

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like to make you aware of two (2) new policies in our school handbooks for the 2019-20 school year.

First, our attendance policy has changed. Each student will not be allowed to miss more than eight (8) days per semester for non-school activities. This is a change from the previous ten (10) days per semester

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance to school is required by law and is necessary for the success of students in school. Students who do not comply with the law will face consequences defined by the Grady County District Attorney's office.

Regular school attendance is essential for the student to make the most of his or her education, to benefit from teacher-led activities; to build each day's learning on the previous day's, and to grow as an individual. A student must be present in three (3) class periods in a school day to be eligible to participate in a school sponsored activity that day or night.

In accordance with the policy of the board of education, each student is required to attend each class a minimum of 90% of the time in order to receive credit for that class. The maximum number of absences for students during any semester shall be 8. Students will not be allowed to make up absences by attending night school.

Absences are divided into two categories. Activity absences are school related absences such as field trips, contests, organizational meetings, etc. Each student is allowed 10 activity absences per school year. A student may petition the Ninnekah Board of Education, in writing, for up to 5 additional activity absences. A non-activity absence is any absence that is not school related. Each student is allowed 8 non-activity absences per semester. A student will not receive credit for any class in which they do not meet these attendance requirements.

Secondly, our cell phone policy has also changed. Students may be allowed to possess a cell phone during school hours, but may only use them in cases of DIRE EMERGENCY (threat or imminent bodily harm, injury, or death). Any other usage is considered unauthorized.

NINNEKAH CELL PHONE POLICY

We believe that it is our responsibility to provide classrooms free from disruptions. We also realize that most teenagers have and use cell phones. We believe that cell phones have a legitimate purpose and can provide a safe link between parents and students. We further believe that the school is not the place for improper use of the cell phone. With this in mind, the following discipline policy for control of unauthorized use of cell phones in Ninnekah Schools.

Cell phone use (including texting, social media, phone calls, apps, or photographing) during the school day for any reason other than DIRE EMERGENCY (threat or imminent bodily harm, injury, or death) is unauthorized and will not be tolerated. Students will not be allowed to use a cell phone in class, hallways, restrooms, the gym or other areas of the campus without the permission of a teacher or an administrator. This policy is in effect during normal school hours for Ninnekah Middle School. Violations will result in the following:

1st offense: Cell phone will be taken and returned after student writes this policy 25 times.

2nd offense: Cell phone will be taken and returned after student writes this policy 50 times.

3rd offense: Principal will assign penalty as deemed appropriate.

Students that choose to bring their phones to school may be required to turn their cell phones in to the designated area, before class. The student will pick up their phone at the end of the class period. If a student is to leave early, whether on a field trip, activity, or parent checkout, then they may retrieve their cell phone before leaving school.

As always, should you have questions, feel free to contact any school administrator.

Thanks for your continued support and cooperation in the education of your child.