as having another perform sex acts (for instance, oral sex).

□ No student shall commit any act of sexual molestation or the attempts thereof on school property, school buses, or at school-sponsored events.

- The SRO must be notified of such incidents. The Chief of Police, or designee, will notify the district attorney. (See O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1184)

- Notify the Director of Student Services and Superintendent.

□ Any student (or parent or friend of a student) who has been the victim of an act of abuse, sexual misconduct, or other inappropriate behavior is urged to make an oral report of the act to any teacher, counselor or administrator at his/her school.

❖ **Off-Campus Misconduct**

□ Off-campus misconduct for which a student may be disciplined includes, but is not limited to, any off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony, or felonious conduct for which a student has been arrested, criminally charged/indicted, adjudicated to have committed, or convicted; and conduct which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. (Contact Director of Student Services and SRO)

Rule 15. Sexual Harassment

❖ A student shall not harass another person through unwelcome conduct or communication of a sexual nature. Prohibited acts of sexual harassment include verbal or written harassment, such as sexual jokes or comments about an individual or his/her physical characteristics; physical harassment such as unwanted touching or gestures; visual harassment such as the display of, or encouraging/participating in the display of, sexually suggestive objects or pictures; or requests or demands for sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats.

□ The local school police officer must be notified of such incidents where the behavior involves a sexual offense (as defined in Chapter 6 of Title 16 of Georgia law) including, but not limited to, sexual battery, rape, and molestation. Any alleged victim of such offense may request to have his/her schedule changed, subject to the principal's approval.

□ Staff members should report instances of behaviors referenced in this Rule to school administration within a reasonable time period so that administrators may review them in a timely manner. (See also Policy JAA, Equal Educational Opportunities for Students, for more information regarding harassment.) At the conclusion of the investigation, any written report required by Policy JAA will be forwarded to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

□ Any student (or parent or friend of a student) who has been the victim of an act of abuse, sexual harassment/misconduct, or other inappropriate behavior is urged to make an oral report of the act to any teacher, counselor or administrator at his/her school.

- **Level 1**
 - Comments that perpetuate gender stereotypes or suggestive jokes that are not directed towards specific individuals.
 - Includes but not limited to insensitive or sexually suggestive comments or jokes.
- **Level 2**
 - Comments that perpetuate gender stereotypes, suggestive jokes or lewd gestures that are directed towards specific individuals or group of individuals.
 - Includes but not limited to insensitive or sexually suggestive comments or jokes; leering.
- **Level 3**
 - Physical or non-physical sexual advances; requests for sexual favors;
 - May be used for students that violate the school policy on sexual harassment **three (3) or more times** during the same school year.

Rule 16. Sex Offenses

Unlawful sexual behavior, sexual contact without force or threat of force, or possession of sexually explicit images; can be consensual.

❖ The Georgia General Assembly requires the District to encourage parents to inform students of the consequences, including potential criminal penalties, of underage sexual conduct. The consequences can include the student being tried as an adult. Any behavior, which is a violation of Chapter 6 of Title 16 of Georgia law, or violations below, must be immediately reported to the SRO, the Superintendent and the Director of Student Services. The Chief of Police, or designee will then notify the District Attorney.

□ Any alleged victim of a sexual offense may request to have his/her schedule changed, subject to the principal's approval. Sexual offenses are prohibited against members of the same sex as well as members of the opposite sex.

□ See also Policy JAA, Equal Educational Opportunities for Students, for more information regarding harassment. At the conclusion of the investigation, any written report required by Policy JAA will be forwarded to the Superintendent or designee.

□ As used in this Rule, “intimate body parts,” as defined in Georgia law, O.C.G.A. § 16-6-22.1 include "the primary genital area, anus, groin, inner thighs, or buttocks of a male or female and the breasts of a female."

- **Level 1**

- Inappropriate sexually-based physical contact
 - Including but not limited to public groping, inappropriate bodily contact, or any other sexual contact not covered in other Levels.

- **Level 2**

- Inappropriate sexually-based behavior
 - Including but not limited to sexting, lewd behavior, possession of pornographic materials; simulated sex acts.
- Expose one’s intimate body parts or “moon” in public

- **Level 3**

- Engaging in sexual activities on school grounds or during school activities.
 - Oral, anal or vaginal penetration; pimping; prostitution; indecent exposure of private body parts.

Rule 17. Threat/Intimidation

Any threat through written or verbal language or act which creates a fear of harm and/or conveys a serious expression of intent to harm or violence without displaying a weapon and without subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

- **Level 2**

- Physical, verbal or electronic threat which creates fear of harm without displaying a weapon or subjecting victims to physical harm.

- **Level 3**

- School-wide physical, verbal or electronic threat which creates fear of harm without displaying a weapon or subjecting victims to physical attack; Note: Students

that display a pattern of behavior that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to have the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education, threatening the educational environment, or causing substantial physical harm, threat of harm or visibly bodily harm may be coded as bullying.

Rule 18. Tobacco

Possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, and on transportation to and from school.

❖ Possess, distribute, or use, cigarettes or related tobacco products of any kind, including cigarette wrapping paper or containers for such products. First offenders may be referred to attend a tobacco use program, in addition to any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate.

- **Level 1**

- Unintentional possession of tobacco products on school property

- **Level 2**

- Use of or knowledgeable possession of tobacco products
 - Intentional use or possession of tobacco products on school property

- **Level 3**

- Distribution and/or selling of tobacco products on school property
- May be used for students that violate the school policy **three (3) or more times** during the same school year

Rule 19. Trespassing

Entering or remaining on a public-school campus or school board facility without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. (Note: The key difference between Trespassing and Breaking & Entering-Burglary is that Trespassing does not include forceful entry into the school building.)

- **Level 2**
 - Entering or remaining on school campus or school property without authorization or invitation
- **Level 3**
 - Refusing to leave school campus or school property after a request from school personnel
 - Being on school campus or school property, including attending home athletic events and extracurricular activities while currently on Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
 - May be used for students that violate the school policy on trespassing **three (3) or more** times during the same school year

Rule 20. Vandalism

The willful and/or malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of public or private property without consent.

- **Level 2**
 - Attempting to or causing minor destruction, damage or defacement of school property or private property without permission
- **Level 3**
 - Causing willful/malicious destruction, damage or defacement of school property or private property without permission
 - May be used for students that violate the school policy on vandalism **three (3) or more times** during the same school year

Rule 22. Weapons – Knives

The possession, use, or intention to use any type of knife. **Contact SRO and Student Services**

- **Level 1**
 - Unintentional possession of a knife or knife-like item on school property without the intent to harm or intimidate
- **Level 2**
 - Intentional possession of a knife or knife-like item on school property without the intent to harm or intimidate
- **Level 3**
 - Intentional possession, use or intention to use a knife or knife-like item on school property with the intent to harm or intimidate

Rule 23. Weapons – Other

The possession, use, or intention to use any instrument or object that is used or intended to be used in a manner that may inflict bodily harm (does not include knives or firearms). **Contact SRO and Student Services**

- **Level 2**
 - Unintentional possession of a weapon, other than a knife or firearm, or simile of a weapon that could produce bodily harm or fear of harm.
 - Includes but is not limited to razor blades, straight-edge razors, brass knuckles, blackjacks, bats, clubs, nunchucks, throwing stars, stun guns, tasers, etc.
- **Level 3**
 - Intentional possession and/or use of any weapon, other than a knife or firearm, in a manner that could produce bodily harm or fear of harm.
 - Includes but is not limited to razor blades, straight-edge razors, brass knuckles, blackjacks, bats, clubs, nunchucks, throwing stars, stun guns, tasers, etc.

❖ **Prohibition**

- A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, or cause to be transmitted; use or threaten to use; sell, attempt to sell, or conspire to sell a firearm, a dangerous weapon or dangerous instrument/hazardous object/unauthorized item, either concealed or open to view, on school property. All items prohibited under this rule should be confiscated and given to the local school resource officer or other law enforcement agencies as appropriate. The Superintendent or his/her designated school official, in conjunction with law enforcement, should determine the disposition of items prohibited under this rule. The possession of any dangerous weapon, hazardous object, or firearm in violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-5-21; 16-5-24; 16-11-127; 16-11-127.1; or 16-11-132 will trigger the reporting requirements of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1184. The incidents will be reported to the School Resource Officer, the Superintendent, and the Director of Student Services.
- There is no exception for students who have a valid legal license to carry a weapon.

❖ NOTE: The definition of "weapon" for purposes of this Code of Conduct is one that includes, but is not limited to, the following items:

□ **Category 1 Weapon: Dangerous Weapon**

- Any dangerous weapon
- A dangerous weapon includes any weapon commonly known as a "rocket launcher," "bazooka," or "recoilless rifle" which fires explosive or nonexclusive rockets designed to injure or kill personnel or destroy heavy armor, or similar weapon used for such purpose. The term shall also mean a weapon commonly known as a "mortar" which fires high explosive from a metallic cylinder and which is commonly used by the armed forces as an anti personnel weapon or similar weapon used for such purpose. The term shall also mean a weapon commonly known as a "hand grenade" or other similar weapon, which is designed to explode and injure personnel or similar weapon used for such purpose.

□ **Category II Weapon: Hazardous Object**

- Any pellet gun, paint pellet gun, or BB gun, antique firearm, nonlethal air gun, stun gun, taser, or any similar weapon that does not meet the definition of a Category 1 weapon; any Bowie, Dirk, any razor blade (e.g., straight, regular, retractable, etc.); box cutter; any bludgeon (e.g. billy club, PR-24, night stick, spring stick, blackjack, club); "look-alike" bomb; any "martial arts" device or flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely (e.g., nun chucks, shuriken, or fighting chain, etc.); any disc of whatever configuration with at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled (e.g., Chinese star, oriental dart, throwing star, etc.); miscellaneous devices such as swords, sword/knife canes, ice picks,

chains, bow and arrows, knuckles made of metal, thermoplastic, wood or other similar material, objects placed on fingers, in hands, or on fists or knuckles to provide a "loaded fist," etc., or any tool or instrument which the school administration could reasonably conclude as being used as a weapon or intended by the student to be used as a weapon and thus a violation of the intent of this Code of Conduct.

- In addition to the above, Category II weapons include any item defined as a weapon or hazardous object as defined by O.C.G.A. § 16-11-127.1 and 20-2-751, with the exception of firearms and dangerous weapons (See Category 1).

- The School Resource Officer must be notified of such incidents.
- Notify the Director of Student Services and Superintendent.

□ **Dangerous Instruments/Unauthorized Items**

- Students shall not possess ammunition, BBs, paint pellets, CO2 cartridges fireworks (other than "snap its", "poppers", or "pop-its" which may be addressed as a disruptive behavior), **matches, lighters, stink bombs, pepper spray, mace or similar instruments /items**. These instruments/items are disruptive to the function of the school and may pose a safety risk.

□ **Curriculum Display of a Weapon or Dangerous Instrument/Unauthorized Item**

- Any individual wishing to bring a weapon, look-alike weapon or dangerous instrument/unauthorized item to school or use a Category I or II type weapon for the purposes of a curriculum display or as an educational tool must have prior permission. Specifically, the individual must have verbal approval of the teacher in whose class the weapon or dangerous instrument/unauthorized item will be displayed, as well as prior written permission from the principal which includes a description of the weapon(s) and/or dangerous instrument(s)/item(s) authorized and the time period during which the weapon(s) and/or dangerous instrument(s)/item(s) may be on campus.

- Transport of the weapon, look-alike weapon or dangerous instrument/item to and from the school must be by the approved parent, guardian or other approved individual 21 years of age. The transporting individual should remove the weapon or dangerous instrument/item from the school immediately upon completion of the educational session. When necessary, the teacher or school administration will store the weapon, look-alike weapon or dangerous instrument/item in a secure location when it is not being used in the above approved classroom activities. The weapon or dangerous instrument must be unloaded and must not contain any explosive material.

Rule 24. Other Incident for State-Reported Discipline Action

Any other discipline incident for which a student is administered corporal punishment, in-school suspension, out of school suspension, administrative action, detention, suspended from riding the bus, referred to court or juvenile system authorities, or removed from class at the teacher's request (pursuant to O.C.G.A. 20-2-738).

- **Level 1**

- Any other discipline incident for which a student is administered corporal punishment, detention, in-school or out-of-school suspension, expelled, suspended for riding the bus, assigned to an alternative school, referred to court or juvenile system authorities, or removed from class at the teacher's request (Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 20-2-738)

- **Level 2**

- Level 2 should be used for students who display a pattern of violating local school policies not listed among the state incident types.
 - Includes but is not limited to parking violations, etc.

❖ Off-Campus Misconduct

□ Off-campus misconduct for which a student may be disciplined includes, but is not limited to, any off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony, or felonious conduct for which a student has been arrested, criminally charged/indicted, adjudicated to have committed, or convicted; and conduct which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. (Contact Director of Student Services and SRO)

Rule 25. Weapons - Handguns

Possession of a firearm that has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand; and any combination of parts from which a firearm described above can be assembled. **(NOTE: This definition does not apply to items such as toy guns, cap guns, bb guns and pellet guns)** [Pursuant to Gun-Free Schools Act - Public Law 107-110, Section 4141].

Contact SRO and Student Services

- **Level 3**
 - Intentional or unintentional possession or use of a handgun in a manner that could produce bodily harm or fear of harm.
 - Pistols or revolvers
 - 10 days of OSS and hearing referral

Rule 26. Weapons – Rifle/Shotgun

The term “rifle” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger. The term “shotgun” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger. [Pursuant to Gun-Free Schools Act – Public Law 107-110, Section 4141].

Contact SRO and Student Services

- **Level 3**
 - Intentional or unintentional possession or use of a rifle or shotgun in a manner that could produce bodily harm or fear of harm.
 - Rifle or shotgun
 - 10 days OSS and hearing referral

Rule 27. Serious Bodily Injury

The term “serious bodily injury” means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty. **Contact SRO and Student Services**

- **Level 3**
 - Infliction of "bodily harm" that dismembers, disfigures, causes permanent loss of a limb or function of an organ and causes substantial risk of death.
 - Any behavior that dismembers, disfigures, causes permanent loss of a limb or function of an organ and causes substantial risk of death.
 - 10 days OSS and hearing referral

Rule 28. Other Firearms

Firearms other than handguns, rifles, or shotguns as defined in 18 USC 921. Includes any weapon (including started gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive; the frame or receiver of any weapon described above; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device, which includes any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas (i.e. bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge more than 4 ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¼ ounce, mine, or similar device); any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than ½ inch in diameter; any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. **(NOTE: This does not include toy guns, cap guns, bb guns, pellet guns, or Class-C common fireworks).** [Pursuant to Gun-Free Schools Act – Public Law 107-110, Section 4141] **Contact SRO and Student Services**

- **Level 3**

- Intentional or unintentional possession or use of any firearms other than rifle, shotgun, or handguns (including starter pistols) and any other destructive device which includes explosives
 - Includes any weapon (including started gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive; the frame or receiver of any weapon described above; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device, which includes any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas (i.e. bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge more than 4 ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¼ ounce, mine, or similar device); any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than ½ inch in diameter; any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. **(NOTE: This does not include toy guns, cap guns, bb guns, pellet guns, or Class-C common fireworks).** [Pursuant to Gun-Free Schools Act - Public Law 107-110, Section 4141]

- 10 days OSS and hearing referral

Rule 29. Bullying

Behavior, which may include written, verbal, physical acts, or through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology occurring on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to have the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education, threatening the educational environment, or causing substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm.

- **Level 1**

- First Offense of bullying as defined in Georgia Code Section 20-2-751.4
 - Includes but is not limited to a pattern of unwanted teasing, threats, name-calling, intimidation, harassment, humiliation, hazing, physical attacks, extortion, social exclusion, coercion, spreading of rumors or falsehoods, gossip, stalking, or using any type of electronic means to harass or intimidate.

- **Level 2**

- Second incident of bullying as defined in Georgia Code Section 20-2-751.4
 - Includes but is not limited to a pattern of unwanted teasing, threats, name-calling, intimidation, harassment, humiliation, hazing, physical attacks, extortion, social exclusion, coercion, spreading of rumors or falsehoods, gossip, stalking, or the use of electronic equipment on school property or using school equipment to harass or intimidate.

- **Level 3**

- Repeated acts, as defined in Georgia Code Section 20-2-751.4, occurring on school property or school possession that is a willful attempt or threat to inflict injury, or apparent means to do so, any display of force that puts victim at fear of harm, any written, verbal or physical act that threatens, harasses, or intimidates; causes another person physical harm; interferes with a student's education; so severe and pervasive intimidated or threatens educational environment.
 - Includes but is not limited to a pattern of unwanted teasing, threats, name-calling, intimidation, harassment, humiliation, hazing, physical attacks, extortion, social exclusion, coercion, spreading of rumors or falsehoods, gossip, stalking, or the use of electronic equipment on school property or using school equipment to harass or intimidate.

- ❖ Parents/guardians/persons that have control of charge of students who are victims of bullying or have been found to commit bullying will be notified via telephone/personal conference or letter/referral. Staff members are expected to report instances of these behaviors to the school principal or designated administrator immediately so that administrators may investigate them in a timely manner. Employees, volunteers, students and parents/guardians/other persons that have control of students may report or otherwise provide information on bullying activity to a school administrator anonymously if they choose.
- ❖ No school employee will retaliate against any person who reports bullying behaviors. Students who retaliate against others for reports of bullying behavior are subject to discipline, which may include enhanced consequences. Students who knowingly file a false report of bullying will also be disciplined.
- ❖ Upon a finding by a Disciplinary Hearing Officer that a student in grades six (6) through twelve (12) has committed the offense of bullying for the **third time in a school year**, such student shall be assigned to an alternative education program. If a student is found to have engaged in bullying or in physical assault or battery of another person on the school bus, a meeting shall be scheduled involving the parent or guardian of the student and appropriate school district officials to form a school bus behavior contract for the student. Such a contract shall provide for progressive age-appropriate discipline and restrictions for student misconduct on the bus. Contract provisions may include but shall not be limited to assigned seating, ongoing parental involvement, and suspension from riding the bus. This does not in any way limit or restrict the school system's ability to take additional action, including imposing disciplinary sanctions through and including permanent expulsion from the school system, as a result of the student's behavior.
- ❖ Any alleged victim of harassment or bullying may request to have his/her schedule changed, subject to the principal's approval. See also Policy JBCD, Transfers and Withdrawals, for more information about transfer options for victims of violent offenses. See Policy JAA, Equal Educational Opportunities for Students, for more information regarding harassment. Staff members should report instances of behaviors referenced in this Rule to school administration within a reasonable time period so that administrators may review them in a timely manner. At the conclusion of the investigation, any written report required by Policy JAA, Equal Education Opportunities for Students, will be forwarded to the Director of Student Services as the Compliance Coordinator's designee.
- ❖ Bullying applies to acts which occur on school property or through school technology resources, and also applies to acts which occur through the use of electronic communication, whether or not that communication originated on school property or with school technology resources, if the electronic communication:
 - Is directed specifically at students or school personnel,
 - Is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school, AND

- Creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.
- ❖ Electronic communication includes but is not limited to any transfer of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system. (See (05)).
- ❖ It is beneficial for the school to be notified of community situations that may impact the school environment. However, individuals who are subject to harassment, bullying or “cyberbullying” in the community may contact their local police department for action, as the school may have no jurisdiction to discipline (OSS, ISS, etc.) for events in the community.

Rule 30. Other - Attendance Related

Repeated or excessive unexcused absences or tardies; including failure to report to class, skipping class, leaving school without authorization, or failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions.

▪ Level 1

- "Skipping" or missing any class or activity or any portion of a class or activity, or being tardy for a class or activity for which he or she is enrolled without a valid excuse;
 - Leave school grounds during the course of the regularly scheduled school day without the permission of a parent and school principal or designee. Students must follow the established procedures for checking in or out of school.
 - Failure to attend detention, Saturday school or ISS
- ❖ It should be noted that O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.1 states that any parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge of a child or children that accrues five (5) unexcused absences during one school year will be deemed to have violated Code section 20-2-690.1 and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to fines, imprisonment, community services, or any combination of these penalties.

Rule 31. Other – Dress Code Violation

Violation of school dress code that includes standards for appropriate school attire.

- ❖ Students in the school system are expected to dress and groom themselves in such a way as to reflect neatness, cleanliness and safety. All students shall dress appropriately so as not to disrupt or interfere with the educational program or the orderly operation of the school.
 - ❖ Designated dress involving school activities approved by the principal shall be acceptable. The principal or other duly authorized school official shall determine whether any particular mode of dress or grooming results in a violation of the spirit and/or the intent of this rule.
-
- Non-invasive and non-suggestive clothing, jewelry, book bags or other articles of personal appearance.
 - Pursuant to local dress codes, dress code violations for Level 1 may include but are not limited to bare feet; trousers, slacks, shorts worn below waist level; no belt; clothing that is excessively baggy or tight; skirts or shorts that are shorter than mid-thigh; sunglasses worn inside the building; hats, caps, hoods, sweatbands and bandanas or other headwear worn inside school building
 - Invasive or suggestive clothing, jewelry book bags or other articles of personal appearance.
 - Pursuant to local dress codes, dress code violations for may include but are not limited to depiction of profanity, vulgarity, obscenity or violence; promote the use or abuse of tobacco, alcohol or drugs; creates a threat to the health and safety of other students; creates a significant risk of disruption to the school environment; clothing worn in such a manner so as to reveal underwear, cleavage or bare skin; spaghetti straps, strapless tops, halter tops, see-through or mesh garments or other clothing that is physically revealing, provocative or contains sexually suggestive comment
 - Invasive or suggestive clothing, jewelry, book bags or other articles of personal appearance.

Rule 32. Academic Dishonesty

Receiving or providing unauthorized assistance on classroom projects, assignments or exams

❖ Honor Code Violation

□ The expectation is that each student will be honest and submit his/her own work. Cheating, plagiarism and other Honor Code violations are strictly prohibited. Examples of violations of this rule include, but are not limited to:

- Copying or "borrowing" from another source and submitting it as one's own work
- Seeking or accepting unauthorized assistance on tests, projects or other assignments
- Fabricating data or resources
- Providing or receiving test questions in advance without permission
- Working collaboratively with other students when individual work is expected

▪ Level 1

- Intentional receiving or providing of unauthorized assistance on classroom projects, assessments and assignments
 - May include but is not limited to failure to cite sources

▪ Level 2

- Intentional plagiarism or cheating on a minor classroom assignment or project
 - Includes but is not limited to Intentional dishonesty on minor classroom projects, assignments, homework, etc.

▪ Level 3

- Intentional plagiarism or cheating on a major exam, statewide assessment or project or the falsification of school records (including forgery)
 - Includes but is not limited to cheating on major exams, statewide assessments or other state mandated academic work;
 - Includes the falsification of school records; forgery;
- Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on academic dishonesty **three (3) or more times during the same school year.**

Rule 33. Student Incivility

Insubordination or disrespect to staff members or other students; includes, but is not limited to, refusal to follow school staff member instructions, use of vulgar or inappropriate language, and misrepresentation of the truth.

- **Level 1**
 - Failure to comply with instructions or the inadvertent use of inappropriate language.
 - May include but is not limited to general disrespect for school staff or students;
 - Profanity;
 - Failure to follow instructions
- **Level 2**
 - Blatant insubordination or the use of inappropriate language directed towards school staff or peers; intentional misrepresentation of the truth.
 - Profanity or obscene language directed towards school staff;
 - Issuing false reports on other students;
 - Insubordination
- **Level 3**
 - Blatant and repeated insubordination or intentional misrepresentation of the truth; Level 3 should be used for students who display a pattern of violating the school policy related to student incivility.
 - Issuing false reports on school staff;
 - Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on student incivility **three (3) or more times during the same school year.**

Rule 34. Other – Possession of Unapproved Items

The use or possession of any unauthorized item disruptive to the school environment. **(Note: The use of fireworks or incendiary devices must be coded as Arson.)**

- **Level 1**
 - The possession of any unauthorized item. Does not include the possession of fireworks, matches, toy weapons, or other items that can be construed as dangerous.
 - Includes but is not limited to possession of toys, mobile devices, gadgets, personal items, gum, candy, etc.; includes possession of pepper spray
- **Level 2**
 - The use of any unauthorized item (i.e. toys, mobile devices, or gadgets). Does not include the possession of fireworks, matches, toy weapons, or other items that can be construed as dangerous
 - Includes but is not limited to use of toys, mobile devices, gadgets, personal items, etc.; includes the use of pepper spray without injury
- **Level 3**
 - The use or possession of unauthorized items including but not limited to toy guns or other items that can be construed as dangerous or harmful to the learning environment; Includes the possession of matches, lighters, incendiary devices or fireworks. The use of matches, lighters, incendiary devices or fireworks should be coded as Arson; Level 3 should be used for students who display a pattern of violating the school policy related to unapproved items.
 - Includes but are not limited to matches, lighters, or the possession of fireworks, bullets, stink bombs, CO2 cartridges; includes the use of pepper spray with injury

Rule 35. Gang-Related

Any group of three or more students with a common name or common identifying signs, symbols, tattoos, graffiti, or attire which engage in criminal gang activity (O.C.G.A. § 16-15-3)

- ❖ **Definition** A “gang” is defined as any group of three or more people with a common name or common identifying signs, symbols, tattoos, graffiti, attire or other distinguishing characteristics which engage in “criminal gang activity” as described in O.C.G.A. 16-15-3(1)(A)-(J) (including but not limited to the commission, attempted commission, conspiracy to commit, or solicitation, coercion, or intimidation of another person to commit offenses such as, but not limited to, rape, aggravated sexual battery, violence, possession or use of a weapon, or trespass or damage to property resulting from any act of gang related painting on, tagging, marking on, writing on, or creating any form of graffiti on school or personal property).

- Wearing or possessing gang-related apparel; communicating either verbally or nonverbally to convey membership or affiliation with a gang
 - Possession or wearing of gang-related clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, or using colors to convey gang membership or affiliation;
 - Gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc. to convey gang membership or affiliation;
 - Committing any other illegal act or other violation of school policies in connection with gang-related activity.
- The solicitation of others for gang membership, the defacing of school or personal property with gang-related symbols or slogans, threatening or intimidating on behalf of a gang, the requirement or payment for protection or insurance through a gang. Level 3 should be used for students who display a pattern of violating the school policy related to gang activity.
 - Soliciting students for gang membership;
 - Tagging or defacing school or personal property with symbols or slogans intended to convey or promote membership or affiliation in any gang;
 - Requiring payment for protection, insurance, otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity;
 - Inciting other students to intimidate or to act with physical violence upon any other person related to gang activity.

10 days OSS; SRO Referral; Tribunal Hearing; Contact Student Services

Rule 36. Repeated Offenses

Collection of offenses not previously assigned a state reportable action that occurs on a single or across multiple school days that leads to a state reportable disciplinary action

Rule 40. Other Non-Disciplinary Incident

This code is used exclusively for the reporting Physical Restraint. When the INCIDENT TYPE = '40', then the ACTION CODE must = '95' for Physical Restraint. Do not report a Teacher ID when the Incident Code is "Other Non-Disciplinary Incident."

Rule 42. Electronic Smoking Device

Any device used to deliver nicotine, or any other substance intended for human consumption that may be used by a person to simulate smoking through inhalation of vapor or aerosol from the device. Such devices include those manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, electronic hookah, vape pen, electronic nicotine delivery system or any cartridge or other component of the device or related product.

- **Level 1**
 - Unintentional possession of an electronic smoking device
- **Level 2**
 - Use or knowledgeable possession of an electronic smoking device
- **Level 3**
 - Distribution and/or selling of electronic smoking devices: Level 3 may be used for students that violate school policy on electronic smoking devices three or more times during the same school year.

Rule 44. Violence Against a Teacher

Intentional physical attack against a teacher with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in severe injuries or any physical attack against a teacher. Violence against other school personnel should be reported as Battery (03) – Level 3. **Contact SRO and Student Services**

- **Level 3**
 - Intentional physical attack against a teacher with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in severe injuries or any physical attack against a teacher. (Violence against other school personnel should be reported as Battery (03) – Level 3.
 - 10 days OSS and hearing referral

NOTE: These disciplinary measures are not inclusive and as such, a student committing an act of misconduct listed or not listed will nevertheless be subject to the discretionary authority of the administrator.

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