# J. B. PENNINGTON

## HIGH SCHOOL

2023-2024

STUDENT HANDBOOK

## *Pride, Honor, and Spirit*

81 College Street

Blountsville, Alabama 35031

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**Principal**

Mr. Steven Bryson

**Assistant Principal**

Mr. Phillip Lawson

**Senior High Counselor**

Ms. Brittany Copeland

**Jr. High Counselor**

Mrs. Heather Banks

“Alma Mater”

Stately stands our Alma Mater,

Dear Old Pennington High

We remember now thy glory

Victories gone by.

Fight on Tigers; fight with valor,

Strive with all your might.

We will proudly wave our banner

For the Gold and White.

Gracefully our dear old high school

Crowns a hill of green;

Pure and white the stately columns

Add a touch serene.

Honor, Courage set our pattern

As we travel far;

Lead us ever truly onward;

Be our guiding star.

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# WELCOME TO

**J.B. Pennington High School**

# J.B. Pennington High School

# Mission Statement

The mission of J.B. Pennington High School

is to provide relevant, quality educational

opportunities for all students to develop the skills necessary to reach their maximum potential as responsible, productive citizens and life-long learners.

It is our mission to create a learning environment that will help all students to become successful. We know that there may be times that students or parents become unhappy with decisions we make, but we are willing to sit down and discuss situations in a calm and respectful manner. The following pages include supplemental policies and procedures related to J. B. Pennington High School. Due to certain frequent offenses, there are also some Blount County Board of Education Policies that are mentioned in your handbook. These policies are repeated in order to stress their importance. These rules, policies and information regarding our school enable our learning community to best utilize our time and resources to provide you with the best possible education. Adhering to these policies will make your experience at J. B. Pennington High School the best it can possibly be. Your teachers have committed to engage you in productive independent learning, but will hold you accountable for following the rules as well as for meeting or exceeding academic standards. This engagement can only be accomplished with your commitment. As a staff, we will work to improve ourselves in order to eliminate all excuses that might inhibit you from being a solid citizen, and college or career ready when you leave J.B. Pennington. We believe that every child can learn and we will dedicate ourselves to helping each child learn at the highest levels possible. If you have any questions or concerns about the policies mentioned in the following pages please ask one of our staff members for clarification. Your signature on the last page of our handbook signifies that you understand these policies.

**Sincerely,**

**Steven A. Bryson**

**Principal, J. B. Pennington High School**

**BLOUNT COUNTY SCHOOLS**

**2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

**WORKDAYS FOR TEACHERS**

8/4/2023 Local Schools – 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

8/8/2023 Local Schools – 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

9/25/2023 Local Schools – 12:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

1/2/2024 Local Schools – 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

5/24/2024 Local Schools – Teacher Planning 12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

**INSERVICE MEETINGS**

8/3/2023 JB Pennington –Teacher Institute 8:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS**

8/3/2023 Local Schools – Professional Development 12:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

8/7/2023 Local Schools – Professional Development 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

1/15/2024 Local Schools – Professional Development 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

2/20/2024 Local Schools – Professional Development 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

**OPENING DATE OF SCHOOLS**

8/9/2023 Regular full day schedule

**REMOTE LEARNING SUPPORT**

When feasible, the Superintendent may choose for schools to transition to remote learning.

**SCHOOLS WILL BE CLOSED AS FOLLOWS:**

9/4/2023 Labor Day Holiday

10/9/2023 - 10/10/2023 Columbus Day /Fall Mini Break

11/10/2023 Veterans Day Holiday

11/20/2023 - 11/24/2023 Thanksgiving Holidays

12/19/2023 Half Day for Students End 2nd 9 weeks

12/20/2023 - 1/2/2024 Christmas Holidays. **Schools will reconvene for students Wednesday, January 3, 2024**

1/15/2024 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

2/19/2024 - 2/20/2024 Presidents’ Day Holiday /Mini Break (Weather Days)

3/25/2024 - 3/29/2024 Spring Break

4/26/2024 April Holiday

**5/24/2024 Last school day for students/Half Day/ End 4th 9 weeks**

**WEATHER DAYS**

\*In the event schools are closed due to weather conditions or for any other reason, days will most probably be made up accordingly: **1st – 2nd –** Two weather days are built into the school schedule

**3rd \_\_** February 19th will become Professional Development; February 20th a regular school day

**4th** – April 26th

Any additional days may be made up on Saturday following any days missed or at the end of the school year (at Superintendent’s discretion). Principals are not permitted to dismiss school early without written permission of the Board and/or Superintendent except in times of emergency when the lives and safety of students are endangered.

**Midterm**

First Semester **Progress Reports Examination Schedule Issue Report Cards:**

1st Nine Weeks (41 days) September 8 October 5-6 October 13, 2023

2nd Nine Weeks (44 days) November 9 December 15,18,19 January 5, 2024

Second Semester

3rd Nine Weeks (45 days) February 2 March 7-8 March 15, 2024

4th Nine Weeks (48 days) April 19 May 21,22,23 May 24, 2024

**ATTENDANCE PERIODS**

**Month Begins Month Ends On Roll Cumulative**

1 August 9 September 6 20 20

2 September 7 October 5 20 40

3 October 6 November 6 20 60

4 November 7 December 12 20 80

5 December 13 January 24 20 100

6 January 25 February 23 20 120

7 February 26 March 22 20 140

8 April 1 April 29 20 160

9 April 30 May 23 18 178

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the mission statement, the following objectives have been developed to give direction for Pennington High School faculty and students. We are committed to the following:

### **Environment**

* Offering an emotionally supportive climate shown by mutual respect and caring
* Providing a disciplined environment conducive to learning
* Developing opportunities for students to build self-esteem and a positive self-concept
* Involving students in activities that promote and demonstrate good citizenship, community service, and personal responsibility

#### Content

* Teaching the skills of effective communication using the written and spoken word
* Teaching mathematical concepts, computation skills, and problem-solving skills
* Teaching about the diverse cultural, political, and intellectual heritage of the world
* Developing process skills in the sciences through a hands-on, problem-solving approach
* Providing experiences and opportunities that prepare students to accept a technologically advanced society
* Cultivating an appreciation for art, music, and other aesthetic values
* Offering opportunities for participation in programs which will promote physical development, provide outlets for special talents and interests, and develop constructive leisure-time skills
* Providing opportunities for expanding career awareness

#### Methods

* Utilizing experiential learning such as demonstrations, projects, lab activities, and field trips
* Emphasizing problem-solving, inquiry, and critical analysis
* Using cooperative learning strategies, peer teaching, and small group activities

## Educational Excellence Through

# Character Commitment

The comprehensive character education program shall be known as the “Character Curriculum”, and shall focus on the student’s development of the following character traits:

# Character Traits

##### Achievement

##### Acceptance Attentiveness

##### Cheerfulness

Citizenship

Cleanliness

Commitment

Compassion

Conservation

Consideration

Cooperation

Courage

Courtesy

Dependability

Diligence

Encouragement

Excellence

Fairness

Flexibility

Forgiveness

Generosity

Gratitude

Honesty

Kindness

Loyalty

Patience

Patriotism

Peacemaker

Perseverance

Politeness

Punctuality

Pride

Respect

Responsibility

School pride

Self-control

Self-respect

Sportsmanship

Trust

Tolerance

Thankfulness

## WELCOME TO STUDENTS

The faculty and administration welcome you to a new school year. We believe Pennington High School will prepare you well for the years ahead. It is our hope that you take advantage of the many opportunities to learn and grow, which our school provides, and that we are able to help you achieve all of your personal educational goals.

Rules, procedures, and guidelines are necessary to assist us as we interact with one another. The basis for all of our rules comes from common sense and from these few principles:

1. Our focus is on **LEARNING**. This is our first and most important work.
2. **RESPECT** for others, or one’s self, and for personal or school property is necessary for us to stay focused on the work of learning.

3. Each of us shares a **RESPONSIBILITY** to our community and to each other to contribute to the success of all students. Each of us has his/her own set of personal responsibilities to which he/she is held accountable.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**POLICY AGAINST RELIGIOUS, RACIAL, AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE**

1. Everyone at Pennington High School has a right to feel respected and safe. Consequently, we want you to know about our policy to prevent religious, racial, or sexual harassment and violence of any kind.
2. A harasser may be a student or an adult. Harassment may include the following when related to religion, race, or gender:
   1. name calling, jokes or rumors;
   2. pulling on clothing;
   3. graffiti;
   4. notes or cartoons;
   5. unwelcome touching of a person or clothing;
   6. offensive or graphic posters or book covers; or
   7. any words or actions that make you feel uncomfortable, embarrass you, hurt your feelings, or make you feel bad.
3. **If any words or actions make you feel uncomfortable or**

**fearful, you need to tell a teacher, counselor, or the**

**principal.**

1. Your right to privacy will be respected as much as possible.
2. We take seriously all reports of religious, racial, or sexual harassment or violence and will take all appropriate actions based on your report.

**RELIGIOUS, RACIAL, AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE ARE AGAINST THE LAW**

**Board Policy 5.7 N - Bullying, Harassment, Discrimination**:

The Blount County Board of Education is committed to protecting its students and employees from bullying, harassment, or discrimination of any type. The school board believes that all students and employees are entitled to a safe, equitable, and harassment-free school experience. Bullying, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action. This policy shall be interpreted and applied consistently with all applicable state and federal laws. Conduct that constitutes bullying, harassment or discrimination, as defined herein, occurring on school property during the school day or at school-sponsored events is prohibited. The use of school equipment for the purpose of these actions is also prohibited.

Section 1: Bullying, Intimidation, Violence, and Threats of Violence Prohibited.

No student shall engage in nor should any be subjected to bullying, violence, threats of violence or intimidation by any other student that is based on any of the specific characteristics set forth in this policy. Students who violate this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary sanctions as specified in the Student Code of Conduct, subject to the investigating school administrator’s authority and decision.

Section 2: Definitions

In this policy, these terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) “Bullying” means a continuous pattern of intentional behavior on or off of school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored function including, but not limited to, cyberbullying or written, electronic, verbal, or physical actions that are reasonably perceived as being motivated by any characteristic of a student, or by the association of a student with an individual who has a particular characteristic, if the characteristic falls into one of the categories of personal characteristics contained in this policy. To constitute bullying, a pattern of behavior may do any of the following:

* Place a student in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property.
* Have the effect of substantially interfering with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of a student.
* Have the effect of substantially disrupting or interfering with the orderly operation of the school.
* Have the effect of creating a hostile environment in the school, on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored function.
* Have the effect of being sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

(b) “Hostile environment” means the perception by an affected student that the conduct of another student constitutes a threat of violence or bullying and that the conduct is objectively severe or pervasive enough that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, would agree that the conduct constitutes bullying, threat of assault, or assault.

(c) “Violence” means the unjustified infliction of physical force by a student with the intent to cause injury to another student or damage to the property of another student.

(d) “Threat” means a statement of an intention to inflict pain, injury, damage, or other hostile action to cause fear of harm. The intention may be communicated through an electronic, written, verbal, or physical act to cause fear, mental distress, or interference in the school environment. The intention may be expressly stated or implied and the person communicating the threat has the ability to carry out the threat.

(e) “Threat of violence” means an unjustified expression of intention to inflict injury or damage that is made by a student and directed to another student.

(f) “Intimidation” means an unjustified threat or other action that is intended to cause fear or apprehension in a student.

(g) “Student” as used in this policy means a person who is enrolled in Blount County Schools public school system.

Section 3: Description of Behavior Expected of Students

(a) Students are expected to treat other students with courtesy, respect, and dignity and comply with the Code of Student Conduct. Students are expected and required (1) to comply with the requirements of law, policy, regulation, and rules prohibiting bullying, violence, or intimidation; (2) to refrain from inflicting or threatening to inflict violence, injury, or damage to the person or property of another student, and (3) to refrain from placing another student in fear of being subjected to violence, injury, or damage when such actions or threats are reasonably perceived as being motivated by any personal characteristic of the student that is identified in this policy.

(b) Bullying, intimidation, violence, or threats of violence are prohibited and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary consequences and/or sanctions if the perpetrator of such action is found to have based the prohibited action on one or more of the following personal characteristics of the student:

* Race
* Sex
* Religion
* National origin
* Disability

Section 4: Consequences for Violations

A series of graduated consequences for any violation of this policy will be those outlined in the Code of Student Conduct or any rule or standard adopted under authority of this policy.

Section 5: Reporting, Investigation, and Complaint Resolution Procedures

(a) Complaints alleging violations of this policy may be made on a Board-approved complaint form available in the handbook, on the website, or at the school’s office. The complaint must be delivered to the principal or the principal’s designee either by mail or personal delivery. Incidental or minor violations of the policy may be presented and resolved informally. The complaint form developed to report violations of this policy will include a provision for reporting a threat of suicide by a student. If a threat of suicide is reported, the principal or the principal’s designee is authorized to inform the student’s parent or guardian of the report unless at the discretion of the school principal or the principal’s designee the apparent cause of the threat of suicide is child abuse or other significant harm from a parent or guardian.

(b) Upon receipt of the complaint, the principal or the principal’s designee will determine if the complaint alleges a serious violation of this policy. If the principal or the principal’s designee determines that the complaint alleges a serious violation, the principal or the principal’s designee will undertake a reasonably prompt investigation of the complaint. The investigation will entail the gathering of relevant facts and evidence taking into account the circumstances of the complaint. If the investigation establishes a violation, appropriate disciplinary sanctions may be imposed on the offending student(s). Other measures that are reasonably calculated to prevent a recurrence of the violations(s) may also be imposed by the principal or the school system.

(c) Acts of reprisal or retaliation against any student who has reported a violation of this policy or sought relief provided by this policy are prohibited, and are themselves a violation of this policy. Any confirmed acts of reprisal or retaliation may be subject to disciplinary sanctions that may include any sanction, penalty, or consequence that is available to school officials under the Code of Student Conduct. A student who deliberately, recklessly, and falsely accuses another student of a violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary sanctions as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

Section 6: Promulgation of Policy and Related Procedures, Rules, and Forms

This policy and any procedures, rules and forms developed and approved to implement the policy will be published on the website of each local board of education and school, shall be available at each school office, and shall be included in the student handbook that is distributed to each student at the beginning of each school year.

**Transfer (Board Policy 5.2)**

Students living in Blount County must enroll in the assigned school that serves the designated district where the student and parent or legal guardian resides. Students may transfer to another Blount County School only if there is a change in residence into another designated district by the parent or legal guardian or by approval of the receiving principal.

GUIDANCE

Guidance services are available to every student in the school. These services include assistance with academic concerns, study habits, help with home, school, and/or social concerns, and any questions the student may feel he/she would like to discuss with the counselor. Students wishing to visit with the counselor should contact a teacher or make an appointment in the guidance office.

#### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Class will be dismissed by the teacher, not the bell. Do not be discourteous by getting up before you are dismissed. You are expected to get to class on time. An excessive number of tardies will result in disciplinary action. Have class materials and be prepared.

#### UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

#### Students should practice safety at all times. Never come in contact with another student’s blood or any other body fluid.

#### SEARCH AND SEIZURE

#### The principals or authorized school official may conduct a search and seizure. Searches and seizures apply to school property, school lockers, private automobiles, and the student. This also applies to school-sponsored activities away from our school campus.

###### SELLING ITEMS

Students are not permitted to sell items at school without written permission from the administration.

**Electronic Communication Devices & Technology Responsible Use Policy**

**Blount County Schools**

**Introduction:**

Blount County Schools relies on its computer network to enhance education outcomes. To ensure that BCS’ computer resources are used properly by its employees, students, independent contractors, agents, vendors, and other computer users, the Blount County Board of Education has drafted and approved the following Responsible Use Policy.

The rules and obligations described in this policy apply to all users of BCS’ computer network or computer resources, wherever they may be located in BCS’ policies. Specific policies against discrimination and harassment (sexual or otherwise) apply fully to BCS’ computer resources, and any violation of these policies serves as grounds for discipline up to and including termination. Students who violate these policies are subject to disciplinary action consistent with Board policy and the Student Handbook. Vendors, consultants, and all other third party guest users must adhere to these policies and are subject to losing their right to access BCS’ computer resources for violations of these policies.

By complying with the provisions in this Responsible Use Policy, users consent to monitoring as a condition of access under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act (1986). All users should be aware that BCS’ computer resource uses including all its components are subject to monitoring in order to comply with the Alabama Supercomputer Authority and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), as well as the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).  Employees, students, and other users should not have any expectation of privacy in anything they create, store, send or receive using the BCS’ computer resources.  The main goal of this aspect of the Responsible Use Policy is to ensure our children’s safety and protection while using technology for educational purposes.

This Responsible Use Policy is crafted in the spirit of the Purpose and Direction for Blount County Schools, which includes our Mission “to create life-long learners by providing quality education and meeting the needs of all students” and our Vision to collaborate with all “stakeholders to prepare responsible citizens ready to succeed in an ever-changing global society.” This policy also fully represents our Beliefs as a school system and is undergirded by the three tenets framing the Purpose and Direction: College and Career Readiness for Every Student; Commitment to Continuous Improvement; and a Positive, Collaborative, and Safe Learning Environment.

All technology resource use will be governed by the requirement that it must add to the standards-based educational experience and growth of the user and not disrupt the educational process in any way.

**Definitions**

The term “computer resources” as used herein refers to BCS’ entire computer, electronic and communications network. Specifically, the term “computer resources” includes, but is not limited to computers, host computers, file servers, application servers, communication servers, mail servers, fax servers, Web servers, workstations, stand-alone computers, laptops, tablets such as IPADs, telephones, facsimile machines, scanners, software, data files, peripherals such as printers, and all internal and external computer and communications networks (for example, Internet, commercial online services, value-added networks, e-mail systems) that may be accessed directly or indirectly via remote access (including access by students, vendors, consultants and all other third party guests using personally owned computer hardware as authorized by BCS) from our computer network or that are owned or have been purchased by BCS.

Bring your own device (BYOD) refers to technology models where students bring a personally owned device to school for the purpose of learning. A personally owned device is any technology device brought into the school and owned by a student (or the student’s family), staff, or guests.

* Laptop computers are portable computers that can be used with or without the Internet.
* Netbook computers are portable computers that gain most of their functionality through the Internet.
* Smartphones/handhelds, some of which blur the lines between the Internet and cellular networks (e.g., Blackberry, Android, iPhone, personal digital assistants, iPod Touch).
* Tablet computers fall along a continuum from laptop-like to large size smartphones (e.g., iPad, Android tablet, etc.).
* E-book readers (e.g., Kindle, Nook, Kobo)
* Audio MP3 Players (iPod, etc.)
* Smart Watches

“Users” include employees, substitutes, students, and guests, using technology, including, but not limited to computers, networks, Internet, email, chat rooms, and other forms of technology services and products.

Network is wired and wireless technology networks, including school and district networks, cellular networks, commercial, community or home-based wireless networks accessible to students.

Equipment includes cellular phones, smart phones, PDAs, MP3 players, iPod type devices, and portable computers such as laptops, iPads, Nooks, Chromebooks, desktops, tablets and netbooks, as well as portable storage devices.

Policy Statements

**Protection of Users**

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law that addresses concerns about access in schools and libraries to the Internet and other information.  Under CIPA, schools and libraries are required to certify that they have certain Internet safety measures in place. These include measures to block or filter pictures that: (a) are obscene, (b) contain child pornography, or (c) when computers with Internet access are used by minors, are harmful to minors.  Schools subject to CIPA are required to adopt a policy to monitor online activities of minors i.e.  (a) access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and the Web; (b) the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications, including but not limited to social networking sites; (c) unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities by minors online; (d) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and (e) restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them.

Schools will annually provide for the educating of minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, cyberbullying awareness, and response.

**Bring Your Own Device**

Effective at the beginning of 2015-2016 school year, the Blount County Board of Education will implement a Bring Your Own Device Policy (BYOD). Students may have electronic communication devices and other digital devices in their possession such as iOS devices (MacBooks, iPhones/smart phones, iPads, iWatches/smart watches, iPods), Kindles, Nooks, tablets, Androids, Blackberrys, MP3 players, and laptops to be used for instructional purposes. They must be turned off, charged, and only in use with permission. Students will not be allowed to bring chargers to charge devices. The principal, teacher, or supervising employee may approve the use of personal electronic devices for instructional purposes, after regular school hours, during medical emergencies, natural disasters, or under circumstances in which the use of the devices serves safety and convenience without disrupting academic or school operations.  The principal, teacher, or supervising employee will also have the authority to further restrict the use of personal electronic devices by any student to prevent the misuse, abuse, or violation of school rules regarding the use of such devices.  Electronic communication devices and other digital devices will not be allowed to be present in standardized testing situations based on State Department of Education Policy.

Students and parents must sign a technology contract that outlines the terms of the policy prior to bringing any device.  Neither the Blount County Board of Education nor local schools are responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items as this is a *voluntary* program.  If students and parents do not agree to the terms, those students will not be allowed to participate in BYOD.  Students will have basic technology available at school necessary to complete lessons and assignments as directed by the teacher.

The purpose of the BYOD initiative is to enhance instruction and assist students in developing communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills necessary to meet the College and Career Readiness Standards. All devices must use the Blount County Schools’ guest network through Wi-Fi enabled airplane mode rather than a cellular data plan in order to meet Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliance. Appropriate authorized use may include the following: research, organization of information into tables and graphs, organization of tasks using calendars, sharing information documents, and making calculations.  Examples of unauthorized use or misuse, for the purpose of this policy, may include (but are not limited to) any of the following: having the device out in class, hallways, restrooms, or lunchrooms, texting, playing games, using apps, visiting websites, taking, posting, and/or sharing photographs and/or video on school campus or on the bus, without the supervising adult’s permission. The consequences for unauthorized use or misuse are outlined below:

Board Approved:  June 5, 2017

**5.7  I  Electronic Communication Devices**

**First Offense**

Take the phone or other electronic device, hold until the parent/guardian comes to the school and meets with an administrator to discuss the policy and the consequences of further violations of the policy.  The parent/guardian will be asked to sign a verification/documentation form of the meeting.

**Second Offense**

Take the phone or other electronic device, hold for seven (7) school days.  A parent/guardian must pick up the cell phone or other electronic device from an administrator and again sign the verification/documentation form.  The administration may assign detention, in-school suspension or Saturday school to the student.

**Third Offense**

Take the phone or other electronic device, hold for nine (9) weeks of school.  The student will also be placed in alternative school for three days.

\* A disciplinary hearing will be held for any student that continues to violate this policy after the third offense.

\*\*A disciplinary hearing will be held for any student who violates the policy and refuses to give the phone or electronic device to school personnel.

**Social Media**

Blount County Schools recognizes the value of social media, both for personal and professional use.  However, there are some guidelines that should be addressed when educators use social media. The guidelines and reminders below have been developed to better protect (and inform) BCS employees from charges of inappropriate use.  Teachers should not “friend” students on personal social media.  Teachers should also be judicious about "friending" students' parents on social media.

Many teachers utilize learning management platforms such as Edmodo to engage and assess 21st Century learners.

**Unacceptable Social Media Use Includes**:

Updating social media or posting non-instructional content during school hours.  Stakeholders expect BCS’ employees to be working during the school day; posting on social media during this time gives the impression that teachers are not fulfilling their responsibilities to students.

* Posting pictures with students in them without permission of parents or guardians.
* Using social media as the sole means of classroom communication.
* Posting disruptive content which harms the goodwill and reputation of the students, teachers, school, and system.

Communication between teachers, parents, and students should be of an educational/extra-curricular nature and support the vision, mission, and beliefs of BCS.   Other types of personal communication between teachers and students must be avoided.

**Technology Acceptable Use**

Adult-supervised, technology-enhanced activities which are standards-based and educationally driven and which follow all Blount County Board of Education policies should be deemed as acceptable use by students and adults. Some examples of acceptable and/or responsible use may include, but are not limited to the following: visiting approved educational websites; research; online practice quizzes; educational games; reading/writing website programs; student-learning platforms such as Edmodo, Blackboard, or Moodle; using video-enhanced learning, such as Khan Academy, Ted, or YouTube for educational purposes; educational surveys or student response websites; achievement or performance tracking websites; as well as other educational uses.

Technology Unacceptable Use

Prohibited Activities --The following activities, items, or materials are prohibited: fraudulent, harassing, embarrassing, sexually explicit, profane, obscene, intimidating, defamatory or otherwise unlawful or inappropriate material may not be viewed, sent, posted, or shared through any form of electronic communication (such as bulletin board systems, newsgroups, chat groups), downloaded from the Internet or displayed or stored on BCS’ resources. This includes "Spam" and other non-educational/business related matter. Any user encountering or receiving materials that violate the Blount County Schools’ Responsible Use Policy should immediately report the incident to their teacher or supervisor. Computer resources may not be used for dissemination or storage of commercial or personal advertisements, solicitations, political material, promotions, religious material, or any other unauthorized significant personal use.  Additionally, users should not attempt to circumvent network security or internet access restrictions, torrent/P2P, or use destructive programs, such as viruses/self-replicating codes. Users should not intentionally damage computers, peripherals, or the network in any way.

Violation of a license agreement or copyright, any state, federal or international law, or waste of computer resources--Users may not deliberately perform acts that waste computer resources or unfairly monopolize resources to the exclusion of others. These acts include, but are not limited to sending mass mailings or chain letters, non-educational use of computer resources, playing games, engaging in online chat groups, or otherwise creating unnecessary network traffic.

Violation Consequences

Any user who violates this policy may have computer/Internet privileges revoked at any time and without prior notice.   Employee violations of this policy may also result in administrative leave, suspension, and possible termination.  Student users are also subject to discipline according to the Blount County Student Code of Conduct.  Any illegal use will also result in civil and/or criminal liability.

\*In addition to the board cell phone policy students are prohibited from bringing devices that play games, music or take video or pictures, unless organized for instruction by a teacher or administrator. These devices are not to be used during school hours other than in an instructional classroom setting. If these devices are taken up disciplinary action will be taken and the device will not be returned except to the parent after a determined amount of time by the administrator. The length of time will not exceed the end of the current school year.

**\*\*\*\*\*THE ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT SPEND TIME SEARCHING FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED LOST OR STOLEN DEVICES!**

###### STUDENT BEHAVIOR

##### Students must be in their assigned places unless they have teacher or administrator permission to be in another place. Students must not leave any class or place of assignment without a designated teacher pass. Students must not leave school grounds for any purpose without permission from the administration. Students who are outside of class during class time must have a pass. It is the responsibility of the student to secure a pass from the teacher, and passes will only be granted when appropriate. The protection of instructional time is expected by all parties at J. B. Pennington High

##### School.

**5.7 DRESS AND DECORUM**

**The policy of the Blount County Board of Education is that good grooming and personal appearances are essential elements in the teaching and learning process. Therefore, it is expected that students dress in such a manner that will ensure health and safety, and not detract from the learning environment. Furthermore, dress and personal appearance are not to be disruptive or interfere with the educational interest and welfare of the students or the purposes of public school education.**

**Any student violating the dress code may be suspended for the remainder of the school day and may receive unexcused absences in the classes missed. The principal or his/her designated person(s) has the authority to determine inappropriate dress.**

**Repeat offenders are subject to further disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the principal/designee.**

#### DRESS CODE

The way you look and act is a reflection upon yourself, your family, your school and your community. Therefore, it is important that you be concerned with your appearance and your behavior. Clothing that may disrupt the educational process or contain messages which promote violation of school rules are not acceptable on school premises. These may include: garments that display profanity, nudity, gang related symbols, tasteless or obscene messages, gothic look or illegal substances. Students who wear disruptive clothing as per the above statement will be asked to change the offensive clothing, or they will not be allowed to attend class.

Students are prohibited from wearing short shorts, trench coats, short culottes, sheer mesh or net clothing, backless clothing, extremely tight pants, pajama pants, tank tops or muscle shirts, or clothing that exposes a bare midriff, even when seated or opening a locker. Shirts must be buttoned. **Student’s will not be allowed to wear pants, denim jeans, or shorts with holes, cuts, or slits in them four inches above the knee; patches underneath the hole will not be acceptable.** Pajama pants/lounge pants will not be allowed to be worn during the school day. Tight fitting Under Armor type clothing will not be allowed to be worn. Tank tops, muscle shirts, shirts with sleeves cut off at the shoulders or clothing that is excessively tight will not be allowed to be worn. All shorts must be no shorter than four inches above the kneecap. Cuts, slits, or tears in clothing should not exceed four inches above the knee. Students may not wear skirts or dresses shorter than four inches above the kneecap. A student who violates this rule will be warned, and made to change the garment on the first offense, and, if a second offense occurs, that student will not be allowed to wear shorts or other dress mentioned above for the remainder of the year. No cut-off shorts or sweats are permitted. No hats are allowed on campus. No writing on the back side of pants or sweats are acceptable.

**The principal or his/her designated person(s) has the authority to determine inappropriate dress.**

Students are to wear clothing in the manner for which it is designed. No clothing shall be worn inside out; suspender/braces shall be fastened. Belts should be buckled, worn through the loops and not allowed to hang down in any manner. Students are prohibited from wearing excessively loose or baggy clothing including shirts, tops, pants, and shorts. For students in grades 4-12, clothing, cuts, slits, or tears in clothing should not exceed four inches above the knee. (1) Extremely tight clothing shall be prohibited**. Leggings and other tightly fitting pants must be covered with clothing that meets the four-inch standard stated above**.

Pants should be of the appropriate size in the waist and inseam. Pants are not allowed that sag off the hips. Pants are not to touch or drag the ground or floor. Pants cannot have rips, tears, or holes in them.

Shoes or sandals must be worn (No Flip Flops). Hats, caps, headbands, visors, or bandannas may not be brought on campus.

**PIERCINGS**

Boys are prohibited from wearing earrings to school. **This includes earrings covered by bandages or any type of retainers used to preserve the piercing**. Girls are permitted to wear earrings in their ears only. All students are prohibited from wearing other implements for body piercings or retainers for such. **The first offense student will be asked to take the piercing implement out and it will be given back to the parent pending a conference. The second offense is considered defiance.**

**HAIR STYLES**

Students’ hair should be kept clean, neat and well-groomed and of a length not dangerous around equipment (hair must be secured around equipment).  Spiked hair, Mohawks, designs cut in hair, or hair that disrupts the educational process will not be allowed.  Hair, including highlights, that is not a natural shade of hair color is unacceptable, i.e. pink, blue, green, purple, etc.

**Backpacks**

Backpacks are allowed.

#### SCHOOL VISITORS

Visitors must obtain permission and a pass from the office to be in buildings or on school grounds. Photo ID is required. Visiting of students is not allowed during the school day.

1. **PARENTS**

Parents are invited and encouraged to visit the school; however, visits during the school day should be cleared through the principal’s office. Parent-teacher conferences are most important in improving the learning atmosphere. Conferences may be held with the principal during the school day. Conferences with teachers must be scheduled before or after school, or during the teacher’s planning period, cleared through the principal’s office. The administration and teachers urge parents to arrange a conference early in the school year.

1. TRESPASSING

UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY ARE TRESPASSERS AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO LEGAL PROSECUTION.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE

Parents are urged to contact the school for a parent-teacher conference appointment whenever interested. Please keep in mind that teachers cannot be called from class, but will be glad to return your call during their planning period.

MEDICATION

**Board Policy 5.16 - Medication**:

A Parent/Prescriber Authorization form must be completed and signed by the physician (prescriber) and the parent/guardian for prescription medication to be dispensed at school. The parent/legal guardian is responsible for having the medication forms completed and delivered to the school.

The parent/guardian must provide the school with medication that is in a correctly labeled prescription

bottle/container. The parent/guardian or the parent designated responsible adult shall deliver ALL medications to the designated school personnel. The school personnel will count and document all controlled substances in the presence of a parent/guardian or parent designated responsible adult.

Non-prescription Medication: The parent must complete and sign the Parent/Prescriber Authorization form. This medication must be in the original unopened container. Dosage will not exceed package directions for weight and/or age. A Parent/Guardian Authorization for non-prescription medications is valid for nine weeks only. Parent/guardian has the option of submitting a new form after nine weeks, if warranted. After the nine-week period is over, the parent/guardian must pick up the medication. In order for the non-prescription medication to be valid for the entire school year, a physician/prescriber must sign the medication authorization form. If the medication is not picked up within two weeks after the parent/prescriber authorization expires, the medication will be discarded per federal guidelines.

The registered nurse will determine if non-prescription medications are appropriate and whether a provider order is also necessary. On the last day of school, parents are responsible for picking up any remaining prescription or non-prescription medication. Designated school personnel will discard remaining medications in a manner consistent with federal guidelines. School personnel will refuse to administer medication when there is any discrepancy, i.e. label is different from instructions, label is unclear, or label is torn. This medication will not be given until clarification is obtained. All medications to be administered by school personnel shall be kept in a securely locked cabinet. Students are not allowed to keep over-the-counter or prescription medications on person unless the registered

school nurse has determined it to be safe and appropriate and in compliance with the Kyle Graddy Act.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY

The Blount County Board of Education and J.B. Pennington High School clearly prohibit the unlawful use, possession, or distribution of alcohol or other illicit drugs by students on school premises or as part of any sanctioned school district activity.

TOBACCO POLICY

Use or possession of tobacco in any form including vapor and/or electronic cigarettes is expressly prohibited on school premises and school buses including trips at all times, regardless or whether school is in or out of session.

1st Offense: One day Out Of School Suspension or Two days of In School Suspension (student must complete three educational packets/courses on vapes/tobacco before returning to regular classes). A parent/guardian will have to meet with a school administrator and sign the Notification Form For: Nicotine Products, E-Cigarettes, Vapes, & Tobacco Products.

2nd Offense: Ten days at the Blount County Alternative School plus attend the Nicotine, Vape, & Tobacco Prevention Program at the Professional Development Center in Cleveland (a parent/guardian will be required to attend the Nicotine, Vape, & Tobacco Prevention Program with the student). The Nicotine, Vape, & Tobacco Prevention Program will be taught on Saturday mornings. Failure to attend the Nicotine, Vape, & Tobacco Prevention Program will result in an additional three day placement at the Blount County Alternative School. Those who fail to attend the Nicotine, Vape, & Tobacco Prevention Program on the original date will also be enrolled into the next available class. The

address for the Professional Development Center is 62561 U.S. Highway 231 Cleveland, AL 35049. A

parent/guardian will have to meet with a school administrator and sign the Notification Form For: Nicotine products, E-Cigarettes, Vapes, & Tobacco Products.

3rd Offense: Out of School Suspension pending a disciplinary hearing.

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● Students who are serving a Two-day In-School Suspension placement on the first offense will be excluded from extracurricular activities on one of the two days during the suspension.

● Students will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities while serving an Out of School Suspension or an Alternative Placement for any nicotine or tobacco offense.

● Students will receive a “0” for any grades taken during the Out of School Suspension time period.

Students who have or use E-Cigarettes, Vapes, or other products that contain THC or test positive for

THC will result in an automatic suspension pending a disciplinary hearing. Students will also have to

attend the Nicotine, Vape, & Tobacco Prevention Program.

OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE

Communication skills are essential in today’s society. Proper communication will enhance a student’s chance of being successful and accepted in all vocations and social settings.

Pennington High School does not condone or approve of offensive language. We stress courtesy and respectfulness during the school day and at school activities. This applies to casual conversation as well as conversation directed toward someone or in reference to someone.

CARE OF PROPERTY

It is the duty of every pupil to be a protector and caretaker of property belonging to the school system. Pupils who injure, deface, or destroy any property of the school system will be required to pay for the damage. Pupils must respect the property rights of others.

LOCKERS

Students have the opportunity to rent lockers to store their books, etc. Students cannot use classroom, gym dressing rooms, or cars as lockers. Lockers remain the property of the school. Although a student may exercise control of his/her locker as opposed to access by fellow students, the control is not exclusive against school officials. School officials may inspect lockers at any time to insure school safety and pupil welfare. Students are not to share lockers – they are SINGLE lockers. Students are responsible for damages due to overloading or jamming (enabling it to be opened without the combination).

SAFEKEEPING OF VALUABLES

*Students are discouraged from bringing valuables or large sums of money to school.*

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Students will be expected to maintain high standards of conduct whenever in the library media center. All students must strive to keep a quite atmosphere conducive to learning and help keep the media center and lab neat and attractive. Any lost or damaged library book must be paid for.

# STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Board Policy 5.20 - Student Complaints and Grievances Procedures:

#### Grievances

Level One-The resolution of a grievance through free and informal communications as close as possible to the point of origin is encouraged. A student with a grievance may first take it to his immediate teacher or principal. Both shall be consulted prior to further resolution procedures.

Level Two-In the event the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of his grievance at Level One, he may file an appeal in writing with the Superintendent or his designee. Within ten (10) days from receipt of the grievance, he shall request a conference with the aggrieved or render a written decision.

Level Three-In the event the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of his grievance at Level Two, he may request the Superintendent or his designee to schedule a brief hearing before the Board of Education at its next regular meeting.

The aggrieved person may select a representative to accompany him at each level, may ask such representative to state the facts in written form, and may request a written decision at each level outlined above.

The grievance procedure must be initiated at the level at which the grievance occurred, and all requirements specified must be observed by students and school officials.

For the discussion and consideration of a grievance, time and place will be selected which will not interfere with regular scheduled classes or school related activities. The faculty and administration shall make an honest effort to resolve student grievances as quickly as possible at the most immediate level of supervision

**Confidentiality**

1. To the greatest extent possible, all complaints and/or grievances will be treated as confidential.
2. Limited disclosure may be necessary to complete a thorough investigation. The school's and district's obligation to investigate and take corrective action may supersede an individual's right to privacy.
3. The complainant's identity shall be protected, but absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. The identity of the victim of a reported act shall be protected to the extent possible.

**Retaliation Prohibited**

1. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment in connection with filing a complaint or assisting with an investigation.
2. Retaliatory or intimidating conduct against any individual who has made a complaint or any individual who has testified, assisted, or participated, in any manner, in an investigation is specifically prohibited and as detailed in this policy shall be treated as an incidence of bullying or harassment.
3. During the investigation, the principal/designee may take any action necessary to protect the complainant, other students or employees consistent with the requirements of applicable regulations and statutes.

The procedure to be followed by any student regarding an individual grievance is first to discuss the matter with a teacher (if the teacher is involved). If the problem is unresolved the student may, within five school days after the first meeting, take the matter before the principal. If the problem remains unresolved the student may, within five school days after the meeting with the principal, make an appointment to take the matter before the Superintendent of Education. The Superintendent will make any decision or take any necessary action concerning the student’s grievance.

Problem Solving Team

# The PST is a school-based, problem-solving group. Students who are having difficulty in academic classes are referred to the PST by the teacher, the parent, the counselor, or the principal. The PST reviews the student’s grades and test scores and suggests intervention strategies for the classroom teachers. After 30 days, the PST reconvenes, reviews the progress of the student and decides if interventions should be continued or if other action should be taken.

# PROMOTION AND RETENTON GUIDELINES

Seventh and Eighth Grades

A. English Language Arts*/*Reading: Must successfully complete the English Language Art/Reading program with 60% accuracy:

B. Math: Must successfully complete the math program with 60% accuracy.

C. Must successfully complete 1 of these 2, or 2 of these 3 subjects (when Reading is a separate course) with 60% accuracy

1. Science

2. Social Studies

3.. Reading

Requirements for placement of students in the sophomore, junior and senior classes are as follows:

1. Sophomore class – a student shall have passed at least four major subjects since completion of the eighth grade and shall have earned six units of credit.
2. Junior class – a student shall have passed at least eight major subjects since completion of the ninth grade and shall have earned twelve units of credit.
3. Senior class – a student shall have passed at least twelve major subjects, shall have earned eighteen units of credit, and must be scheduled for sufficient subjects to meet graduation requirements.

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation from an Alabama High School denotes the completion of a school program that has been planned and administered to meet as nearly as possible the needs of the students. The Alabama State Courses of Study shall be followed in meeting the program requirements.

**Graduation/Baccalaureate/Senior Portrait Dress Code:** In order to participate, males must wear white, button-up, collared, long sleeve dress shirts, dress slacks or khakis, dark ties, dark socks and dark dress shoes. **Piercings that are not acceptable during the school day will not be worn during these exercises**. Females must wear suitable dresses and dark shoes. Jeans, tennis shoes, and boots are not allowed. In addition to the above mentioned dress, all students participating in graduation shall only wear the unaltered graduation attire that is purchased through a designated vendor. This attire includes a cap with tassel, gown, and any additional distinctive honor cords for school related achievement. If any senior needs help in procuring these dress items or has a question regarding dress code for graduation, contact the principal or the guidance counselor in ample time before graduation. Senior Portraits taken for the yearbook will adhere to the following guidelines: Males will be pictured in tuxedo jacket, shirt, and bow tie. Females will be pictured in a drape.

**Board Policy 5.5 Graduation Requirements**

Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of 2013-2014 (graduating class of 2017), all students will be under Alabama's One Diploma option. No additional LEA endorsements will be awarded. Diploma options for special education students should be determined by the student, parent/guardian, and the IEP team.

**5.5 C.** Any number of units (or subjects) earned in an approved summer school/credit recovery program for purposes of eligibility based on AHSAA guidelines may be counted. Units earned in the summer (at summer school or through credit recovery) for eligibility purposes must be posted **t**o the student's transcript prior to the first fall contest date.

**Board Policy 5.6 Graduation Honors** (revisions are underlined):

For the Class of 2027 (first-time ninth graders of 2023-2024) and thereafter, the Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian for the graduating class of each high school must meet the following requirements:

1. Students must have attempted and received a passing grade in all honors courses offered at their school site. (Transfer students will not be held accountable for honors courses not offered at the transferring school.)

2. Candidates for Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian must have been not only continuously enrolled at the same high school, but also have completed course work at their school site for the last three semesters prior to the date of their graduation.

All academic subjects taken (including those taken at the Blount County Career Technical Center) will be counted in class ranking. Grades that are given to support school activities or for being an office, library or teacher’s aide/audit will not be counted when calculating grade averages. Honor students will be chosen according to the highest grade point average carried out to the 100th place if necessary to distinguish placement. In the event that two or more students have the same numerical average for any of the top three honors, provided the average has been taken out to the 100th place, then the two (or more) students shall share the honor. Schools may also recognize additional honor graduates using the same student requirements and ranking method.

Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, weighted credits will no longer be added to courses.  The only exception will be for schools that are part of the A+ College Ready Advanced Placement Grant Program.  AP course at these schools shall be weighted 1.25 if students successfully complete the course and take the corresponding AP exam.

Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of 2013-2014 (graduating class of 2017) schools will recognize students who graduate with a 3.5 or higher GPA as graduating “With Honors.” The honors should follow these guidelines:

1. Overall GPA for credit-bearing courses should be used in the calculation.
2. 3.500 – 3.7999 = “With Honors,” 3.800 – 3.999 = “With High Honors,” 4.000 and above = “With Highest Honors”
3. An Honor Seal may be affixed to the Alabama High School Diploma
4. Students graduating with any level of “honors” should be recognized accordingly during the graduation ceremony.

Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of 2013-2014 (graduating class of 2017) all students will be considered for Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian Awards which will be based on semester grade point averages calculated from grades nine through eleven and the first semester of grade twelve. All subjects taken (including those taken at the Blount County Career Technical Center) will be counted in calculating grade averages. Numerical grades will be based on a maximum of 100 points possible. Honor students will be chosen according to the highest grade point average carried out to the 100th place if necessary to distinguish placement. In the event that two or more students have the same numerical average for any of the top three honors, provided the average has been taken out to the 100th place, then the two (or more) students shall share the honor. Grades that are given for being an office, library or teacher’s aide/audit will not be counted when calculating grade averages.

J.B. Pennington High School will recognize the top ten students in each class based on highest grade point averages for the students who take all the honors or dual enrollment classes that are offered at J.B. Pennington High School.

**ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA** completed in Grades 9-12 inclusive.

**English Language Arts** **4 Units**

Four credits to include:

\*English 9 1

\*English 10 1

\*English 11 1

\*English 12 1

**Mathematics 4 Units**

Three credits to include:

\*Algebra I or it’s equivalent 1

\*Geometry or it’s equivalent 1

\*Algebra II w/Trigonometry or Algebra II or 1

it’s equivalent

\*One credit from Alabama Course of Study: 1

Mathematics or Career and Technical Ed/Advanced

Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary

equivalent courses

# Science 4 Units

Four credits to include the equivalent of

\*Biology 1

\*A physical Science (Chemistry, Physics, Physical Science) 1

\*Two credits from : Alabama Course of Study: 2

Mathematics or Career and Technical Ed/Advanced

Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary

equivalent courses

**Social Studies** **4 Units**

Four credits to include :

\*World History 1

\*U.S. History I 1

\*U.S. History II 1

\*American Government ½

\*Principles of Economics ½

\*Life P.E. 1 Unit

\*Health Education ½ Unit

\*Career Preparedness 1 Unit

\*Career and Technical Education and/or Foreign Language 3Units

and/or Arts Education

\*Electives 2 ½ Units

**Minimum Units Required Total 24 Units**

**ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY**

J.B. Pennington High School and the Blount County Board of Education have established a clear philosophical foundation for the expectation of integrity and authenticity for all student work. J.B. Pennington’s faculty and administration feel that:

* Students should each assume personal responsibility for achieving their educational goals.
* High standards and expectations are set for all students, with provisions for their individual learning styles.
* A climate of trust and respect is essential for an effective learning environment.

**Honesty is…**

doing your own work, crediting others’ words, pictures, facts, and ideas, keeping your eyes on your own paper, not copying, and using electronic sources with integrity.

In keeping with these beliefs, the faculty and staff of J.B. Pennington High School have developed the following policy. Integrity, authenticity, responsibility, and trust are the backbone of this Honesty Policy. In addition to the philosophical underpinnings of the policy there is a practical consideration. Teachers need to know exactly what students are capable of doing in order to assess student’s proficiencies. Simply stated, we expect students to represent their own work honestly and accurately at all times.

NOTE: In assigning group work, the teacher holds responsibility for identifying individual and group accountability with regards to the Honesty Policy.

**Dishonesty is…**

As defined by American Heritage Dictionary

1. Plagiarism:

To steal and use ideas and writings of another as one’s own

When students plagiarize, they usually do so in one the following four ways:

* *Using another writer’s words without proper citation*. If you use another writer’s words, you must place quotation marks around the quoted material and include a footnote or other indication of the source of the quotation.
* *Using another writer’s ideas without proper citation.* When you use another author’s ideas, you must indicate with footnotes or other means where this information can be found.
* *Citing your source, but reproducing the exact words of a printed source without quotation marks.* This makes it appear that you have paraphrased rather than borrowed the author’s exact words. Borrowing all or part of another student’s paper or using someone else’s outline to write your own paper.
* *Using a paper writing “service” or having a friend write the paper for you.* Regardless of whether you pay a stranger or a friend, it is a breach of academic honesty to hand in work that is not your own or to use parts of another student’s paper.

2. Cheating:

To present as your own work, something that you did not do.

Copying from someone else’s paper, using notes (unless expressly allowed by the teacher), altering an exam for re-grading, or getting an advance copy of an examination are all violations of school policy.

To help someone else to cheat. Also considered cheating are…

* “Wandering eyes”, allowing one’s eyes to stray to another person’s work on quizzes or test
* copying videos or images without crediting the source
* re-writing another’s papers and presenting it as one’s own work

**Any student who violates this policy will be disciplined.**

#### GRADING

Grades are earned in each course on an A, B, C, D, or F basis.

#### SCHEDULE CHANGES – ADD/DROP

All changes in student course schedules are to be confirmed by counselors or administrators. Students are to make all course changes during the first three days of a semester or term.

###### J. B. PENNINGTON HIGH SCHOOL RULES AND PROCEDURES

**THE USE OF SCHOOL TELEPHONES**

The telephones on the school’s campus are for emergency use only and need to be kept clear. School Phones can only be used with a pass from your teacher, nurse, or administrator. Students should take time to prepare for their school day well in advance or before they arrive. Parents please have all plans made for afterschool activities made before your child arrives at school. Students must bring a note and have it approved before 1 PM before changes will be made. (No Phone Calls Accepted on changes unless a family or medical emergency).

**NO LUNCH DELIVERIES ALLOWED**

No lunch deliveries will be allowed to students during the school day.

#### CHECK-IN PROCEDURE

##### Students who come to school late will check in through the office. Students arriving to school while homeroom is in session will sign in inside the front door and then report to homeroom. Students reporting late to school 3 times will be assigned morning detention for first offense. Students arriving to school after homeroom will have to check in to school in the main office and will either have to bring in an excuse or be counted unexcused.

#### CHECK-OUT PROCEDURE

We, at PHS, encourage and enforce strong attendance policies. The following check-out procedures are to ensure good attendance at all times. If the parent or guardian can’t be reached during the school day, the parent or guardian may designate a close relative or friend to check the student out. This may be done in the form of a signed note on file in the office, which designates the individual that may check out that student. Should a student become ill at school, every effort will be made to contact the student’s parent or guardian. Students will not be allowed to check out on the basis of a note or without prior parent/guardian approval. The parent should come to the office and check out the student personally or contact the office by telephone. All check-outs must be approved by a school administrator. A doctor’s excuse or parent note with the student name and date absent must be turned in to the office to excuse the absence from class. A student with an unexcused check-out may not make up missed work. Any exceptions to the policy must be approved by the principal. A student who checks out prior to 11:15am will be counted absent a full day when determining truancy.

#### HALL PASSES

No student is to leave any class, library, or P.E. without a properly signed pass by the teacher in charge. If a student needs to go to the office, he/she should go to the teacher first. If the teacher thinks it is a valid reason, he/she should write the excuse. The teacher will be the screening agent for students going to the office. ONLY ONE (1) STUDENT’S NAME MAY APPEAR ON EACH PASS!

#### TEXTBOOKS

State-owned textbooks are furnished. A lost, damaged, or stolen textbook must be paid for before a new one can be issued. Each student is responsible for returning all textbooks issued when transferring, withdrawing, or expelled from school.

# CONDUCT AT AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students attending after-school activities such as football or basketball games, dances, programs, etc. are still under the authority of the school when at these activities.

It is hoped that students will always conduct themselves at these after-school activities in such a way as to reflect positively upon themselves, their parents, and their school.

# CLUBS

A student will not leave a classroom unless his name is on a club roster. If you leave a classroom to attend a club during club period, you are expected to be present at the meeting of the club. These clubs will meet providing they have sponsorship and participation. It is the responsibility of the club members and sponsors to schedule meetings within the framework of the school schedule. After or before school meetings are acceptable with proper supervision and permission from the administration.

SGA

The Student Government Association is the elected offices of the student body. The SGA consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two representatives from each class 9-12 and one representative from 7th grade and 8th grade.

The SGA was established to assist in management of the school and to provide a greater sense of responsibility and cooperation among students. The organization has the power to suggest any rules for the betterment of J.B. Pennington High School. The organization strives for academic excellence and respect for law and order, as well as working to preserve and further the good name, spirit, and traditions of J.B. Pennington High School.

Elections are held each spring. All candidates must display leadership ability, good conduct, excellent school attendance, and a willingness to accept responsibility Candidates must have a “B” average or better for the school year of and preceding the election.

**Junior Civitan**

Junior Civitan is a service organization for young people, tailored specifically for training them to follow “Builders of Good Citizenship” in the home, school, community, and nation. This organization participates in community service projects, Relay for Life, Salvation Army Volunteer Program, and fundraisers for school projects. It is open to all students in 10th – 12th grades.

# The National Beta Club

National Beta Club is the largest independent, non-profit, educational youth organization in America. For more than 80 years, it has prepared today's students to be tomorrow's leaders. Beta’s mission originated with Dr. John W. Harris, a professor at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, who founded the organization in 1934. Over 80 years have passed, but his vision and Beta’s mission has remained the same. Most people who have been fortunate enough to be called a member have embraced those ideals and applied them to their own lives.

MISSION STATEMENT:To promote the ideals of academic achievement, character, service and leadership among secondary school students.

ACHIEVEMENT - Recognizing and honoring high academic achievement  
CHARACTER - Preparing young people for life and empowering them to be successful  
LEADERSHIP - Developing the leaders of tomorrow  
SERVICE - Demonstrating our motto: *Let Us Lead by Serving Others*

Induction is by selection for qualified freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of service, leadership, and character. SELECTION IS NOT MADE ON THE BASIS OF GRADES ALONE.  After becoming a member, you are required to maintain a 3.5 GPA.  All faculty members are invited to make comments on candidates, but the selections are made by the five appointed members of the faculty council.  Students who question the fact that they were not selected do not have a right to a hearing, but they and their parents should be given the opportunity to present their complaints to the principal or chapter advisers.

**Fellowship of Christian Athletes**

FCA’s purpose is to demonstrate steadfast commitment to Jesus Christ and His word. The club has breakfast devotions on game day and hosts motivational speakers.

**Fellowship of Christian Students**

FCS is open to all 7th- 12th grade students who want to dedicate themselves to being the best example they can be at all times. Projects include the annual “mitten tree” and writing letters to sick kids who need to know someone cares.

**Scholars Bowl Team**

This club was formed to enable J.B. Pennington High School to compete in academic competitions against other schools in the area. We compete in Radio Scholar’s Bowl against other county teams, and at university competitions against area teams. It is for students in 10th-12th grades. Those interested must have exemplary behavior and access to transportation to and from matches.

**FFA**

The mission of J.B. Pennington FFA Chapter is to make a positive difference in the lives of young people by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. FFA offers many opportunities for recognition at the local, state and national levels. None of us are born leaders, but FFA can help you become one. FFA members strengthen their personal skills, learn to manage their time, and discover how to respect themselves and gain respect from others.

FCCLA

FCCLA is a nonprofit career and technical student organization. Everyone is part of a family, and Family Career and Community Leaders of America is the only career technical student organization with the family as its center focus. Chapter projects focus on a variety of youth concerns, including teen pregnancy, parenting, family relationships, peer pressure, environment, nutrition and fitness, teen violence, and career exploration. Members must be enrolled in a FCS class or must have completed 1 year of family and consumer science. Involvement in FCCLA offers members the opportunity to expand their leadership potential and develop skills for life-planning, goal setting, problem solving, decision making and interpersonal communication-necessary in the home and work place.

**Journalism**

Journalism is made up of the yearbook and newsletter staffs and is sponsored by Mrs. Amanda McHan. The yearbook staff is responsible for taking pictures, writing copy and captions, drawing layouts, and the overall production of the school yearbook. The newsletter staff produces a weekly newsletter. This newsletter goes out every Monday afternoon to each student’s household.

**Tri-M**

Tri-M is an honor society for music students in grades 9-12. Tri-M chapter meets during the school year to plan chapter activities for the community and school. Prospective members are nominated by Tri-M members and faculty. Meetings are held once per month, and the formal induction ceremony is held in January. To be a member in Tri-M, you are required to have at least a “C” in your academic subjects and a “B” in your music courses. Upon filling out an acceptance form for Tri-M membership, you will be required to choose between submitting an oral report, performing a solo, or performing with an ensemble.

**First Priority**

First Priority allows students to discuss religious beliefs and enhance their character and leadership skills. Beginning at 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, students come together to pray, listen to a guest speaker, and enjoy a small breakfast. Anyone interested in religion, leadership, building character, and eating is welcome.

# EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY

**Extracurricular Activity Participation—Academics First.**  Effective for all students in Grades 8-12 beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities shall be determined by grades earned during the 2001-2002 school year and 1999 summer school, and shall remain in effect for each succeeding year in the same format as described herein and as is specifically provided in subsection (b) below. Local boards of education shall implement this policy as a minimum for all students in Grades 7-12 under their control. Each local board of education shall notify the State Superintendent of Education within 30 days of receipt of notice of adoption of this rule by the State Board of Education that it is in effect in all applicable schools within its jurisdiction.

a) Definitions.

1. Extracurricular activities associated with athletics are defined as those recognized and sanctioned by the Alabama High School Athletic Association, and other extracurricular activities are defined as those that are sanctioned by a public school which are not related to a student’s academic requirements or success in a course(s).

2. Regular curricular activities are defined as those that are required for satisfactory course completion.

b) Eligibility Requirements.

1. Students entering Grades 10-12 must, for the last two semesters of attendance and summer school, if applicable, have a passing grade and earn the appropriate number of credits in each of six (6) subjects that total six (6) Carnegie units of credit, including four (4) credits from the four (4) core subjects composed of English, science, social studies, and mathematics with a composite numerical average of 70. Students entering Grades 8 and 9 must, for the last two semesters of attendance and summer school, if applicable, have a passing grade in five (5) subjects with a composite numerical average of 70 with all other rules applying the same as to students in Grades 9-12. Students promoted to the seventh grade for the first time are eligible. (A semester is defined as one-half of a school year as defined by the local Board of Education adopted school year calendar.)

2. Physical education may count as only one (1) unit per year.

3. Any number of units (or subjects) earned in an approved summer school/credit recovery program for purposes of eligibility based on AHŞAA guidelines may be counted. Units earned in the summer (at summer school or through credit recovery) for eligibility purposes must be posted **t**o the student's transcript prior to the first fall contest date. If a unit(s) or subject(s) is repeated in summer school, the higher numerical grade for the unit(s) or subject(s) may be used to compute the composite grade average.

4. A student who is eligible at the start of the academic year remains eligible for the entire academic year. Students deemed ineligible at the beginning of the school year by virtue of having failed to meet the requirements outlined in 2.(b) 1. above may regain their eligibility at the end of the first semester by meeting the requirements for eligibility in the two most recently completed semesters, including summer school. Eligibility restoration must be determined no later than five (5) school days after the beginning of the succeeding semester.\*

5. An ineligible student may not become eligible after the fifth school day of each semester. Bona fide transfers may be dealt with according to rules of the Alabama High School Athletic Association for sports and rules to be developed by each local board of education as they pertain to other extracurricular activities.

6. Each eligible student entering Grades 10-12 must have a minimum composite numerical average of 70 and minimum of six (6) Carnegie units from the preceding year including summer school. Summer school work passed may substitute for regular school work repeated in computing the 70 average.

7. Each eligible student involved in athletics must meet the definition of regular student as defined by the Alabama High School Athletic Association.

8. Any student who earns more than four (4) credits in the core curriculum in any given year or who accumulates a total in excess of the required four (4) per year may be exempt from earning the four (4) core courses in the succeeding year as long as that student remains on schedule for graduation with his/her class by earning eight (8) core credits over any two-year span, including summer school.

c) Participation Requirements

1. School sponsors are required to submit a request for each curricular activity that occurs outside the regular school day and/or school to the principal, superintendent, and the local Board of Education for approval.

2. Each request for full participation by all students, regardless of academic standing, in a curricular activity shall be granted if the principal, superintendent, and the local Board of Education approved participation in the activity as an extension of a course(s) requirement(s) and it is an event sanctioned by a state/national subject matter association.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this regulation, activities offered by the school through math, science, band, choral music, and other courses at events such as athletic events (pre-game, game, halftime, or other breaks), club conventions, parades, amusement park trips and competitions, trips by tour companies, performances at various meetings, etc., are extracurricular, and students academically ineligible under this policy shall not be allowed to participate.

4. Decisions on a student’s participation in extracurricular activities should be developed and reached on a local school/system level consistent with the requirements found in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (1997) and its implementing regulations, both federal and state, as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if the student is identified as eligible under these statutes, rules, and regulations, and such participation is determined to be appropriate.

\*Note: Unit calculations for regaining eligibility at the end of the first semester may not coincide exactly with units for graduation for students in school on six- or seven-period days.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION

If a student is absent from school for more than one-half of a day, that student will not be allowed to perform, play, or practice with his or her particular extracurricular activity on the day of the absence. This will involve all students and all extracurricular activities. If a student has to be absent from school, this student must seek approval of the principal in advance if he or she wishes to participate in the extracurricular activity. Upon the student’s request, the principal shall make a decision about the student’s participation. The principal shall make this decision after deliberation with the coach, sponsor, or director of the student’s extracurricular activity.

FEES THAT A STUDENT MUST PAY IF HE/SHE WANTS COURSE CREDIT

Local schools may set reasonable fees in non-required courses for laboratory, shop materials, and equipment. No fee shall be collected for courses required for graduation. These courses in high school are: English, Mathematics, Science, Health, Foreign Language, Physical Education, American History, Economics/Government. Some courses may ask for donations to offset cost of lab materials.

Blount Co. Career Technology Center $25.00

Keyboarding Class $5.00

Family and Consumer Science $20.00

Agriscience and Technology $20.00

Driver Education $25.00

Band $30.00

Computer Education $25.00

Computer Science $25.00

Career Prep $20.00

A student’s financial inability to pay the above fees shall not prohibit him from enrolling and completing the school year and the courses listed above. The parents of a student who is unable to pay the fee or fees due to financial inability must complete the form entitled “School Fees Exemption Claim Form” supplied by the Superintendent of Education and available in the principal’s office.

# BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES - CLASSIFICATIONS OF VIOLATIONS AND SANCTIONS

It is fundamental that orderly schools have clearly defined behaviors to which students must conform. Nonconformity to these behaviors becomes violations of the code of student conduct. Violations are grouped into four classes (Class I, Class II, Class III, and Class IV) which range from the least to the most serious. Appropriate school personnel shall investigate, verify and determine classification of student conduct on a school campus, at school-related events, or while being transported to or from school-related events.

Below is a listing of each class of violations and possible sanctions. As the violations increase in seriousness, the severity of the possible sanctions increases.

CLASS I VIOLATIONS

* 1. Distraction of other students
  2. Intimidation of a student
  3. Illegal organizations-any on-campus participation in fraternities, sororities, secret societies, gangs, or other unauthorized school clubs.
  4. Unexcused tardiness-reporting late to class
  5. Non-direct use of profane language or obscene manifestations (see 2.08)
  6. Non-conformity of dress code (inappropriate gang related dress)
  7. Disruption on a school bus
  8. Inappropriate display of affection-including, but not limited to, embracing and kissing
  9. Refusal to complete class assignments-including continued failure to bring materials to class
  10. Failure to follow appropriate directives from a board of education employee (Administrator, teacher, counselor, teacher’s aide, substitute teacher, bus driver etc.)
  11. Unauthorized use of school or personal property (radios, CD players, electronic games)
  12. Littering of school property
  13. Inappropriate displays of behavior-horseplay, shoving, tripping, rudeness-in hall, classroom, lunchroom, assembly, pep rally and/or other school-sponsored function
  14. Vehicular violations (sitting in vehicle, going to vehicle without permission)

\*Any other violation which the principal may deem reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of extenuating circumstances.

CLASS I DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Administrative responses for Class I violations may include, but are not limited to:

Conference with student

Verbal reprimand

Written assignments

School/Community service

Withdrawal of privilege(s)

Parent Conference(s)

Temporary removal from class (including prohibiting student from attending special events, i.e. field trips)

Detention

In-school suspension

Corporal Punishment

Bus suspension

Saturday School

Other sanction(s) deemed necessary or appropriate by school administration

CLASS II-VIOLATIONS

* 1. Insubordination, defiance, disrespectful of board of education employee’s authority; any verbal or non-verbal refusal to comply with a lawful direction of board of education employee
  2. Vandalism/property damage-Intentional damage to public property ( i.e. desks, tables, bus seats); or real property of others; in all cases student shall make monetary restitution for damages.
  3. Theft of property $50.00 or less
  4. Gambling- any participation in games of chance for money and/or other things of value such as flipping coins, matching etc.
  5. Possession of stolen property with the knowledge that it is stolen
  6. Threats/extortion/harassment/bullying.
  7. Trespassing/Illegal school entry- Breaking, entering or remaining in a structure or conveyance without jurisdiction and/or supervision during the hours the premises are closed to the public
  8. Direct use or repeated non-direct use of profane language, obscene manifestation (verbal, written, electronic, gesture directed toward another person – (see 1.05) and/or possession of inappropriate or pornographic material
  9. Malicious mischief or graffiti on school property or buses
  10. Unauthorized absence from school and/or class/skipping
  11. Written or verbal proposition to engage in sexual acts
  12. Touching of another person (offensive touching or touching with sexual connotation)
  13. Possession of and/or use of matches or lighters
  14. Possession of/or use of electronic pager, laser light pointer or unauthorized communication device (includes electronic equipment-radios, stereos, tape decks, CD equipment, electronic games, wireless phones etc.)
  15. Providing false information to a board of education employee-intentionally providing false information to a school board employee including giving false student information or concealment of information directly relating to school business. This includes forgery of school notes, re-admittance slips, tardy slips, excuse slips, report cards, hall passes, field trip forms, notes from parents or guardians, or any other material required by the school.
  16. Dishonesty and cheating
  17. Unsafe/unlicensed driving on school property or other violations of the school parking/driving rules
  18. Engaging in any act that is deemed harmful, including acts of aggression and practical jokes
  19. Harassment-speech or other expression (written, electronic or gestures) intended to insult or stigmatize others on the basis of their sex, race, color, disability, religion, sexual orientation or national and ethnic origin. (Use of racial insults or slurs)
  20. Violation of Medication Policy-(possession and/or use of prescription or non-prescription medication, inhalants, or over the counter products without following proper procedure.)
  21. Multiple Class I violations will result in Class II sanctions

\*Any other violation the principal deems reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of extenuating circumstances

CLASS II DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Administrative responses for Class II violations may include, but are not limited to:

Temporary removal from class (including prohibiting students from attending school functions, such as field trips etc.)

Detention

In-school suspension

Corporal punishment

Saturday school

Out of school suspension

Alternative education program

Referral to outside agency

Expulsion

Other sanction(s) deemed necessary or appropriate by school administration

Subsequent violations may result in suspension up to five (5) school days plus additional disciplinary action as warranted. Special circumstances may warrant referral to the Alternative School, or the filing of a CHINS, Delinquent, or Dependent Complaint or Petition in Juvenile Court.

CLASS III VIOLATIONS

* 1. Fighting on school grounds, buses or school-related functions or events
  2. Inciting or participating in major student disorder-leading, encouraging or assisting in disruption which results in destruction or damage of private property or personal injury to participants or others.
  3. Unjustified activation of fire alarm system or fire extinguisher
  4. Possession of Nicotine, Vape & Tobacco Products. First offense, one day out of school suspension or two day in-school suspension, a parent meeting, and complete three educational components on vapes/tobacco prior to returning to regular classes. Second offense, ten days at the Blount County Alternative School, plus attend the Nicotine, Vape, & Tobacco program. (see 5.07D) Third offense, Out of school suspension pending a disciplinary hearing.

3.04a. Tobacco, use

3.04b. Tobacco, possession

3.04c. Tobacco, sale

3.04d. E-Cigarettes, use

3.04e. E-Cigarettes, possession

3.04f. E-Cigarettes, sale

3.04g. Vape/Vapor, use

3.04h. Vape/Vapor, possession

3.04i. Vape/Vapor, sale

* 1. Unauthorized use of school computers/violation of Internet policy.
  2. Indecent exposure of the human body on school property, buses or at school-sponsored events or functions.
  3. Extortion-the act of obtaining service, money or information by the use of threats
  4. Aggressive contact/assault which causes physical harm
  5. Robbery-The taking of money or other property (may subject the student to larceny) from the person or custody of another by force, violence, assault, or putting in fear of same. Restitution will be required.
  6. Theft of property-The intentional unlawful taking and/or carrying away of property valued at $50.00 or more belonging to or in the lawful possession or custody of another. Restitution will be required.
  7. Possession, sale, use, furnishing, or giving of a prohibited item not listed above.

3.11 a Possession of a prohibited item not listed above

3.11 b Sale of a prohibited item not listed above

3.11 c Use of a prohibited item not listed above

3.11 d Giving of a prohibited item not listed above

* 1. Threats, harassment, intimidation, bullying
  2. Multiple Class I and II violations will result in Class III sanctions

\*Any other offense which the principal may deem reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of extenuating circumstances

CLASS III DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Administrative responses for Class III violations may include, but are not limited to:

Out-of-school suspension

Alternative education program

Referral to outside agency, including the criminal justice system

Expulsion hearing

Restitution of property and damages where appropriate

Other sanctions deemed necessary or appropriate by school administration

CLASS IV VIOLATIONS

* 1. Sexual offense-Acts of a sexual nature which occur on school property, school buses or when the student is in attendance at a school sanctioned activity. These acts include but are not limited to battery, indecent exposure, intercourse with a student, attempted rape, or rape.
  2. Assault/Battery on another person (student, teacher, staff member, visitor, etc). The unlawful and intentional touching or striking of a school board employee against his/her will or the intentional causing of bodily harm to a school board employee. In accordance with the Code of Alabama, 16-1-24(b) (c), the principal shall notify appropriate law enforcement when any student violates board policy concerning physical harm or threatened physical harm against another student or employee of the Board.
  3. Possession of a weapon-students are prohibited from bringing to the school campus, having in their possession on campus, on the bus or personal vehicle, or in their lockers any lethal weapon or facsimile, including but not limited to a firearm, bomb, fireworks, explosives, knife, hunting knife, bayonet, razor, razor blade, letter opener, ice pick, hat pin, metallic knuckles, tear gas gun, throwing star, chemical weapon or devise, pepper gas or any other weapon, instrument or object

4.03 a Knife, possession

4.03 b Knife, sale

4.03 c Knife, use

4.03 d Other weapon, possession

4.03 e Other weapon, sale

4.03 f Other Weapon, use

* 1. Possession, sale and/or igniting explosive device

4.04 a Explosive/incendiary or poison gas, possession

4.04 b Explosive/incendiary or poison gas, sale

4.04 c Explosive/incendiary or poison gas, use

* 1. Possession of Firearms – any firearm (including a starter gun which will, or is designed to, or may already be convert to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive), the frame or receivers of any such weapon, with intent to do bodily harm on School System property, including a school bus, is a Class C felony. In accordance with the Code of Alabama, 16-1-24.1 (b) (c), the principal shall notify appropriate law enforcement officials when any student violates Board policy concerning physical harm or threatened physical harm against another student or employee of the Board.

4.05 a Firearm, possession

4.05 b Firearm, sale

4.05 c Firearm, use

* 1. Crimes as defined under the laws of the city, county, State of Alabama, or United States
  2. Arson-the willful and malicious burning of any school property. In accordance with the Code of Alabama, 16-1-24.1 (e) (2), parents are liable for damages to school property cause by their child (children).
  3. Unlawful sale, purchase, furnishing or giving or possession of a) prescribed/non prescribed drugs (see definition and exceptions under Drugs and Medication ) b) illegal drug paraphernalia or c) alcoholic beverage-In accordance with the Code of Alabama 16.1.24.1 (b) (c) the principal shall notify appropriate law enforcement officials when any student violates Board policy concerning drugs and/or alcohol.

4.08 a Alcohol, possession

4.08 b Alcohol, sale

4.08 c Alcohol, use

4.08 d Alcohol, furnishing or giving

4.08 e Drugs, possession

4.08 f Drugs, sale

4.08 g Drugs, use

4.08 h Drugs, furnishing or giving

* 1. Bomb Threat- Any such communication concerning school board property that has the effect of interrupting the educational environment. Any student found to have made a bomb threat or to have falsely reported such a threat that is related to any school system facility, operation, or activity is subject to immediate expulsion procedures. Any student who stands by and aides, abets, or assists another person to make a bomb threat or to falsely report such a threat that is related to any school system facility, operation or activities is subject to immediate expulsion procedures. Any student who counsels, advises, persuades, encourages, or dares another person to make a bomb threat or to falsely report such a threat that is related to any school system, facility, operation or activity is subject to immediate expulsion procedures.
  2. Multiple Class II and Class III violations will result in Class IV sanctions.

Class IV DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

All 5 steps apply.

1. Parent/guardian notification and conference
2. Notify the local police ( or sheriff)
3. Notify Juvenile Justice authority
4. Immediate suspension pending a hearing (within 5 (five) school days)
5. Initiation of procedures for an Administrative Hearing to consider a recommendation to the Superintendent of action(s) ranging from placement in an Alternative School to a recommendation for expulsion.

School principals must notify appropriate law enforcement officials when any person violates local board of education policies concerning drugs, alcohol, bomb threats, weapons, physical harm to a person, or threatened physical harm to a person. If that person is a student enrolled, the local school system shall immediately suspend that student from attending regular classes and schedule a hearing at the earliest possible date which shall not be later than five school days. The decision to initiate disciplinary action and/or initiate criminal charges against a student shall include a review and consideration of the student’s exceptional status, if applicable. Code of Alabama 16-1-14 (1975)

TARDY TO CLASS

Any student that arrives to class tardy three times will be sent to the office and will receive consequences that may include morning detention.

#### CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Good discipline in the school is extremely important to the total school program and is vital to the development of citizenship. In dealing with pupils, teachers are expected to exercise toward them those courtesies which pupils are required to show teachers. The finest possible human relationship should at all times be maintained.

1. Corporal punishment may be administered after other control measures have not appeared effective and after the nature of the offense has been explained to the pupil.

2. Corporal Punishment, when necessary, may be administered by teacher or administrator with a witness and not in the presence of another student. Parent’s refusal of Corporal Punishment to their child will be honored, but will result in an alternate punishment equal to or possibly greater than corporal punishment.

# MORNING DETENTION

Students may be assigned detention by both the teachers and the principal for having committed a variety of offenses, e.g. tardiness to class, misbehavior, etc. If a student is to be detained after school hours, the student must be given notice of such detention in time to notify parents or legal guardian and arrange for necessary transportation. Detention will be held on Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00-7:30a.m.

#### IN-SCHOOL DETENTION / SUSPENSION GUIDELINES

The policy of PHS is to establish an on-campus detention program designed to provide a structured disciplinary atmosphere in which a student is isolated or removed from regular classroom activities but is not dismissed from the school setting. The basic philosophy of the ISD/ ISS is to provide an alternative to off-campus suspension and to attempt to modify disruptive behavior by isolating the disruptive student from his or her classmates.

1. Student will be assigned work by regular classroom teachers and will be expected to complete these assignments. (Assignments made by the teachers should relate to the work that is being covered in the classroom.)

2. Student will be assigned to ISD/ ISS for a specific number of days. (These days will not be counted as absent from class. Student will be able to make up any work missed in his or her regular classes.)

3. On-campus detention CAN BE EXTENDED if work assignments are not completed. The student will not be allowed to make up work missed during the extension of ISD / ISS.

4. Students in ISD/ ISS will have lunch at a time when they will be unable to associate with other students.

5. The teacher is asked to make assignments extensive so the student’s time will be occupied with class work.

6. Teachers may send a test for the student to take during his or her time in ISD/ ISS or allow the student to make up the test at the end of ISD.

#### BREAK DETENTION

1. Students will report to the designated break detention area immediately after the break bell rings.

2. Assignments/tasks will be determined by school officials.

3. A student not reporting for break detention will automatically be referred to the assistant principal.

#### SATURDAY SCHOOL

1. Students not reporting for Saturday School will automatically receive three days in the alternative school.

REMOVAL OF PUPILS CREATING DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS – SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

A principal may suspend a pupil from school for violation of school rules and/or other misconduct. A pupil may be suspended for a stated period of time not to exceed nine days per term. Additionally, a principal may request board expulsion of a pupil for repeated violations of school rules or for other misconduct which endangers persons or property or seriously disrupts the education process. A pupil may be expelled for the remainder of the school year. A student who accumulates three (3) suspensions will be subject to expulsion from school. The student must be given an oral or written notice of the charges against him/her and, if he denies them, an explanation of the evidence and an opportunity to present his/her version. A suspended student will not be allowed to participate in any school extracurricular activities during the suspension period. (A hearing should immediately follow the misconduct, but, if prior notice and hearing are not feasible, as where the student’s presence endangers persons or property or threatens disruption of the academic process, thus justifying immediate removal from school, notice and hearing should follow as soon as practical.) The hearing must be held within three school days following the suspension.

Reasons for which suspension action may be taken against a student include but are not limited to such acts as:

1. Use of obscene or abusive language
2. Willful disobedience of persons acting in an official capacity
3. Possession of obscene or pornographic literature and other material
4. Taking another’s property under duress, by threat, by stealing, or by other fraudulent means
5. Fighting or engaging in violent behavior
6. Possession of, consumption of, or intoxication due to use of restricted or controlled drugs or alcoholic beverages, chemicals and chemical substances including but not limited to lacquer thinner. Also, possession of any drug paraphernalia
7. Unauthorized presence during the school day at any school or on school property where not enrolled
8. Violation of the policy on medication
9. Continuous disruption of classroom procedures
10. Use of tobacco in buildings or on buses or smoking on campus

Written accounts of suspensions must be filed in the school office and a copy sent immediately to the Superintendent. Immediately after suspension, a written notice of suspension will be mailed or sent to the parent or guardian. A parent or guardian must accompany the student on his/her return to school unless the principal specifically exempts such requirements.

**IF A STUDENT IS SUSPENDED, HE OR SHE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE UP WORK MISSED DURING THE SUSPENSION. A STUDENT IS NOT ALLOWED ON CAMPUS DURING THE PERIOD OF THE SUSPENSION OR TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY EXTRACURRICULAR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.**

###### GENERAL RULES

1. Students will not be allowed in the building at break and during their lunch period.

2. Students should check in through the office when late for school. School doors open at 7:30.

3. Students should check out through the office when leaving the campus for any reason. The PHS campus is a closed campus.

4. NO food or drink will be allowed in the building at any time for any reason except bottled water.

5. Students should not go on buses parked in bus area during the school day.

6. Students should stay away from rooms where classes are in progress during break and lunch.

7. Students should not bring radios, beepers/pagers, tape players, etc., to school. These items will be confiscated and kept by the school.

8. Students will not go in the gym or gym dressing rooms at any time except the period in which they have P.E.

9. Teachers should not excuse students from any class to use the phone.

10. Technical students who miss the bus should report to the office.

11. No head gear/hats are to be brought to school. Hats will be taken from students who fail to follow the rule.

##### 12. **STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE OR CHEW GUM AT J.B. PENNINGTON HIGH SCHOOL.**

13. Most students never have any problems if they do what they know is right. A few individuals will, however, invariably commit acts that cannot be ignored. It would be impossible to make a list covering all possible acts that interfere with the orderly educational process that is essential to effective learning. The disposition of some incidents not listed must, therefore be left to the discretion of school officials. Repeated offenses may result in additional corrective actions.

14. Use good judgement and keep the noise down in the hallways. Always keep to the right of halls and stairways.

15. Neither the local school nor the Board of Education is responsible for medical bills for students which result from accidents that occur during the school day or at school functions. School Day Accident Insurance is available in the school office and should be purchased by any student whose parents do not have medical insurance.

16. Book bags are now permissible

17. Students are only permitted to use the phone for emergency purposes. School phones will not be used for personal reasons.

#### PARKING REGULATIONS

**Any student driving to school that accumulates (3) unexcused tardies to school in one semester will have his/her driving privileges revoked for one semester.**

1. All students wishing to obtain a parking permit must have a valid driver’s license, vehicle registration/insurance, and must be in grades 10-12.

2. The cost of a parking permit is $30.00. All students who wish to park a vehicle on the school premises must have a valid parking decal.

3. The driver/owner of the vehicle accepts the responsibility for liability of passengers and property of others.

4. Safe driving habits must be observed at all times.

5. The following rules should also be observed.

a. Cars are to be parked by 7:35a.m. Cars are not to be moved until student dismissal time, or if student is checking out of school.

b. Students should not go to their cars during school hours. Cars should not be used as lockers, closet, cafeteria, etc.

c. All cars must be in their assigned space/lot.

d. Any student who drives in a reckless manner will lose his/her driving privileges.

6. All parking violations will be recorded.

7. Parking permits may be obtained from the Assistant Principal.

**The school has a right to have the vehicle removed at owner’s expense at any time the vehicle is parked in an unauthorized zone.**

#### DRIVER’S TEST

The driver’s test is given daily at the Blount County Courthouse. Cullman County Courthouse hours are: Mon. – Fri. – 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Students must be picked up by a parent or legal guardian to take the written test. A student getting a driver’s permit must obtain a signed Student Enrollment/Exclusion Status form from the main office prior to reporting to take the driver’s test. Only one day will be excused for this test.

#### SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT

Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to follow the same behavioral standards while riding school buses as are expected on school property, in the classroom, or a school activity, functions, or events. All school rules are in effect while a student is riding the bus or at the bus stop.

Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the bus driver, school principal, or the principal’s designee. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school office. Serious misconduct will be reported to the Department of Public Safety and may be reported to local law enforcement.

# TORNADO PLAN AND FIRE DRILL

The tornado plan is signaled by three short bells in succession. Students will be taken to the safest location possible.

Teachers will follow posted assignments for each room.

The fire drill is signaled by one long continuous bell.

1. All students must leave the building when the alarm is given.
2. Teachers must accompany students to designated area.
3. No one will enter the building until the clear signal is given. (bell-verbal-visual)

See Fire Plan Diagram posted in each classroom.

**CAFETERIA**

No one is allowed in the cafeteria who does not have business there. Good manners and cleanliness are required of all. RUNNING to get in the lunch line or playing in food WILL NOT be tolerated; students will wait their turn without pushing or breaking line. STUDENTS SHOULD THROW AWAY ALL TRASH BEFORE LEAVING THE LUNCHROOM. **Breakfast and Lunch will be FREE for ALL Blount County Schools' Students for School Year 2023 - 2024. No applications or additional information from parents is required. We encourage all students to participate in our Breakfast and Lunch Programs to help ensure that we will be able to continue to offer free meals to our students.**

**Concerning meal prices for Employees and Visitors, USDA does not allow Employees and**

**Visitors to eat at no cost. Meal prices for Employees and Visitors for SY 23-24 are listed**

**Below:**

**Adult Meals: Breakfast/ Lunch**

**All Teachers $2.85/$4.35; All Substitutes $2.85/$4.35; All Visitors $3.25/$4.75**

**ATTENDANCE**

If you are to profit from your experience here at PHS it is essential that you attend class. The daily interaction between teachers and their students, as well as the interaction between students, is an essential part of your education. Absence harms your ability to learn, and it diminishes the experience of your peers. Because schools have the responsibility of helping to prepare young people for adult life, we must promote positive attendance habits to students who will live in a world which expects excellence. Absences are a fact of school life, but too often absences are likely to be for personal convenience or recreation rather than for illness. The Blount County Board believes this should not be. Students should be in attendance and on time. The Board promotes the idea of increasing school attendance through communications with parents, and efforts should be made to ensure that all students are attending school on a daily basis.

**After an absence from class, a complete or incomplete day, students must submit an excuse within 3 days. On the excuse, please note the date or dates absent, the reason, and the student name.**

Any student absent from school for more than half of the school day is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity (football, basketball, choir, band, etc.) scheduled to occur on day student is absent from school. An attendance incentive program shall be implemented with exemptions granted for final exams (equivalent to the present second semester) to all grade levels based on attendance and grades according to the following plan:

A. Students may be exempt from semester exams if they have (a) an 85+ average and one absence or less, or (b) a 90+ average in the class with three absences or less.

B. If a student checks in or out of a class three times during a term, he loses one attendance day in that class. Each class teacher will be responsible for enforcing this policy for exemptions.

C. The class teacher will validate exemptions for exams by signing a form. This form will help teachers keep up with students’ exam-exemption status to keep students from claiming that they thought they were exempt.

**Board Policy 5.4 - Attendance**:

Alabama law requires that all children between the ages of (3) six and (2) seventeen be enrolled in and attend school.  In addition, new state law amendments (Ala. code s. 16-28-16, as amended by Act 1999-705) provide that all children who choose to enroll in school even if not of compulsory school age, are subject to the school attendance and truancy laws of the state.  All students should attend school regularly and be punctual for all classes in order to receive the greatest benefit from the instructional program and develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and individual responsibility. There is a direct relationship between poor attendance and class failure.  Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more. Students who miss more than 15 total days in a school year are considered “chronically absent” by the state and are at a higher risk of negative school outcomes. Students who miss as little as two days each month miss an entire year of instruction over their K-12 school span.  This can have a detrimental effect on achievement and future success. Attendance at school shall be one of the factors considered in determining the promotion of a student from one grade to another or in any given course.

Parents and guardians are responsible for enrolling their children in school and ensuring that the children attend school and obey behavior policies adopted by the Board.  Parents failing to enroll students and ensuring their attendance and proper behavior are subject to fines and imprisonment under state law. State law also requires that all student suspensions from school must be reported to the local district attorney.

Principals must report to the local superintendent any parent, guardian, or other person having control or custody of a child who fails to require the child to attend school or receive instruction by a private tutor, or fails to properly conduct him/herself at school.  The Superintendent or designee is required to report the violators to the district attorney within 10 days.

1. Compulsory Attendance – Every child between the ages of six (6) and seventeen (17) must attend a public school, private school, church school, or be instructed by a competent private tutor for the entire length of the school term except that every child attending a church school is exempt from the requirements of the *Code of Alabama* (1975) 16-28-3;16-28-5, provided such child complies with the enrollment and reporting procedure specified in the *Code of Alabama* (1975) 16-28-7 of the code.  It is the policy of the Blount County Board of Education that children enrolled in a private school, church school, or instructed by a private tutor must provide appropriate documentation to the Superintendent within 10 days after the beginning of school or upon withdrawal from school or upon residency in Blount County.
2. Absences and Excuses – Every parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of any child required to attend public school, private school, or church school, shall as soon as practical explain the cause of any absence of the child under his control or charge which was without permission of the teacher.  Failure to furnish such explanation shall be admissible as evidence of such child being a truant with the consent and connivance of the person in control or charge of the child, unless such person can show to the reasonable satisfaction of the court that he had no knowledge of such absence and that he had been diligent in his efforts to secure the attendance of such child.  *Code of Alabama* (1975) 16-28-15

A good cause or valid excuse, as used in this section, exists when on account of sickness or other condition attendance was impossible or entirely inadvisable or impracticable or when, by virtue of the extraordinary circumstances, the absence is generally recognized as excusable. *Code of Alabama* (1975) 16-28-13

Students are not permitted to be absent from school without a valid excuse.  Absences will be designated as excused or unexcused.  Excused absences will be permitted for the following reasons:

* Personal illness
* Hospitalization
* Emergency conditions as determined by the principal
* Death in immediate family
* Court subpoena
* Legal quarantine
* Absences approved by the principal prior approval (including military leave of parent or guardian)

Documentation supporting an excused absence must be submitted within **three (3) days** after the student returns to school or the absence will be deemed to be unexcused.  Excessive unexcused absences may result in a loss of academic credit or referral of the matter to juvenile or other appropriate legal authorities for investigation.

**Only seven (7) days or partial days can be excused by parent/doctor notes each semester as a valid excused absence.**

Any absence over seven in a semester will be marked unexcused in the attendance register.  If a student has significant medical diagnosis, parents can submit a Medical Condition Release Form and a physician’s letter to the school documenting the medical condition and the necessity of additional absence days.  Students with qualifying medical condition can be granted additional days as determined by the school.  Letters and release forms must be resubmitted each school year. Homebound services may be provided for qualified students as determined by the Board of Education.  
  
**Excessive unexcused absences may result in a loss of academic credit or referral of the matter to juvenile or other appropriate legal authorities for investigation.**  
  
C.    Make-up Work – Excused Absences  
If a student is absent for any excused reason as defined above, the student shall be allowed to make up school work missed during said absence or absences.  The student shall be responsible for contacting the teacher or teachers to arrange for make-up work.  Said student shall contact the teacher or teachers to make up work within three (3) days after returning from said absence.  
  
D.    Make-up Work – Unexcused Absences  
Teachers shall not provide make-up work or examinations for students absent for unexcused reasons.     
  
E.    Academic Incentives – for exceptional attendance  
Students may be exempt from semester exams if they have (a) an 85+ average and one absence or less, or (b) a 90+ average in the class with three absences or less.  
  
F.    Academic Sanctions – for excessive unexcused class absences  
Students that exceed eight (8) absences in a semester or sixteen (16) total absences in a school year will lose course credit and/or be retained.

G. Truancy Reporting

**Truancy Definition**

A parent, guardian, or other person having charge of any child officially enrolled in Alabama public schools (K-12) shall explain in writing the cause of any and every absence of the child no later than three (3) school days following return to school.  A failure to furnish such explanation shall be evidence of the child being truant each day he is absent.  Seven (7) unexcused absences within a school year constitute a student being truant for the purpose of filing a petition with the Court.

All children enrolled in Blount County Schools, whether compulsory school age or not, are subject to school attendance and truancy laws of the State of Alabama.  All cases of non-enrollment or non-attendance will be investigated by the Blount County Board of Education Attendance Officer. In cases where there is no valid reason for absence, the attendance officer will give written notice to the parent, guardian, or other person having control of the child to require attendance of the child within three days of the date of the notice.  If the absence is found to be without valid excuse or reason and intentional, the attendance officer shall be required to bring criminal prosecution against the parent, guardian, or other person having control of the child.

(16-28-16 Code of Alabama Effective July 1, 2000.)

**1st Truancy/Unexcused Absence (warning)**

* Parent/guardian shall be notified (by memo or phone notification) that the student was absent.

**2nd Truancy/Unexcused Absence (Principal’s Letter)**

* Parent/guardian will be notified by letter that the student was truant and provided a copy of the student’s attendance.

**3rd Truancy/Unexcused Absence (Attendance Officer Letter)**

* Parent/guardian shall be notified by letter that the student is not in compliance with school attendance laws and policies and advised of the penalties that can be applied and the procedures that shall be followed in the event that other unexcused absences occur.

**5th Unexcused Absence (Early Warning)**

* The parent, guardian, or person having control of the child shall participate in the Early Warning Truancy Prevention Program provided by the Juvenile court.
* Attendance at the Early Warning Truancy Prevention Program shall be mandatory except where prior arrangements have been made or an emergency exists.
* Failure to appear at the Early Warning Truancy Prevention program can result in the filing of a complaint/petition against the parent under *Code of Alabama*. (1975), 16-28-12(c) (failure to cooperate), or a truancy against the child, whichever is appropriate.

**7th Unexcused Absence**

* The Attendance Officer will file a complaint/petition against the child and/or parent/guardian, if appropriate.

**Child under probation**

* The school attendance officer should be notified by the juvenile probation officer of all children in the school system under probation supervision by the juvenile court as consistent with state statute.
* Where a child under probation is truant, the school attendance officer should immediately notify the juvenile probation officer.

**Suspensions are unexcused absences, but do not constitute unexcused absence total for truancy purposes.**

Board Policy 5.22 - Head Lice (Pediculosis):

All new students grades K-6 must be screened and cleared for pediculosis before being enrolled in school. Siblings, grade 7-12, of positive students must be screened before being enrolled. If students are identified positive, the Pediculosis Parent Information Sheet will be provided.

All classes, K– 6th grade will be checked by teachers. Routine checks will be performed every other Friday or as scheduled and should be completed by 8:30 a.m. Additionally, checks will be performed the second day of class at the beginning of the school year and the day students return from specified holidays and breaks.

All changes to the pediculosis screening schedule must be approved by the Central Office. Students that are absent will be screened on the following school day and guidelines followed. A school plan should be established to allow for a trained teacher or designated person(s) to check classes where a substitute is in place of an absent teacher.

All findings shall be documented using the approved forms. If evidence of pediculosis, bugs or nits, is found, the identified students’ names should be listed on the Pediculosis Screening List and delivered confidentially to the re-checker as soon as possible.

The re-checker should either call or send for the identified students. The re-checker is responsible for confirming the evidence of pediculosis. Regardless of the findings, the student should be sent back to the classroom. Hopefully, this will decrease the amount of attention that causes the student to be stigmatized.

If a student is positive for pediculosis, parents should be notified to pick up the child as soon as possible. Siblings of the positive students in grades 7-12 should be brought to the office and checked by the designated person.

A letter (Form A) stating that evidence of pediculosis wasfound, and the general information sheet should be given to the parent along with verbal and demonstrated instructions. The parent should sign, in the designated space, acknowledging receipt of the letter. A copy of this letter should be placed in the individual student’s pediculosis file each time he/she is newly identified. If the student is picked up by the parent or guardian, a signature should be obtained at this time. In a case where the student was not picked up from school, the signature should be obtained when the student is re-checked for clearance.

A student who is returning to school after treatment must check-in through the school office and be screened by the designated person. The school may require that the student be brought back for recheck by the parent/guardian. A doctor’s or health department’s excuse does not preempt these admission requirements.Re-checks should be completed within the first two hours of the school day. When cleared, the student will receive a *Return to Class Pass* that shall be taken to the school’s office for re-admittance.

The student must be free of ALL NITS and LICE before being readmitted to school**.**  A doctor’s or health department’s excuse does not preempt these readmission requirements!

If a student is not clear and is sent back home, the parent or guardian should be given additional verbal and demonstrated instruction on checking their child’s head plus another copy of the general information sheet.

Nits should not be pulled from the student’s hair by school personnel.

The school nurse may notify the school social worker if the student has not returned for a recheck within two days.

A copy of all information given to the parent/guardian must be copied and placed in the student’s pediculosis file. Records must be kept up-to-date. This document serves as a legal record of the dates/times when a student has been sent home and when the student has been cleared to return to school.

The day the student is identified with bugs or nits AND/OR sent home will be the only excused absence. Routine screenings are done on Friday giving the parent extra days to clear the child of head lice.

The school should be aware of health hazards which may provide for spreading of lice, i.e., mats, proximity of coats and jackets on racks, and listening station earphones.

When a case of pediculosis is suspected prior to the biweekly check, the teacher must screen the entire class. The teacher may not screen an individual student or may not refer the student to the school nurse unless the entire class has been screened. If evidence of pediculosis is found, guidelines must be followed.

**Board Policy 5.26 - Exceptional Children**

The Blount County Board of Education ensures that all children residing within the jurisdiction, age 3 to 21, regardless of the severity of the disability that need special education and related services are identified, located, and evaluated and provided a free appropriate public education as established by state and federal regulations.

Persons employed to teach the special classes must meet basic requirements for Alabama certification in special education.

Parents or legal guardians registering children in special classes at the Blount County Learning Center must accompany students at the time of their enrollment.

Each disabled student will be given the opportunity to participate in all extra-curricular activities and field trips which are offered to his/her non-disabled peers.

Intellectually gifted students are those who perform or who have demonstrated the potential to perform at high levels in academic or creative fields when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment. These children and youth require services not ordinarily provided by the regular school program. Children and youth possessing these abilities can be found in all populations, across all economic strata and in all areas of human endeavor. Gifted students may be found within any race, ethnicity, gender, economic class, or nationality. In addition, some students with disabilities may be gifted.

A student may be referred for consideration for gifted services by teachers, counselors, administrators, parents or guardians, peers, self, or any other individuals with knowledge of the student’s abilities. Additionally, all second grade students will be observed as potential gifted referrals using a gifted behavior checklist provided by the State Department of Education. Parents will be informed when their child is referred.

For each student referred, information is gathered in the following three areas:

* + - 1. Aptitude
      2. Characteristics
      3. Performance

The scores from the assessments/items used are entered on a matrix where points are assigned according to established criteria. The total number of points earned determines if the student qualifies for gifted services.

For more information or a referral contact the Special Education Coordinator.

**5.1  Admission for Foster Care, Homeless, Migratory, Immigrant (5), and Limited English Proficient Students**

Pursuant to the requirement of Every Student Succeeds Act and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act of 2001, all foster care, homeless, migratory, immigrant (5), and limited English proficient children in the district will have access to the education and services needed to ensure that an opportunity is available to meet the same academic achievement standards to which all students are held.

The enrollment of foster care, homeless, migrant, immigrant (5), and limited English proficient children and youth shall not be denied or delayed due to any of the following barriers:

* Lack of birth certificate
* Lack of school records or transcripts
* Lack of immunization or health records
* Lack of proof of residency
* Lack of transportation
* Guardianship or custody requirements

The district will ensure that foster care, homeless, migratory, immigrant (5), limited English proficient students are not stigmatized nor segregated on the basis of their individual status.  The student will be admitted to the district school in the attendance area in which the student is actually living or to the student’s school of origin as requested by the parent, guardian, education decision maker or homeless liaison in the case of an unaccompanied youth, and in accordance with the student’s best interest.

In the event of a dispute regarding eligibility or placement of a student as a homeless child, the parent or guardian shall be given notice and provided an opportunity for review of the dispute as prescribed by the State Board of Education’s administrative regulations.

In the event of a dispute regarding placement of a student living in foster care, the student will be immediately enrolled in the school requested by the student, guardian, or education decision maker while the appeal is being considered.

Transportation will be provided to and from the student’s school of origin at the request of the parent, guardian, or in the case of an unaccompanied student, the district’s liaison for homeless students.  In the event circumstances are not in the best interest of the student to attend the school of origin based on determination by the parent, guardian, or liaison, the student will attend the school in the attendance area of current residence. (4)

**Fight *Song***

**Let’s cheer the Tiger Team to victory;**

**Let’s stand behind the gold and white.**

**We’ll show the world that we’re behind them;**

**We’ll stand and cheer with all our might.**

**Rah! Rah! Rah!**

**Show our strength and courage.**

**We’ll never yield but always fight.**

**We’ll hit the field and never waver,**

**And we will win this game tonight!**

**Bell Schedule for J.B. Pennington High School**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **7th-8th Bell Schedule** | |  | **9th-12th Bell Schedule** | |
| 7:25 | Students report to Lunchroom |  | 7:25 | Students report to Lunchroom |
| 7:36 | Bell to Report to 1st Period |  | 7:36 | Bell to Report to 1st Period |
| 7:41-8:37 | 1st Period |  | 7:41-8:37 | 1st Period |
| 8:37-8:48 | 7th & 8th Break |  | 8:41-9:33 | 2nd Period |
| 8:52-9:44 | 2nd Period |  | 9:33-9:44 | 9th-12th Break |
| 9:48-10:40 | 3rd Period |  | 9:48-10:40 | 3rd Period |
| 10:44-12:01 | 4th Period w/Lunch (23 min) |  | 10:44-11:36 | 4th Period |
| 12:05-12:57 | 5th Period |  | 11:40-12:57 | 5th Period w/Lunch (23 min) |
| 1:01-1:53 | 6th Period |  | 1:01-1:53 | 6th Period |
| 1:57-2:50 | 7th Period |  | 1:57-2:50 | 7th Period |
| 2:50 | Bus-rider Dismissal |  | 2:50 | Bus-rider Dismissal |
| 2:54 | Car-rider/Pickup Dismissal |  | 2:54 | Car-rider/Pickup Dismissal |

J.B. Pennington High School

Handbook/Internet/Photo Permission Form Receipt

Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Full Name

Grade:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This is to certify that I have received my copy of the J.B. Pennington High School Handbook, Blount County Handbook, agree to the Internet permission policy, and grant permission for publication of my/my child’s picture. I understand that it is my responsibility to be knowledgeable of their content. I understand and agree that I will contact any administrator immediately with any questions or misunderstanding I may have regarding my rights and/or responsibilities in these documents.

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_