

DYER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Do Your Best and Be Your Best Everyday



Dyer County High School has a proud history of excellence in academics, athletics, leadership, community service, as well as numerous other areas. Such excellence does not simply “happen,” but is a result of the diligent efforts of many individuals, including students and staff members. By encouraging both students and staff to set challenging goals and strive to achieve their PERSONAL BEST and by celebrating the successes of one another when this PERSONAL BEST is achieved, DCHS has and will continue to maintain its strong education reputation.

When you enter Dyer County High School, you become an important part of the school. Your success at DCHS depends largely upon you, your application to your studies, your attitude, and your behavior. Your actions affect the total school program and, to a large extent, reflect your future, your home, your school, and your community. The reputation of your school depends upon your conduct and behavior. All students are expected to display appropriate behavior at all times. Also, you are expected to show respect for all employees of Dyer County High School. The school is responsible for the student’s conduct on all school property, therefore, any staff member of DCHS has the authority to discipline any student at school or at any school function when necessary.

Personal Best – *Challenge yourself to be your best and to always do the right thing*

Respect – *Be considerate of our community*

Integrity – *Do the right thing when nobody is looking*

Determination – *Persevere through challenges*

Excellence – *Go beyond the expectation*

DYER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

HANDBOOK/CALENDAR

2023-2024

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DYER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

School Colors: Orange and White with Black Accents

School Mascot: Choctaws

Address: 1000 West Main Street, Newbern, TN 38059-1145

Phone: 731-627-2229, 731-627-2233, 731-627-2836

Office Fax: 731-627-2152

Cafeteria Phone: 731-627-2194

DYER COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Ms. Cheryl Mathis, Director of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Jeremy Gatlin, Chairman

Mr. Keith Anderson

Mr. Sherrell Armstrong

Mr. John David Caldwell

Ms. LeAnn Childress

Mr. Steve Dodds

Ms. Tara Gibson

Mr. Andrew Grills

Ms. Patricia McCreight

Mr. Mike McLaughlin

DCHS ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Laura Brimm, Principal [laurabrimm@dcchoctaws.net]

Mr. David Armstrong, Assistant Principal [davidarmstrong@dcchoctaws.net]

Mr. Chris Parker, Assistant Principal [chrisparker@dcchoctaws.net]

Ms. Stephanie Sanders, Assistant Principal [stephaniesanders@dcchoctaws.net]

WEB ADDRESS: www.dyercs.net

DCHS BELL SCHEDULE

1 st Block	8:00 - 9:20
2 nd Block	9:27 - 10:20
3 rd Block	10:27 - 12:07
	Lunch 1 11:07 - 11:27
4 th Lunch	Lunch 2 11:27 - 11:47
	Lunch 3 11:47 - 12:07
5 th Block	12:14 - 1:34
6 th Block	1:41 - 3:00

Break and lunch will be on a rotational schedule.

2023 - 2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 24	New Teacher Orientation	Nov. 7	<u>End of 4 ½ weeks</u>	March 18-22	Spring Break
25-28	Teacher Inservice	10	Progress Reports	29	Good Friday – No School
31	Teacher Inservice	20-24	Thanksgiving Break	April 2	Report Cards
Aug. 1	Freshmen First Day – Students Dismissed @ 11:00 am – Buses Run/No Lunch Served Upper Classmen Pick Up Schedules 12:00-3:00	Dec. 14	<u>Final Exams</u>	23	<u>End of 4 ½ weeks</u>
		15	<u>Final Exams</u>	26	Progress Reports
Aug. 2	First Full Day for ALL Students		<u>End of 2nd 9-weeks</u>	May 17	Graduation 7:00 pm
Aug. 29	<u>End of 4 ½ weeks</u>		School Dismissed @ 11:00 am	21	<u>Final Exams</u>
Sept. 1	Progress Reports		Buses Run/No Lunch Served	22	<u>Final Exams</u>
4	Labor Day Holiday	18– Jan. 1	Winter Break		<u>End of 4th 9-weeks</u>
8	Fair Day – No School for Students	Jan. 2	Teacher Inservice		Last day for Students
	Teacher Inservice	3	Classes Resume for Students		Students Dismissed @ 11:00 am
19	Parent/Teacher Conference (3:30 – 6:30)	9	Report Cards		Buses Run/No Lunch Served
28	<u>Mid-Term Exams</u>	15	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – No School	23	Teacher Inservice
29	<u>Mid-Term Exams</u>	Feb. 7	<u>End of 4 ½ weeks</u>	27	Memorial Day
	<u>End of 1st 9-weeks</u>	8	Parent/Teacher Conference (3:30 – 6:30)	30	Report Cards may be picked up at the high school from 9:00-11:00 am
Oct. 2-6	Fall Break		Progress Reports		
17	Report Cards	19	Presidents’ Day Holiday – No School		
24	Senior ACT Retake	March 12	Junior ACT		
		March 14	<u>Mid-Term Exams</u>		
		15	<u>Mid-Term Exams</u>		
			<u>End of 3rd 9-weeks</u>		

ATTENDANCE

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

Enrolling students who did not register in the spring should be accompanied by a parent/guardian. The following information is needed: birth certificate, social security number, medical/vaccination records, transfer papers, report card from last school, and proof of residence. Students register for courses for the next year in the spring and are scheduled by computer. Students are guaranteed placement in required courses, but not in overloaded electives. Elective requests are not guaranteed. Schedules will not be changed after 3 school days unless special circumstances exist.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students transferring to DCHS must be on target for graduation. They must earn 8 of 9 credits their senior year unless special circumstances exist. Students expelled or suspended from another system will not be accepted. T.C.A. 49-6-3401 After a student has enrolled in a non-county school, he/she will not be permitted to transfer during the school year to a county school, unless there is a change in residence of the student's parents or guardian. County residents who have enrolled in non-county schools will be eligible for admission to the county system only at the beginning of the school year. Students are not to assume that because they do not live with their parents, are responsible for their own expenses, and/or are not claimed on parents' tax returns, that they are considered independent status and should qualify for automatic school admission. 18-year-olds who do not reside with parents are usually not accepted. Appeals must be submitted in writing.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LAW

A student must attend school until his/her eighteenth birthday unless:

1. He/she has graduated, or
2. He/she is enrolled in an approved course of instruction leading to the GED
3. He/she is enrolled in a home school.

Students who have reached the age of 18 must have regular attendance. Poor attendance that is not supported by an adequate excuse shall result in the student being dropped from the roll. Poor grades may also result in the 18-year-old being dropped. Re-admission will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

All parents/guardians should call the office between 7:15-10:00 am on the day of the student's absence. A note from the parent with current date, dates of absence, reasons for the absence, and phone number where parent can be reached is required upon the student's return. The student must present the note to the office before being admitted to class. **If a student has three (3) or more consecutive absences, a doctor, court, or funeral note may be required for the absences to be excused. A parent note may not be used to excuse three (3) or more consecutive absences. After five (5) parent notes, all other parent notes will be unexcused.**

MAKEUP WORK

Students will have the opportunity to make up missed work; however, it is the *student's* responsibility to contact teachers and arrange for make-up work in each class.

ALLOWABLE EXCUSES

Absences shall be classified as either excused or unexcused as determined by principal/designee. All excused absences must be documented with a written note from a parent/guardian. Students will be allowed five **(5) total excused** absences per year with a parent note. You have five school days from the date of the absence to turn in a parent note. Excused absences are as follows: personal illness, death in immediate family, extreme weather conditions, religious observations, debilitating illness of immediate family member, or circumstances that, in the judgment of principal/designee, create situations over which the student has no control. **If a student has three (3) or more consecutive absences, a doctor, court, or funeral note may be required for the absences to be excused. A parent note may not be used to excuse three (3) or more consecutive absences. After five (5) parent notes, all other parent notes will be unexcused.** A total of ten (10) unexcused absences for students age 18 or older may result in withdrawal from school. Excessive unexcused absences will result in truancy proceedings.

COLLEGE VISITS

Students are allowed one college visit their junior year and two college visits their senior year (Additional days may be approved by the principal). Written verification from the college must be turned in to the attendance office when the student returns to school.

DRIVER'S LICENSE RESTRICTIONS-ATTENDANCE

The Department of Safety will deny a license or permit for the operation of a motor vehicle to any person under the age of eighteen whom:

1. Does not at the time of application for a driver's license present a diploma, or
2. Is not enrolled and making satisfactory progress in a course leading to the GED certificate or high school diploma (must be passing 3 subjects), or
3. Does not have satisfactory attendance in a secondary school in Tennessee or in some other state.

A student under 18 who applies for a license must provide proof of satisfactory attendance from DCHS. If a student is under age 18 and has a driver's license, he/she must maintain satisfactory attendance. If the student misses 10 consecutive unexcused days or a total of 15 unexcused days per semester, the State Department of Safety will revoke the student's driver's license. All suspensions and expulsions are counted as unexcused days.

CHECK IN/OUT POLICY

Students arriving late to school must report to the attendance office before going to class. After three unexcused check in's, a student will be assigned detention or other disciplinary action. Excessive tardiness may also result in ISS and/or suspension of on campus driving privileges. No student will leave school prior to regular dismissal hours except with the approval of principal/designee. Before a student, regardless of age, will be given permission to leave school, the parent/guardian must call the attendance secretary for approval. Early dismissal request should be made for crucial and unavoidable situations that cannot be taken care of after school. A student must not leave school at any time without permission. To do so will result in in-school suspension or alternative school. After five attendance events during a school year, parents/guardians will be required to check their children out in person. An attendance event is an absence, a check-in or a check-out from school. An event is missing any part of a day or a whole day. No student will be sent from school during school hours to perform errands or act as messengers.

TARDY TO SCHOOL

Students arriving late must report to the attendance office before going to class. An unexcused tardy will result in detention, or other disciplinary action. Excessive tardiness may also result in suspension of on campus driving privileges. Excessive tardiness will be reported to the Truancy Officer.

LATE TO CLASS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Students arriving late to a classroom between class changes will receive a detention. Excessive tardiness may also result in other disciplinary action.

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Chronic Absenteeism is defined by ESSA as missing 10% or more of a school year. When a student misses 3 days of school, excused or unexcused, a letter regarding the importance of school attendance will be sent to the parent/guardian. All absences, excused or unexcused, count toward chronic absenteeism.

TRUANCY

Truancy is defined as an unexcused absence for an entire school day, a portion of the day, or a portion of any class or activity during the scheduled school day. Students may lose on campus driving privileges for excessive unexcused absences and have discipline assigned. Once a student reaches (3) unexcused absences, a Tier I meeting will be scheduled, and a 3-day letter will be given to the parent/guardian. An attendance contract will be initiated in efforts to improve school attendance. If a student's attendance reaches (5) unexcused absences, a Tier II meeting will be scheduled. An assessment will be conducted and a 5-day letter will be given to the parent/guardian. If a student's attendance continues to decline, and the student's unexcused absences reach 10 days, then a Tier III meeting will be scheduled. The student will be sent to Truancy Board or Juvenile Court to address the student's attendance.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/FIELD TRIPS

It is school policy that students may not be allowed to participate in scheduled extracurricular activities (band, sports, social functions, etc.) or field trips if they are not present at school for at least 3½ hours on the day of the event. Also, students may not be allowed to attend or participate in extracurricular activities or field trips based on school discipline, grades, and attendance. **Students who accumulate 5 unexcused absences in a quarter grading period (Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4) will be ineligible for participation in any extracurricular activity/field trip for the following quarter grading period (Quarter 4 attendance will affect Quarter 1 eligibility for the following school year.)** Students who are in alternative placement, who are suspended out of school, or who are pending a disciplinary hearing are not allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities or field trips during the suspension time. Students may not be allowed to participate in school-sponsored field trips or extracurricular activities if they are failing a course and/or they have discipline issues.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This handbook is provided to supply information to you and your parents or guardians about our system; therefore, I request that both you and your parents or guardians read this booklet completely. If there are any questions about DCHS, please contact your principal or me.

Mrs. Cheryl Mathis, Director

PEANUT FREE SCHOOLS

All schools in the Dyer County School System are peanut free schools. The following items are not allowed at any time: peanut butter, snacks containing peanuts, products made with peanuts, or any item cooked in peanut oil.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

Students arriving on campus must enter the building upon arrival. Students will not be allowed to sit in cars or stand in the parking area. Students leaving campus must do so immediately. Loitering in the commons, gymnasium and or parking lots before or after school may result in disciplinary action. Student pick-up/drop-off may occur only in the front of the school. Do not park on the shoulders or the driveway around the school.

BUS STUDENTS/CAR RIDERS – 7:00 am – 3:30 pm

STUDENTS UTILIZING THE DCHS PARKING LOT

7:30 am – 3:15 pm

BACK GATE will be closed Monday – Friday 8:30 am.– 2:00 pm

The Dyer County School System will not be responsible for the care, custody, supervision, or control of students before the opening times or after the closing times as stated above. When unforeseen events cause postponements or changes in bus schedules or school closings, parents are responsible for monitoring announcements on the official designated radio station, WASL, for changes in the schedule. You may also check the Dyer County

Facebook page and the Dyer County website www.dycrcs.net.

ENTRANCE TO BUILDING

All students must enter the building through the following doors: Bus ramp doors, student entrance doors, or front doors. All other doors are for emergency use only.

STUDENT DRIVERS

Student drivers must register their vehicle(s) and obtain a parking tag with the office before they can legally drive on school property. Any student driving to school must purchase a parking tag for \$15.00 and park in the assigned parking space. If your parking spot is occupied, report the license plate number to the office immediately. Students who park out of their assigned place, drive recklessly, or loiter on the parking lot, are subject to disciplinary action. Student drivers must present their driver's license when purchasing a parking permit. Any student driving on campus without a permit may be disciplined by the administration. Vehicles without permits may be towed on the second offense at the owners' expense. Lost or stolen parking tags should be reported to the SRO immediately. A replacement tag may be purchased. The DCHS campus speed limit is 15 MPH and all directional arrows on campus must be followed. Students must have administrator/security approval to access the parking lots during school hours. If a vehicle needs to be moved during the school day, advanced administrative approval is required. PLEASE NOTE: DCHS is NOT financially responsible for any vehicular damage that may occur while the vehicle is on campus. However, an accident report can be completed by Newbern Police only to be submitted to the student's private automobile insurer. If the damage is the result of a campus safety or rules violation, the appropriate disciplinary action will be handled by administration.

PARKING FOR HANDICAPPED

Every parking lot has numerous parking spaces available. For ball games and special events, the front entrance is designated to be available for handicapped parking.

AREAS RESTRICTED TO STUDENTS

- Teachers' work rooms
- Theater, stage, dressing rooms, and projection booth (unless supervised by a teacher)
- Custodial areas, technical equipment areas and area behind cafeteria, any roof areas
- Parking lots or cars during school instructional hours
- All areas on campus unsupervised by staff

VISITORS

All visitors must report to the office and may be required to sign the log and receive a visitor's pass. No person shall enter onto the grounds or into the buildings of any school during the hours of student instruction, except students assigned to the school, the staff of the school, parents of students, and other persons with lawful and valid business on the school premises. Visitors must enter the building through the main front door. Anyone entering the building may be scanned with electronic devices.

CAFETERIA

A wide variety of meats, fruits, vegetables, and beverages are offered daily, and students may purchase extra items above the cost of the meal. Breakfast is served daily before school and at the morning breaks when breaks are available. Students bringing meals from home are required to eat in the cafeteria.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

A list of all Dyer County High School clubs and organizations can be found on the school website. www.dchs.dycrcs.net

BREAK

Break may be held in the commons area where breakfast, beverages, and snacks may be purchased. Break is contingent upon student behavior and neatness of the break area. Break may be revoked if students do not police their areas (leave the area untidy), or if conduct is not appropriate. Break is a privilege, not a necessary part of the school day.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES AND/OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Personal Communication Devices (PCD) and personal electronic devices including, but not limited to, cameras, recorders, iPods, smartwatches, Fitbits, Chromebooks, laptops, or iPads may NOT be used during instructional time unless approved for an academic activity by the principal or the principal's designee. This is not intended to discourage the use of these devices for instructional purposes, but to establish parameters and appropriate oversight for their use. Improper use or storage of PCDs and electronic devices may result in confiscation of the device until it can be released directly to a student's parents and/or guardians. Students are prohibited from taking unauthorized photographs or making unauthorized recordings of others at school, on school transportation or at school sponsored events. A student in violation of this policy is subject to related disciplinary action.

WARNING: The taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (commonly called texting, sexting, emailing, etc.) may constitute a CRIME under state and/or federal law. Any person taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs will be reported to law enforcement and/or other appropriate state or federal agencies, which may result in arrest, criminal prosecution, and LIFETIME inclusion on sexual offender registries.

THREATS BY ELECTRONIC DEVICE

A student who transmits by an electronic device any communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee and the transmission of such threat creates actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative intervention will be disciplined, which may include suspension, expulsion and/or appearing before the school system's Discipline Hearing Authority. TCA 49-6-4216 (a)(2)(C)

Also, transmission of implied threats will result in disciplinary action.

CELL PHONES/SMARTWATCHES

Cell phones/smartwatches may not be used in the instructional setting. Cell phones must be placed in a bag, backpack, purse, locker, Chromebook bag, etc. during instructional time, which is any time during the school day except for break, lunch, and between classes. Smartwatches may not be used as a cell phone during instructional time. Earbuds are only permitted during instructional time when deemed necessary for educational instruction. Failure to follow cell phone/smartwatch guidelines will be considered insubordination and will result in disciplinary actions. Refusal to surrender the device to a staff member will be considered insubordination and will result in disciplinary actions. Reoccurring cell phone/smartwatch violations or inappropriate usage such as videos, pictures, music, etc., will result in further disciplinary actions and may result in the cell phone/smartwatch being banned from school.

COMPUTER USAGE

The Dyer County School System is pleased to offer computer, network and Internet access to our students. While our intent is to make access available to further educational goals and objectives, students and employees may find ways to access other materials as well. We believe that the benefits from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any possible disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians are responsible for setting and conveying standards that their children should follow on the Internet just as they

do on the use of all media information sources such as television, telephones, movies, and radio. Any violation of the Network and Internet Rules may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or expulsion. When applicable, law enforcement may be involved.

Network and Internet Rules

- Never share your password
- Never tamper with the technology equipment in your school
- Obscene or offensive materials must not be accessed or transmitted
- Accessing personal e-mail is strictly prohibited
- Software is not to be installed unless authorized by the Technology Department
- Commercial or illegal use is prohibited
- Attempting to tamper with other people's data or to gain unauthorized access to accounts or files on the network or Internet is strictly prohibited
- Remote Access Software used to connect to devices on the Dyer County School system network is not allowed unless approved by the Technology Coordinator
- All files, messages and network communications are subject to Dyer County School System review and archival
- Personal information shall not be included in any network transmission
- Bypassing the Internet Content Filter using proxies or any other means is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate disciplinary action and loss of computer, network and Internet privileges
- Any action that violates Board policy or public law is prohibited

CLOSE CONTACT

Public displays of affection are not appropriate in the school setting and may result in disciplinary action.

VALUABLES

Valuables and/or money should not be brought to school. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

ATHLETICS

Dyer County High School is proud of its athletics program. Although academics are of primary importance, an excellent athletic program in itself can be a very meaningful learning experience. We believe that athletics enhance a student athlete's opportunity to learn. Our goal in athletics is to help the student athlete reach his or her potential academically, athletically, and to become a more productive member of society.

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

The athletic department encourages participation in athletics. However, such participation is a privilege, and continued violations of school or team rules may result in dismissal from the athletic program. No one is guaranteed a place on any team, nor guaranteed any minimum amount of participation time. Participation time is at the discretion of the athletic coach and his or her determinations are final.

ATHLETIC CONDUCT

Student athletes are to maintain good sportsmanship, give respectful attention to classroom activities, and show respect for other students and faculty. Athletes will have many opportunities to represent their parents, their school, and their team. As a member of an athletic team, students are expected to be properly groomed. Appearance, expression, and actions are important attributes of an athlete. Student athletes are not to use tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs.

ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

Equipment issued to the student athlete remains the property of Dyer County High School. The equipment is in a loan status and effort should be given to insure the equipment is well taken care of. Any loss of equipment is the financial responsibility of the student athlete.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Dyer County School System does not carry accident insurance on students however, student accident insurance will be made available for families to purchase for the student on a voluntary basis. Coverage will be secondary to other insurance plans families might have and will be scheduled or limited in order to keep the premium at an affordable rate. All students participating in athletics, cheerleading, and band are encouraged to purchase this insurance with the following exception: If the school is provided proof that the student already has full insurance coverage that will apply to possible injuries received in an athletic or other school sponsored event.

***Students who are interested in participating in college sports should start the certification process early, (NCAA Clearing House) usually by the end of their junior year.

Information concerning the certification process is available in both the School Counselor's office and the Athletic Director's office. All players qualifying for each team must adhere to the rules as set forth by the Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association.

ATHLETIC COACHES AND DIRECTORS

Football *

David Whittle

Basketball *

Derek McCord

Baseball *

Ben Glasgow

Cross-Country *

Wendi Roberson

Track

Justin Burns

Volleyball/Softball

Shanna O'Bright

Bowling

Eddie Sims

Tennis

Marjorie Sanderson

Football Cheer

Jill Powers

Coed Cheer *

Erin Meeks

Dance

Amy Armstrong

Golf

Eddie Sims

Soccer

Cody Williams

Band *

Justin Brown

* Denotes organizations with a booster club

DRESS CODE

Students shall dress in a clean, neat and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the operation of the school. Students should be well groomed at all times. Hair should be neat, clean, and worn out of the eyes. Sufficient underclothing is required. All dresses, skirts, and pants should be at least knee length for males and females even if they are worn over leggings, jeans, or pants.

The application or wearing of clothing that is considered inappropriate:

1. Any clothing advertising or promoting tobacco, alcoholic beverages, drugs, violence or profanity, or inappropriate phrases or pictures
2. Clothing with low-cut underarm areas, low necklines, or see-through
3. Clothing or accessories which display words or images that are deemed to offend other students on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, handicapping conditions, etc. (e.g.: KKK slogans, Malcolm X, Rebel flags. etc.)
4. Clothing worn wrong side out or excessively worn or torn
5. Excessively large or excessively tight clothing, sagging, sleepwear, pajamas, or house slippers
6. Sundresses without jackets, tank tops, crop tops, midriff shirts, skorts, short-shorts, cut-offs, sunglasses, fishnet tights/hose/stockings, gloves, or pants/jeans with holes above the knees
7. Shirts, blouses, and dresses that do not cover the abdomen, back, and shoulders
8. Chains, ropes, and spikes will not be allowed at school
9. Excessively large shirts or pants, baggy and/or sagging pants showing undergarments
10. Gang interpreted clothing (with interpretative assistance from local law enforcement agency)
11. Headgear of any kind (hats, caps, headbands, cat ears, shower caps, bandannas, sweatbands, bonnets, sweatshirt hoods, costume head gear, etc.) Any headgear worn inside the building may be confiscated.
12. Trench coats (Trench coats are not to be worn inside the building.)

While not considered student dress, the following can cause distraction to the normal educational process and may not be allowed:

- *Fingernails which are excessively long
- *Tooth coverings (grills or fangs)
- *Blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, toys, fans, etc.

The principal/designee has the authority to determine if any attire is improper at school on the grounds that it interferes with the teaching-learning process or that it is prejudicial to good order at school. The DCHS dress code applies to all extracurricular events and functions. Violations may result in discipline.

Students in violation of dress code will be asked to change their clothes. They will remain in In School Suspension (ISS) until clothes are made available.

DISCIPLINE

One of education's most important lessons is that of discipline. Though it is not a subject in the strictest sense of the word, discipline is the training that develops strong character, self-control and greater efficiency. It is the key factor in improving conduct and consideration of others. This discipline code is in effect for the normal school day and at all extracurricular activities.

All staff has the right to correct any student and to expect a proper response when doing so. Failure to identify one's self correctly upon request may result in punishment.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Each teacher is responsible for discipline in his/her own classroom and is to make every effort to solve problems on an individual basis except MAJOR SCHOOL OFFENSES. Teachers usually follow these procedures:

1. WARNING – explanation of rules may serve as first warning
2. Loss of break privileges
3. Conference with parent or guardian (verbal or written)
4. Referral to administration for possible assignment of detention, ISS, suspension, or alternative school
5. Disciplinary Hearing Authority with parent present

***All discipline should be documented before the next disciplinary step is taken; however, behaviors of a more serious nature may result in more severe responses with possible discipline steps being skipped.

Examples of inappropriate behavior:

- Failure to do assignments/carry out directions/turn in required work
- Classroom disturbances/disruptive behavior
- Classroom tardiness
- Possession of toys or games
- Use of disrespectful language/profanity
- Close contact
- Misconduct during assembly, in cafeteria, or in the restroom, etc.
- Insubordination
- Forgery or counterfeit money
- Cutting class
- Gambling on school property
- Smoking, use or possession of tobacco products, tobacco paraphernalia or vaping products.
- Being in unauthorized area of building or grounds without permission

- Fighting on school property
- Threats toward any individual
- Inappropriate use of electronic device
- Possession of weapons
- Assault and/or battery
- Vandalism
- Stealing
- Possession of stolen property
- Possession of over-the-counter medication
- Furnishing, selling, possession of unauthorized substances (drug and/or alcohol), and/or drug paraphernalia
- Extortion
- Bomb threat or any other related threat
- Arson
- Other behavior(s) of a more serious nature

*** Students receiving disciplinary measures may not be allowed to attend extracurricular activities.

DETENTION

Detention will be 3:00 – 4:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. No student will be admitted late. Students must sign the detention notice when they report to detention (4-hour notice is given to students to arrange for transportation). Failure to serve detention on the day and time assigned will result in ISS.

BULLYING/INTIMIDATION

It is a violation of Dyer County School Board policy for anyone to bully, intimidate, or create a hostile educational environment for a student. Bullying and intimidation are defined as either physically harming a student or damaging his/her property, or knowingly placing the student in reasonable fear of such, or creating a hostile educational environment. This includes cyberbullying by way of phone, internet, social media, etc. The Dyer County Board of Education has determined that a safe, civil, and supportive environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. In order to maintain that environment, The Dyer County Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, bullying, cyberbullying, intimidation, or any other victimization of students, based on any actual or perceived traits or characteristics. To that end, the Dyer County Board of Education has in place policies and procedures to address incidents of bullying and harassment. This policy includes conduct taking place on school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided transportation, or

at any official school bus stop immediately before boarding and immediately following de-boarding. A substantiated charge against a student may result in corrective or disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

TCA 49-6-4502

HAZING

No initiation or hazing of any form will be tolerated. Hazing by students acting alone or with others is strictly prohibited. Any organization, which permits an initiation to go beyond the scope of activities planned and previously approved, may be suspended by the principal. A student found guilty of hazing may receive punishment ranging from verbal reprimand to suspension and/or expulsion depending on the severity of the offense and the offender's prior record.

TCA 49-2-120

GANG OR HATE-GROUP BEHAVIOR

The wearing of gang/hate group colors, hairstyles, clothing, flashing of signs, fights, or gang graffiti anywhere (lockers or personal belongings) will not be tolerated. Gang or hate-group behavior will be interpreted with assistance from local law enforcement agencies.

VANDALISM

Students destroying school property will be required to pay for damages. Suspension or expulsion may be necessary if a student willfully destroys school property.

FIGHTING

Violence will not be tolerated. The first incidence may result in out-of-school suspension, in-school suspension, and a possible juvenile citation. Second incidence violators may be placed in Alternative School and charges may be filed. Mediation is encouraged and provided by guidance and school administration.

ALCOHOL POLICY

A student found under the influence of, in possession of, or distributing alcohol shall be suspended from school and may appear before the school system's Discipline Hearing Authority.

DRUG POLICY

A student found under the influence of, in possession of, or distributing drugs and/or drug paraphernalia will be suspended from school and will appear before the school system's Discipline Hearing Authority.

DRUG DOG

Canine drug inspections may be expected on any school day. Searches include, but are not limited to, lockers, vehicles and classrooms.

WEAPONS

Weapons are prohibited on a school campus.

TCA 49-6-3401

Weapons are defined as any dangerous instrument or substance, which is capable of inflicting any injury on any person.

TCA 49-6-4202

State law prescribes a maximum penalty of 6 years imprisonment and a fine not to exceed \$3,000 for carrying a weapon (ex. knives, firearms, and explosive weapons) on school property.

TCA 39-17-1309

Mace, pepper spray, gun replicas, pellet guns, BB guns, or any other gun like toys are also prohibited on school property.

ZERO TOLERANCE

Zero Tolerance offenses on school property or any school-sponsored function will result in the student being expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools may modify this expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

Zero tolerance acts are as follows:

1. Unlawful possession of any drug including any controlled substance including THC *TCA 49-6-3401(g)*
2. Battery on a teacher, administrator, school employee, or school resource officer *TCA 49-6-3401(g)*
3. Unauthorized possession on school property of a firearm, as defined in 18U.S.C.921 *TCA 49-6-3401(g)* and or weapons as defined in *TCA 39-17-1309*
4. Threatening mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to *TCA 39-16-517*

DISCIPLINARY DUE PROCESS

When a violation occurs that requires disciplinary actions, the student will be notified of the facts involved, allowed to present his/her case, and allowed to tell his/her side of the story. If the disciplinary action involves long term out of school suspension, expulsion, alternative school, or other school action resulting in appropriate student placement, the parent/guardian will be notified.

It is the principal's discretion to carry any student's case of misconduct before the Dyer County School Disciplinary

Authority, which could lead to expulsion from school. Any student placed in alternative school must fulfill his/her disposition before returning to the assigned school.

SUSPENSION/EXPULSION OF STUDENTS

Any principal, principal-teacher or assistant principal of any public school in this state is authorized to suspend a pupil from attendance at the school, including its sponsored activities, or from riding a school bus, for good and sufficient reasons.

TCA 49-6-3401

On-campus and off-campus behavior may result in the student appearing before the Disciplinary Hearing Board.

Such behaviors include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Drug transmittal
2. Violence, threatened violence, or the transmittal of violent threats in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) against another student or DCHS staff member
3. Vulgar, obscene, or threatening language, in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) directed toward DCHS staff members
4. Vandalism to the personal property of DCHS staff members
5. Gang related activity which could carry over onto the DCHS campus
6. Criminal charges resulting from the students' behavior in the community

SEARCH AND SEIZURE POLICY

Any principal, or his/her designee, having reasonable suspicion, may search any student, place or thing on school property. Any possession by any student during any organized school activity on or off campus, including buses, vehicles of students or visitors and containers or packages, may also be searched if the principal or his/her designee receives information which would cause a reasonable belief that the search will lead to the discovery of:

1. Evidence of any violation of law
2. Evidence of any violation of school rules or regulations or proper standards of student or faculty conduct
3. Any object or substance which, because of its presence, presents an immediate danger of harm or illness to any person

Notice shall be posted in the school parking lot that vehicles parked on school property by students or visitors are subject to search for drugs, drug paraphernalia, or dangerous weapons.

A student using a locker that is the property of the school system does not have the right of privacy in that locker or for its contents. All lockers or other storage areas provided for student use on school premises remain the property of the school system and are provided for the use of students and are subject to inspection, access for maintenance, and search.

Notice shall be posted in each school that lockers and other storage areas are school property and are subject to search.

A student may be subject to physical search, or a student's pocket, purse or other container may be required to be emptied because of the results of a locker search, or because of information received from a teacher, staff member or other student if such action is reasonable to the principal. Phones may be checked in the presence of the owner if deemed necessary. All of the following reasonableness shall be met:

1. A particular student is suspected to have violated policy
2. The search could be expected to yield evidence of the violation of school policy or disclosure of a dangerous weapon or drug
3. The search is in pursuit of legitimate interests of the school in maintaining order, discipline, safety, supervision and education of students
4. The primary purpose of the search is not to collect evidence for a criminal prosecution
5. The search shall be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student, as well as the nature of the infraction alleged to have been committed

TOBACCO AND SYNTHETIC SUBSTANCES POLICY

Dyer County High School is a smoke-free school. The use or possession of tobacco products or tobacco paraphernalia is prohibited. Moreover, the use, possession or distribution of electronic cigarettes, vaping products, vaping paraphernalia, CBD products, and/or synthetic compounds or substances, or any similar substances that either mimic the effect of illegal drugs or are look-alike substances are also strictly prohibited. Offenders may be issued a Juvenile citation in addition to school discipline. Multiple offenses may result in alternative school placement.

GRADUATION

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To meet graduation requirements all students must: met attendance requirements, have satisfactory conduct, meet course and credit requirements, and receive the recommendation of the principal and director of schools. They must also take the ACT or SAT test and pass the U.S. Civics test to be eligible to obtain a high school diploma.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

In order to participate in the graduation ceremony, seniors must meet all graduation requirements, earn a total of 30 credits, and pass eight of nine credits during their senior year. Seniors will only be allowed to participate if all requirements can be completed prior to graduation and they have approval from the school principal. Seniors in alternative school at the time of graduation may not be eligible to walk at the graduation ceremony. Seniors who are chronically absent from school, miss more than 10% of the days enrolled at DCHS, may not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. Students who do not wish to participate in the graduation ceremony shall make this known to the school principal at least five (5) days prior to the date of graduation. Non-participating students will receive their diplomas, or certificates, from the principal's office on the Monday following the graduation ceremony.

Program of Study

English: 4 credits (An English must be taken every year, senior year can be dual enrollment or AP with course prerequisites.)

Mathematics: 4 credits (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, higher level math) A math must be taken every year. Students may take dual enrollment math if they have a 19 on the math portion of the ACT and have met all math prerequisites. Bridge math and SAILS math are offered for seniors without a 19 in math on the ACT. Special Education (SE) students may graduate with 2 credits in Algebra I and 2 credits in Geometry.

Science: 3 credits (Lab Science, Chemistry, Biology). SE students can take Biology and two Lab Sciences.

Social Studies: 3.5 credits (Government, Economics, Personal Finance, World History, US History are all required, Early Post-Secondary Opportunity (EPSO) courses may be substituted.)

Foreign Language: 2 credits (Spanish I, Spanish II)

Lifetime Wellness: 1 credit (Participation in Marching Band and interscholastic athletics may not be substituted for this aspect of the graduation requirements.)

PE: 0.5 credit (Participation in Marching Band, ROTC, and interscholastic athletics may be substituted for this aspect of the graduation requirements.)

Fine Art: 1 credit

Elective Focus: 3 credits in the same field (Ag Sciences, Business Management, EPSOs, Family & Consumer Sciences, Fine Arts, Health Sciences, Humanities, Information Technology, Math/Science, Military Sciences)

Diploma Types

Regular Diploma

A regular high school diploma will be awarded to students who obtain the required number of credits, complete the ACT or SAT as well as pass the U.S. Civics test prior to graduation, and have a satisfactory record of attendance and discipline.

Special Education Diploma

A special education diploma shall be awarded to students with disabilities who have received special education services or supports, made satisfactory progress on an individualized education program (IEP), have a satisfactory record of attendance and conduct, but did not meet the requirements for a regular high school diploma.

Occupational Diploma

An occupational diploma may be awarded to students with disabilities who received special education services or supports, made satisfactory progress on an individualized education program (IEP), and have a satisfactory record of attendance and conduct, but did not meet the requirements for a regular high school diploma. The student must also have completed the occupational diploma Skills, Knowledge, and Experience Mastery Assessment (SKEMA) created by the Tennessee Department of Education and have completed two years of paid or non-paid work experience. The determination that an occupational diploma is the goal for a student with a disability will be made at the conclusion of the

student's tenth grade year or two academic years prior to the expected graduation date.

Alternate Academic Diploma

At the end of their fourth year of high school, students with the most significant cognitive disabilities may earn an alternate academic diploma if they have participated in the high school alternate assessments, earned the prescribed twenty-two credit minimum, received special education services or supports, made satisfactory progress on an IEP, have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct, and have completed a transition assessment(s) that measures, at a minimum, postsecondary education and training, employment, independent living, and community involvement.

GRADUATION HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

A variety of honors and distinctions may be awarded to graduating students meeting state or locally specified criteria. The faculty and staff at Dyer County High School realize that our students work very hard to achieve their academic and community service accomplishments and want our students to be recognized for their accomplishments and achievements. Therefore, DCHS offers seniors the opportunity to earn the following graduation honors and distinctions based on their academic performance.

Academic Distinctions

Summa Cum Laude – Gold Graduation Cord: Students must maintain a 4.0 cumulative grade point average.

Magna Cum Laude – Orange Graduation Cord: Students must maintain a 3.75 – 3.99 cumulative grade point average.

Cum Laude – White Graduation Cord: Students must maintain a 3.5 – 3.74 cumulative grade point average. The students receiving these honors will wear their cords at graduation to recognize their achievements.

State Honors

To graduate with state honors a student must score at or above all the subject area readiness benchmarks on the ACT or obtain an equivalent score on the SAT.

District Distinction

To graduate with district distinction, a student must meet graduation requirements, have at least a 3.0 GPA, and have earned an industry credential promoted by the Department of Education.

Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar

A student shall be recognized as a Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar if they earn a composite score of 19 or higher on the ACT, or an equivalent score on the SAT and earn a capstone industry credential as promoted by the Department of Education. A student who fulfills the requirements of the Tennessee work ethic

distinction program shall also be recognized as a Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar.

State Distinction

A student will be recognized as graduating with “state distinction” by attaining a B or better average and completing 1 of the following:

- Earn an industry credential promoted by the Department of Education
- Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
- Participate in one of the state’s ALL State musical organizations
- Earn statewide recognition or award at a skill- or knowledge-based state tournament, convention, or competition hosted by a statewide student organization, and/or qualify for national recognition by a national student organization.
- Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi Finalist
- Attain a score of thirty-one (31) or higher composite score on the ACT or SAT equivalent
- Attain a score of three or higher on at least two advanced placement (AP) exams
- Successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme: or
- Earn 12 or more semester hours of postsecondary credit

Industry 4.0 Distinction

A student will be recognized with an Industry 4.0 Diploma Distinction if they receive enhanced career counseling, earn nine work-based learning or dual enrollment credits during their junior and senior years of high school, and apply for dual enrollment grants and other necessary financial aid.

Seal of Biliteracy

A student will be recognized with a Seal of Biliteracy if they attain a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. Students receiving this recognition must meet state criteria.

Community Service Distinction

Students who voluntarily complete at least ten hours of community service each semester the student is in attendance at a public high school shall be recognized at their graduation ceremony.

Work Ethic Certificate

Students will be measured in 14 areas of academic and work ethic competencies to earn a work ethic certificate. To be awarded this graduation recognition students must meet the criteria and earn at least 20 points from the proposed rubric.

WorkKeys

Students graduating with a gold or platinum medal on the National Career Readiness Certificate (WorkKeys) shall be recognized at their graduation ceremony.

CHOCTAW SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The faculty and staff at DCHS have a strong belief in the importance of a student's overall academic career. Therefore, the students meeting the following criteria will have achieved the highest academic recognition at Dyer County High School. These students will be part of our Choctaw Scholars Program and will have achieved academic excellence reflected not only by their GPA, but also by their ACT score.

Choctaw Scholars are students that achieve 1700 or more points (85% of the maximum) in the following calculation. The maximum number of points attainable is 2000, 1000 points from each factor in the formula. These students will wear a stole and a medallion at graduation to recognize their achievements.

$$(\text{ACT} \times 27.7777) + (\text{GPA} \times 250) = \text{Choctaw Scholars Points}$$

A student's highest reported ACT composite score will be used for this calculation. DCHS will not super score results from various tests. The following table is used to determine eligibility. An ACT score of 26 is the minimum that will qualify a student for this program.

ACT	GPA	POINTS
36	2.8001	1700.0222
35	2.9112	1700.0195
34	3.0223	1700.168
33	3.1334	1700.0141
32	3.2445	1700.0114
31	3.3556	1700.0087
30	3.4667	1700.0060
29	3.5778	1700.0033
28	3.6889	1700.0006
27	3.8001	1700.0229
26	3.9112	1700.0202

Choctaw Scholars Acknowledgement

- A stole and a medallion to be worn at graduation
- Recognition at Honors Day
- Acknowledgement in the graduation program

Notes

- A graduating senior's grade point average at the end of the first semester is used to determine which honor cord he/she receives to wear at graduation.
- A graduating senior's grade point average at the end of the first semester and their ACT score on or before the April ACT test given their senior year will be used to determine a student's eligibility to qualify for the Choctaw Scholars Program.
- Only academic graduation adornments provided by Dyer County High School may be worn with the cap and gown at graduation unless prior approval from the principal has been given.
- DCHS **does not** recognize a senior class valedictorian or salutatorian.

- DCHS **does not** recognize academic class rank.

GRADING POLICY

Adapted from Tennessee State Board of Education Uniform Grading Policy, 3.301

Uniform Grading System – <i>Weighting for Advanced Coursework</i>					
Grade	Percentage Range		Honors Courses	Local and Statewide Dual Credit Courses, Capstone Industry Certification Aligned Courses, and Dual Enrollment Courses	Advanced Placement, Cambridge International, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), and International Baccalaureate Courses
A	90	100	Shall include the addition of 3 percentage points to the grade used to calculate the semester average.	Shall include the addition of 4 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.	Shall include the addition of 5 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.
B	80	89			
C	70	79			
D	60	69			
F	0	59			

TESTING REQUIRED BY STATE

- I. TCAP EOC: Administered in English I, English II, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Biology, and U.S. History. The Fall TCAP EOC tests will be given November 27-December 4. The Spring TCAP EOC tests will be given April 15-May 3.
- II. ACT Test: This test is administered to all seniors on October 24 and all juniors on March 12. All students must take the ACT or SAT prior to graduation.
- III. United States Civics Exam: This test is administered to all students in high school. All students must pass this exam prior to graduation.

TCAP EOC tests are administered in the fall and spring semester and count 15% of the student's semester grade.

STUDENT SERVICES

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

The school requires prior approval for any material such as posters, flyers, buttons, candy, etc. that is to be given out, posted, or sold at school.

LOCKERS

Lockers will be assigned to students at the beginning of the school year by the office. A student must use his/her assigned locker. It is the student's responsibility to keep his/her locker secure at all times. Valuable items should **NEVER** be left in a locker. **The school is NOT responsible for lost or stolen articles.** Students are responsible for completely emptying their lockers before completing their final exams.

The courts have determined that school officials have the authority to conduct searches of individuals, their personal possession, and their school lockers. Be advised that this authority may be exercised at any time.

TCA 49-6-4204

SCHOOL NURSE

Kim Isbell - School Nurse

A school nurse will be available on designated days. Students are allowed to visit the school nurse during breaks and lunch. Students are discouraged from visiting the nurse during academic class time unless it is an emergency.

ILLNESS

Should a student become ill while at school, he/she will be given permission by the teacher to report to the school nurse. The nurse will contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) who must come to school and sign the student out. If the student is driving and it is determined that he/she is able to drive, he/she will be given permission to drive home after an administrator has obtained parental or guardian consent. Before leaving school grounds for any reason, students are required to sign out in the office. DCHS will not provide any medication to students. If special consideration is needed for prescription medication, contact the school nurse for information. Emergencies resulting from accidents or acute illness may require transporting the student(s) to emergency medical facilities.

Parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified immediately and will be required to go to the medical facility. Chronic or long-term medical conditions of student(s) requiring special considerations should be brought to the attention of the administrative staff at the beginning of the school year.

IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS

In accordance with Tennessee State Law, every transfer student must provide the school with a permanent Tennessee Certificate of Immunization. This form is issued by the Dyer County Health Department. Students will not be permitted to enter school without this certificate.

GUIDANCE

Guidance Staff

Jennifer Ray - School Counselor
Jackie Wilder - School Counselor
Christy Dye - Behavior Specialist
Tiffany Rice - College Advisor
Melissa Lee - Guidance Secretary

The guidance staff at Dyer County High School can provide many services to the students including academic planning, career counseling, college admission procedures, financial aid and scholarship information, school records maintenance, personal counseling and referral, testing for college, and other services which are available upon request. The student(s) and parent(s) or guardian(s) should become acquainted with their advisors and guidance counselors.

GUIDANCE APPOINTMENTS

Students should schedule visits to the school counselor during free time or contact the office staff for an appointment. Parent(s) or guardians(s) should call 627-2229 to schedule an appointment.

SCHOOL MONEY AND PURCHASES

Students who collect or otherwise handle school money or funds must deliver the money to their sponsor(s), and receive a receipt for the money.

TELEPHONES

Students are allowed to use the telephone(s) in the office.

TEXTBOOKS/CHROMEBOOKS

All textbooks and Chromebooks are loaned to students for their use during the school year. If any textbook or Chromebook is lost, damaged, or destroyed, the parent(s) or guardian(s) will be required to pay for the lost or damaged item before other textbooks/Chromebooks will be issued.

PARENT VUE/STUDENT VUE

The Dyer County School System has implemented a free portal service enabling parents/guardians and students to view school records online, anywhere, anytime. Sign up at the school office.

DYER COUNTY STUDENT SERVICES

Migrant Education – Students who are certified as migrant may receive all the same Title I services as other students.

Homeless – Dyer County School System offers comparable services to students identified as homeless.

English as a Second Language – Dyer County School System offers comparable services to students identified as ESL.

Family Resource Center – Two Family Resource Center directors serve as liaisons for students and their families to other agencies and resources in the county.

Coordinated School Health Services – Throughout the school year we will be providing our annual health screenings to the students in the Dyer County Educational System. We routinely screen students in Pre-K, K, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, and one grade in high school, as required by state law. We also screen students for evaluation purposes or any student referred by a teacher. We will be screening for the following throughout this school year: Blood Pressure and Height/Weight (BMI). If a referral is needed, the parent/guardian will receive notification in the form of a letter. Please feel free to contact your school nurse or the Office of Coordinated School Health at (731) 285-6712 if you have any questions.

TRANSPORTATION

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

The system does not guarantee transportation for students who reside within the limited transportation zones. Parents of students who reside outside of the limited transportation zone of the high school, but within the limited transportation zone of an elementary school have primary responsibility for the transportation of their student to and from the collection point at the elementary school. The system may provide transportation for students living within the limited transportation zones if they reside on an existing route and if space is available. Outside the limited transportation zones, students residing within ¼ mile of established bus routes must provide their own transportation to the pickup point on the main route.

Students transported by the system are required to follow the Bus Rules, which are set forth later in this publication. Parents should review the Bus Rules in detail with their students. System transportation is a privilege, which may be revoked upon failure to obey and comply with the Bus Rules. The school discipline code is applicable to all students transported by the system.

Parents of students not transported by the system are solely responsible for the student's transportation, care, custody, supervision and control until the student enters the school. Students who ride bicycles or drive motor vehicles to school must leave them parked in designated areas until the end of the school day. Permission must be obtained from the principal or the principal's designee, to use said transportation before the end of the school day.

EXCHANGE SCHOOLS

Students must remain in the assigned areas, in addition to following all rules outlined above. Smoking or use of tobacco or vaping products is prohibited at all exchange schools.

BUS RULES

1. The arrival time of the school buses should stabilize after the first week of school, but may still vary to some degree due to weather, traffic conditions, or other circumstances. Parents are responsible for having their child at the bus stop on time. Buses will not wait beyond their regular schedules for those who are tardy.
2. Parents are responsible for their child's care, custody, supervision, and control until the child boards the bus. Parents retain the obligation to ensure their child is safe until the bus arrives and until the child is

on board the bus. On return from school, parents resume these same responsibilities once the child steps off the bus. Parents are responsible for monitoring officially designated radio stations WTRO and WASL for announcements concerning postponements or changes in bus schedules or school closings.

3. Students should arrive at the bus stop approximately five minutes before the bus is scheduled to be there. Students shall wait in a quiet and orderly manner. Students shall wait on the sidewalk or off the roadway and not on private property. Parents are responsible for their children's behavior while they are at the bus stop. If a bus does not arrive for its scheduled pickup of a student, the parents of that student are responsible for their child's care, custody, supervision, and control until the child has actually boarded the bus.
4. Students are assigned to one bus, and bus drivers may assign seats to individual students when necessary. Generally, students are only allowed to ride the bus to which they are assigned. Students may ride a different bus with a note or phone call from a parent or guardian. The note or call must be approved by the principal or the principal's designee.
5. Students will be transported directly from the designated bus stop to school and from school to the designated bus stop, except when special arrangements have been made and approved by the principal or the principal's designee as in Bus Rule #4. Students shall board and exit their assigned buses only at their designated pick-up and destination points.
6. Students shall not eat or drink on the bus. Students shall not bring food or beverage onto the bus unless it is contained in a box or bag. Glass bottles shall not be permitted.
7. No animals, reptiles, etc., shall be brought on the bus for any reason.
8. The bus driver is in charge of the students and the bus. Student must promptly and respectfully obey any reasonable request or instruction from the bus driver. Continuous audio and visual monitoring may be occurring.
9. Students shall sit in their seats upon boarding the bus and shall remain seated until they exit the bus. Standing is allowed only when entering and exiting the bus. Students shall not change seats or move from one seat to another. Aisle ways must be kept clear.
10. Students shall not extend their heads or arms out of bus windows. The driver will determine whether bus windows are to be raised or lowered.
11. Students must follow and obey instructions of the bus driver when entering and exiting the bus. Students shall enter and

exit the bus only with the permission of the driver. Students shall walk at least twelve feet in front of the stopped bus and must carefully look in every direction for approaching traffic or other hazards before attempting to cross the roadway. Parents shall be responsible for their child's care, custody, supervision and control once they have exited the bus.

12. Any damage done to the bus must be reported at once to the driver. Pencils, magic markers and pointed objects shall be kept in notebooks. Parents and students will be held financially responsible for holes in seats, marks on walls, or any other damage done.
13. Possession of tobacco products shall not be permitted on the bus.
14. Illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, and any other unauthorized substances shall not be permitted on the bus.
15. Students shall not bring with them on the bus any object which could be considered a weapon.
16. Possession or use of a laser pointer shall not be permitted on the bus.
17. Helium filled balloons or flowers in glass containers (vases) shall not be allowed on the bus.
18. Parents are responsible for having proper adult supervision at the home when students are returning home after school. Failure to comply with this requirement once will result in a warning. The second failure may result in bus privileges being revoked.
19. Students will no longer be allowed to have "on" any paging/communication device (i.e. cell phones, iPods) which could distract a driver while they are operating a school bus. If the school which the student attends allows the students to have in their possession paging/communication devices (i.e. cell phones, iPods), then the student may carry them on the bus as long as they are kept turned off and not in operation. Any infraction of this rule will result in the driver turning the paging/communication device (i.e. cell phones, iPods) over to the principal or the principal's designee.
20. The bus becomes an extension of the classroom when the bus comes to a complete stop at the designated location, all rules apply to the bus stop.

SAFETY CONCERNS

To report unsafe driving of a Dyer County School bus, **Please** contact Mr. Allen Cook, Director of Transportation, at **731-285-5852** or acook@dyercs.net. Please have the following information for the report: bus number, location of the incident, time of the incident, name and contact information of the person making the report.

POLICIES/PROCEDURES

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY/GRIEVANCE

PROCEDURE

The Dyer County School System does not discriminate on the basis of sex, color, race, national origin, creed, age, marital status, or disability in its education programs, activities, or employment policies. Any employee or student who feels that he/she has been discriminated against on any of these bases should make the grievance known to the principal or the school. If no agreement can be attained, then the coordinator should be contacted. The coordinator for Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 is Dr. Carolyn Tyler, Dyer County School System, 159 Everett Avenue, Dyersburg, TN 38024, telephone, 731-285-6712.

STUDENT RECORDS POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to effectuate the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) at 20 U.S.C. §1232g and 34 C.F.R. §99.1, et seq., T.C.A. §§10-7-504 and 49-1-701, et seq., to afford parents, guardians, and students who are eighteen (18) years of age or older certain rights with respect to the student's education records maintained by Dyer County Board of Education hereinafter referred to as (LEA) and the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE).

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

In May 1989, the Dyer County Board of Education submitted a Management Plan to the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration. The Management Plan indicates that non-friable asbestos-containing materials are present in several buildings of the Dyer County School System and it details the manner in which the material will be handled.

The Management Plan will be available in the main office of the school for viewing between the hours of 8:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

The Management Plan will be updated every six months with progress reports being submitted to the state annually.

If anyone should have further questions concerning the Management Plan, contact Mr. Jimmie Martin, Maintenance Director, Dyer County School System at 731-286-6328.

EMERGENCY DISASTER PLAN

EVACUATION – For any kind of evacuation, the fire alarm will be used.

GENERAL DIRECTION – The school has a public address system that can be heard in all rooms simultaneously.

FIRE – The school has a fire alarm system. Teachers and students are to leave the classrooms through nearest exit. Do not reenter the building until the bell sounds.

TORNADO – Each classroom will go to the hallway or designated safe area

BOMB THREAT – Fire alarm and/or public address system will be used.

EARTHQUAKE – Duck, cover, and evacuate when clear.

LOCKDOWN – Public address system will be used to direct students and staff to go to the designated area.

CLOSING OF SCHOOL DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER – Public address system will be used.

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

As a parent, you have the right to request information regarding the professional license of your child's classroom teacher(s) and any paraprofessional providing instructional support to your child. You may request this information from the high school supervisor Mrs. Angie Stafford at 731-285-6712.

Parents will be notified of any schools in Dyer County which have been identified for school improvement or as not meeting adequate yearly progress. If you wish to have access to information concerning the school system's report card or other assessment information, you may contact Mrs. Angie Stafford at 731-285-6712 or access this information on-line at www.tn.gov/education.

The Dyer County School System will provide appropriate programs as needed for students who are identified as Limited English Proficient or homeless.

Due to the requirements of ESSA for systems receiving federal funds, DCHS will release information which includes names, addresses, and phone numbers of students to all military recruiters, if requested, **unless** parents notify the high school principal in writing not to release this information. Dyer County Schools strive to provide all students with complete privacy rights. Parents have the right to inspect all of their child's records and instructional materials and may request in writing that certain personal student information not be disclosed. If you have any questions, you may contact Angie Stafford or Mrs. Cheryl Mathis 731-285-6712.

Under the Tennessee State Board of Education's Unsafe School Choice Policy, any public-school student who is a victim of a violent crime as defined under Tennessee Code Annotated 40-38-111(g), or the attempt to commit one of these offenses as defined under Tennessee Code Annotated 39-12-101, shall be provided an opportunity to transfer to another grade-level appropriate school within the district. Additional information regarding this option may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Cheryl Mathis at 731-285-6712.

CHILD ADVOCACY

Parents seeking information concerning child advocacy may contact the State Department of Education by calling 1-615-741-5158 or visiting <https://www.tn.gov/education/>. You may also wish to contact your local school or local Board of Education.

In addition to the state and local resources available to parents and children, there are many agencies and organizations that offer support, information, training and help in advocating for persons with disabilities in Tennessee. A few of these organizations are listed below:

The ARC of Tennessee is on the Internet at

<https://www.thearctn.org>

545 Mainstream Drive, Suite 100

Nashville, TN 37228-1213

Phone: 615-248-5878 Toll-free: 1-800-835-7077

Fax: 615-248-5879

Support and Training for Exceptional Parents (STEP) is on the Internet at <https://www.tnstep.org/>

2157 Madison Avenue, Ste. 204

Memphis, TN 38104

Toll-free: 1-800-280-STEP

Fax: 423-636-8217

E-mail: information@tnstep.org

Disability Law & Advocacy is on the Internet at

<https://www.disabilityrightstn.org>

1407 Union Avenue, Suite 1015

Memphis, TN 38104

Phone: 901-458-6013

Toll-free: 1-800-342-1660

Fax: 901-249-2933

Tennessee Voices for Children is on the Internet at

<https://tnvoices.org>

500 Professional Park Dr.

Goodlettsville, TN 37072

Toll-free: 1-800-670-9882

These are but a few of the organizations available to help with information, training, and advocacy. For a more extensive list, visit the TN Disability Pathfinder - Disability Pathfinder Database:

<https://vkc.vumc.org/vkc/pathfinder/aboutus/>

110 Magnolia Circle

Nashville, TN 37203

Toll-free: 1-800-640-4636

This information is provided as a service to individuals seeking additional avenues for help and information. The Department of Education does not intend this as an endorsement or recommendation for any individual, organization, or service represented on this page.

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

The cafeteria at Dyer County High School serves nutritious breakfasts and lunches at economical prices. Children from families who are unable to pay full price for their meals may be eligible for free or reduced price benefits. Applications for benefits may be obtained in the cafeteria office. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by the school or other school nutrition program officials. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to update application information any time there is a change in any portion of it during the school year.

Students are offered various choices of foods at lunch in an effort to ensure that students receive nutritious foods that they will enjoy. They may pay for their school meals daily, weekly, or monthly. Money remaining in the student's cafeteria count at the end of the school year will be refunded to the parent or carried over to the following school year. In the event that a student forgets or misplaces his/her lunch money, the student will be allowed to charge up to a maximum of five (5) days. If a student has charged the maximum allowed and still fails to bring money, he/she may be given a courtesy meal. School personnel will contact parent/guardian requesting prompt payment of the amount owed. Additional information regarding the charge procedure is available by contacting the SNP Supervisor.

Any questions or suggestions concerning the school breakfast or lunch programs may be directed to Amy R. Hester, SNP Supervisor for the Dyer County School System, 159 Everett Avenue, Dyersburg, TN 38024.

Phone: 731-285-6712

Email: ahester@dyercs.net

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (202) 690-7442;
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

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