

Whale Branch Early College High School

169 Detour Road Seabrook, SC 29940 (843) 466-2700

http://wbh.beaufort.k12.sc.us/pages/Whale_Branch_Early_College_Hig

STUDENT & PARENT HANDBOOK

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Parents, Guardians and Students:

Welcome to a new year at Whale Branch Early College High School where Warriors are on the warpath for excellence. We hope that your years with us will be educationally profitable for you. We are extremely excited about the upcoming year and what the future has for our students.

We celebrate a new beginning and a new attitude of success for the school. We truly believe, "We are built for greatness!"

This year, we embark on our theme; **Warriors are on the Warpath for Excellence.** We want to strive for academic, social, emotional and athletic excellence. But most of all, we want all stakeholders to practice intelligent behaviors and habits. Here at Whale Branch Early College High School we want to create a successful learning and teaching environment for *all students*. The Faculty and Staff at Whale Branch Early College High School invites you to become learning and teaching partners as we strive for excellence and accuracy.

Students, we want to encourage you to be persistent with your studies, managing your impulsivity and reaching for your individual and school goals in achieving an Associate's Degree as well as graduating.

I look forward to meeting and working with all of you this year to make Whale Branch Early College High School, simply the best.

Have a successful year of teaching and learning. Let's Go Warriors!!

With kindest regards,

Whale Branch Early College Adminsitration

GENERAL INFORMATION



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION PRINCIPAL

Patricia Brantley-Moore <u>patricia.brantley-moore@beaufort.k12.sc.us</u> 843-466-1202

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Mr. Anthony Smith <u>Anthony.Smith@beaufort.k12.sc.us</u> 843-466-6795

Ms. Melanie McGrath <u>Melanie.McGrath@beaufort.k12.sc.us</u> 843-466-2811

BEAUFORT COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Frank Rodriguez, Superintendent

Board of Education

Mrs. Christiana Gwozdz, Chair			
Mr. Earl Campbell	Mrs. Patricia Fidrych		
Mrs. Joann Orisc <mark>hak</mark>	Mr. John Dowling		
Mr. William Smith, Secretary	Mr. Melvin Campbell		
Ms. Rachel <mark>Wisnefski</mark>	Mr. David Striebinger		
Mr. Richard Geier	Mrs. Cathy Robine, Vice Chair		

For updates and contact information, please check the district website <u>http://beaufortschools.net/</u>

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Physical Address: Mailing Address: 2900 Mink Point Boulevard Post Office Drawer 309 Beaufort, South Carolina 29902 Beaufort, South Carolina 29901

Telephone Number: (843) 322-2300

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

Beaufort County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability or citizenship status in employment or in any of its education programs or activities or offerings. The following administrator has been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies, rules and procedures: Beaufort County School District Designee at (843) 322-2300.

SCHOOL MASCOT

Warriors

SCHOOL COLORS Purple, Yellow Gold, & White

ALMA MATER

Oh, Whale Branch High A dream so bright It shines for all to see We lift our voice with revered pride For all the world to hear

Oh, Whale Branch High With Warrior's might our Alma Mater true With loyalty, we cherish thee You're forever in our hearts

Oh, Whale Branch High With Warrior's might our Alma Mater true With loyalty, we cherish thee You're forever in our hearts

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT To ensure excellence in education for every learner that prepares each with the knowledge, skills and personal responsibility to succeed in a rapidly changing global society.

WHALE BRANCH EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT TO

collaborate with stakeholders in order to provide a safe, caring, rigorous, and engaging learning environment that prepares all students to become Career and College Ready in a global society.

SCHOOL HOURS

The instructional school day is 8:45 am until 3:45 pm. Students are not permitted to leave the building without the permission of the administration and/or parents. Students may only be in the building or on campus between 8:15 am and 4:00 p.m. unless they are involved in an approved extracurricular school program or attending a school sponsored event. Those not participating will be asked to leave campus. School closures are announced on radio and television as well as through our district's School Messenger (Phone/Email).

Office Hours

All teachers provide and post hours to meet with students before or after school. Students should notify their parents and the teachers when they plan on attending before or after school tutoring. Please contact the teacher or check on the school's website to find a listing. There is a tutoring log in this agenda book for keeping track of tutoring attendance. You can also find additional support during Response to Intervention (RTI, Warrior Time).

BOOKKEEPER HOURS

The bookkeeper will accept payments from parents between the hours of 9 am to 2:30 pm. Student payments will be accepted between the hours of 12:15 pm to 2:15 pm. (Students' Lunch Time)

PARKING PASSES

All students planning to drive on school premises **must purchase parking passes for a cost of \$25 from the main office**. The WBECHS parking pass will be valid for the 21-22 school year.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

WBECHS Main Number (843) 466-2700 Nurse (843) 466-2725 Attendance (843) 466-2704 Guidance (843) 466-2716 Guidance Fax Number (843) 466-2848 Social Worker (843) 466-2746 Athletic Director (843) 466-2764 Beaufort-Jasper ACE (843) 987-8107 Bookkeeper (843) 466-2703 Media Center (843) 466-2700 School Resource Officer (843) 466-2766 District Office (843) 322-2300 BCSD Transportation Office (843) 322-0770 WBECHS Office Fax Number (843) 846-6827

Media Center

The school Media Center is available for students who wish to check out books, conduct research, or read in a quiet place. During classroom times, students must have a media center pass from their scheduled teacher and must sign in/out at the circulation desk. The Media Center is open from 8:00am – 4:00pm daily, unless otherwise posted. Students need to use the main doors on exit hallway at all times.

School Nurse

The nurse assists students who are ill or in need of medical attention. Students *must have a pass* from their teacher to go to the nurse's office, exception is given in emergency cases. The nurse will assist students and determine what nursing treatment and/or medical treatment, if any, is necessary. Contact with the parents or guardians will be made at that time to discuss further treatment, if necessary, or for parents to come pick up student.

South Carolina Law requires all students enrolled in a South Carolina school to have a Certificate of Adequate Immunization. This form may be secured from the Beaufort County Health Department or at the child's personal physician's office. A student from outside the district may be enrolled temporarily for 30 days. A certificate must be presented by the 30th day or the student will be suspended from school as required by South Carolina Law.

A medical card with parental signature, current health information, and emergency contact information is required to be on file throughout the year. Only after this is filled out by the parents or guardians, can any medications be given by the nurse to the student. Prudent nursing assessment and measures are always used first to alleviate any student discomfort.

Students who need to take medication prescribed by their physicians must store the medication with the nurse, in the prescription bottle with the directions and the pharmacy label on it. A form provided by the nurse must be signed by the parent or guardian and the physician must be on file in the Health office before the nurse may dispense this medication. Students are not allowed to carry any type of medication and/or take medication on their own unless written authorization is provided for life threatening situations.

The nurse is available to students with health questions and/or issues and will act as an advocate for students and parents. The nurse can provide assistance to use other health services in the community.

Vision and Blood Pressure Screenings are performed at least once in grades 9-12. The nurse is available during school hours. The nurse's phone number is (843) 466-2725.

WBECHS BELL SCHEDULES

2021-2022

WBECHS Regular Schedule

8:15-8:35 Breakfast (Students report directly to classrooms) ***Students marked tardy after 8:45***

FIRST LUNCH	SECOND LUNCH			
B-Hall UP, B-Hall Down &	C-Hall UP, A-Hall, Band, ROTC,			
C Hall Down	PE & D-Hall			
8:40-8:45	8:40-8:45			
Announcements	Announcements			
Student Dismissal to	Student Dismissal to			
1st Block	1st Block			
8:45- 10:10	8:45-10:10			
1st block	1st block			
85 minutes	85 minutes			
10:14- 11:39	10:14- 11:39			
2nd block	2nd block			
85 minutes	85 minutes			
11:43-12:13	11:43-12:13			
Warrior Time	Warrior Time			
30 minutes	30 minutes			
1st Lunch	12:17-1:42			
12:17-12:47	3rd Block			
30 minutes	85 minutes			
12:51- 2:16	2nd Lunch			
3rd Block	1:46-2:16			
85 minutes	30 minutes			
2:20-3:45	2:20-3:45			
4th Block	4th Block			
85 minutes	85 minutes			

WBECHS Student & Parent Handbook 21-22 WBECHS BELL SCHEDULE

HALF DAY SCHEDULE

2021-2022

8:15-8:35- Breakfast (Students either in the cafeteria or the gym once in the designated area, you must remain in the cafeteria or gym)

B-Hall UP/B-Hall Down & D-Hall	C-Hall DOWN & UP, A-Hall			
8:45-9:35	8:45-9:35			
1 st Block	1 st Block			
50 minutes	50 minutes			
9:40-10:30	9:40-10:30			
2 nd Block	2 nd Block			
50 minutes	50 minutes			
9:40-10:30	9:40-10:30			
2 nd Block	2 nd Block			
50 minutes	50 minutes			
10:35-11:25	10:35-11:25			
3 rd Block	3 rd Block			
50 minutes	50 minutes			
LUNCH	11:30-12:15			
11:30-11:55	4 th Block			
25 minutes	45 minutes			
12:00-12:45	12:15-12:45			
4th Block	LUNCH			
45 minutes	30 minutes			

****Students are marked tardy after 8:40 AM****

Activity Schedule 2021-2022

8:15-8:35 Breakfast (Students either in the cafeteria or gym) ***Students are marked tardy after 8:45***

FIRST LUNCH	SECOND LUNCH			
B-Hall UP, B-Hall Down &	C-Hall UP, A-Hall, Band, ROTC,			
C Hall Down	PE & D-Hall			
8:40-8:45	8:40-8:45			
Announcements	Announcements			
Student Dismissal to	Student Dismissal to			
1st Block	1st Block			
8:45-10:00	8:45- 10:00			
1st Period	1st block			
75 minutes	75 minutes			
10:04- 11:19	10:04- 11:19			
2nd block	2nd block			
75 minutes	75 minutes			
11:23-11:43	11:23-11:43			
RTI Warrior Time	RTI Warrior Time			
20 minutes	20 minutes			
1st Lunch	11:47-1:02			
11:47-12:12	3rd Block			
25 minutes	75 minutes			
12:16-1:31	2nd Lunch			
3rd Block	1:06-1:31			
75 minutes	25 minutes			
1:35-2:50	1:35-2:50			
4th Block	4th Block			
75 minutes	75 minutes			
3:00-3:45	3:00-3:45			
Activity TIme	Activity Time			
45 minutes	45 minutes			

THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM



The Early College Program

At Whale Branch Early College High School, students may earn their high school diploma and earn a two-year Associate Degree from the Technical College of the Lowcountry at the same time. WBECHS's early college model is the first of its kind in South Carolina.

In 2020, 28% of our graduates completed college classes and earned college credit hours. The class of 2020 graduates who were enrolled in the Technical College of the Lowcountry's Early College Credit Opportunities (ECCO) Program collectively accumulated college credit hours and earned associate and double associate degrees.

Students who qualify must have an unweighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale). They must also meet TCL's placement score requirements on the ACCUPLACER Test published by the College Board. This tool is used to assess student readiness for placement into college coursework and dual enrollment. SAT or ACT scores may also be used for placement purposes. College courses taken while at WBECHS are of no cost to the student's family and the student is able to earn college credit hours and high school credit simultaneously.

While most high school graduates enter college taking introductory college freshmen courses, our graduates can start college as a high school freshman, saving up to two years of university tuition costs.

What is an Early College?

The primary advantage of the Early College model is the opportunity for students to complete two years of college while in high school. Students can earn a college credential in the form of a certificate or degree while also earning their standard high school diploma. While most Early Colleges are found on technical college campuses, the concept at Whale Branch Early College High School is woven into the daily operations of a public high school. WBECHS students have the option to take college-level classes on both the WBECHS and TCL campuses.

Who is allowed to attend?

WBECHS serves students in the Whale Branch designated attendance area. In addition, students from other communities in Beaufort County can choose to apply.

How much does it cost students to take college courses at WBECHS?

WBECHS is a public high school; therefore, there are no additional fees/costs for students who take dual enrollment courses through the Technical College of the Lowcountry. Students should expect to pay the same fees they would incur at any district high school.

You may contact the TCL Coordinator, Ms. Dyneise Connor Johnson at 843-466-2771

Which college courses are offered on site at WBECHS?

WBECHS students can take several courses on site through the TCL Early College Program, including:

- 1. American History: Discovery to 1877
- 2. American History: 1877 to Present
- 3. American Literature I
- 4. American Literature II
- 5. Biological Science I
- 6. Biological Science II
- 7. College Algebra
- 8. College Trigonometry
- 9. Criminal Justice
- 10. English Composition I
- 11. English Composition II
- 12. Growth & Development I
- 13. Intermediate Algebra
- 14. Intro to Computers
- 15. Intro to Early Childhood
- 16. Microcomputer Applications
- 17. Probability & Statistics
- 18. General Psychology
- 19. Elementary Spanish I
- 20. Western Civilization Post 1689
- 21. Western Civilization to 1869
- 22. Anatomy & Physiology I
- 23. Anatomy & Physiology II
- 24. Introduction to Criminal Justice

Requirements to be able to be accepted into the early college program—You must achieve the following scores in reading and writing:

Reading 249 and Writing 249 are need to start DE courses.

**If you achieve the scores in reading and writing but not in math, you may still enter the program; however, *you must attain qualifying scores in math at some point during the Early College Program to obtain a certificate or degree.*

You need to receive the following scores in math: <u>MAT 110</u> Arithmetics 240

Arithmetic: 249 Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics: 250 or more Advanced Algebra and Functions: 200

Academics



DISTRICT HANDBOOK: STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The district has placed an electronic version of the **District Handbook**: *Student Discipline Code of Conduct* on the district's webpage. The contents are not intended to replace the actual policies, rules and administrative procedures established by the Beaufort County Board of Education and/or the Superintendent. If a policy, rule or administrative procedure contained in this handbook is abbreviated or in error, the document in the official Board Policy Manual and/or Administrative Procedures Manual will always take precedence.

Copies of the Board Policy Manual and the Beaufort County School District Administrative Rules and Procedures are kept at the District Office. These manuals are updated periodically and are available on the Internet: <u>www.beaufort.k12.sc.us</u>.

Student Code of Conduct- Cheating

Cheating is defined as follows: Willful or deliberate unauthorized use of another person's work for academic purposes, or inappropriate use of notes or other material in the completion of an academic assignment or test. In addition to disciplinary response, the grading of credit for this assignment may be considered null and void.

Specific types of academic dishonesty which will not be tolerated are defined below:

Cheating on a test: Any intentional giving or use of external assistance relating to an examination, test, or quiz without express permission of the teacher. This includes looking on another student's paper. Fabrication or any intentional falsification or invention of data citation, other authority in an academic exercise.

Unauthorized Collaboration. While collaboration is often encouraged; unauthorized collaboration is not permitted.

Plagiarism: Any intentional representation of another person's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism includes the misuse of published materials, electronic material, and/or the work of other students. The original writer who intentionally shares his/her paper for another to copy, without the permission of the teacher, is also engaged in plagiarism.

Alteration of Materials: Any intentional and unauthorized alteration of student, teacher, or library materials.

Forgery: Any unauthorized signing of another person's name to school related document. **Theft:** Any theft of materials.

Transfer of Unauthorized Materials: Any giving or selling of unauthorized materials.

Interim Progress Reports

Interim progress reports will be issued every three weeks. Quarterly reports will be issued every nine weeks. Additional reports may be sent at any time during the school year when a teacher feels it is necessary or upon parent request. Unsatisfactory reports serve as an invitation to parents or guardians to meet with the teacher and guidance counselor in an attempt to improve student performance. Students and their parents or guardians should review the interim reports carefully and especially note any variations in absences between school subjects. Such variations usually indicate that students are either cutting class or arriving late to class. If variations are noted, parents and guardians are advised to contact the appropriate guidance counselor.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued four times each school year (approximately every nine weeks). When reviewing report cards, parents and guardians should contact the appropriate teacher and/or guidance counselor to discuss any concerns. Report cards will not be issued to students who have outstanding obligations. Obligations can be fulfilled by contacting the bookkeeper. Please refer to the district calendar for dates of report cards, etc.

Transcripts

Transcripts can be requested with a *Request for Transcript Release Form* that must be signed by a parent unless the student is at least 18 years old. There is no fee for all official transcripts (for scholarship, award or other educational purposes) for students currently enrolled at Whale Branch Early College High School. If you are a former student requesting a transcript, you can send a written request to:

Whale Branch Early College High School ATTN: Guidance – Transcript Request 169 Detour Road Seabrook, SC 29940

Please include the following with your written request:

Complete name as it was listed in your student record Year of graduation of last year of attendance Name and address of where the transcript should be mailed

PowerSchool

Beaufort County School District provides access to your student's current grades, attendance and other information through the internet. In order to gain access, all parents will need to register. Parents will be able to access the internet from home, work, public library or coffee shop. In addition, you may add the App to your phone, so you may receive instant text alerts regarding your child's grades and assignments. Please keep your passwords confidential so only you can access the information. The following link is very resourceful for both parents and students: https://www.powerschool.com/parent-student-resource-center/

The following tutorials are helpful as well:

English version: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSR5B8csSn4</u> Spanish version: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=036IVOm2Mt8</u> How to set up and use the PowerSchool Mobile App tutorial: English version: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSR5B8csSn4</u> Spanish version: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnPP-kWBBpI</u>

E-Learning

All of our teachers use Google Classroom. Google Classroom is a free web service developed by Google for schools that aims to simplify creating, distributing, and grading assignments. The primary purpose of Google Classroom is to streamline the process of sharing files between teachers and students. Please make sure that your child joins his or her teacher's Google Classroom at the beginning of the year.

STATE TUITION GRANTS/SCHOLARSHIPS

*Please check their websites for updates to their requirements and availability.

SC TUITION GRANT South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission www.sctutiongrants.com Phone: (803) 896-1120

The SC Tuition Grant is a need-based state funded program available to eligible students enrolled full-time (12 hours per semester) at independent colleges and universities in SC who are charged the full-time tuition rate. Both students and parents must be residents of South Carolina for at least one year as of fall registration. Independent students or dependent students who are military personnel stationed in SC may be eligible. Students must complete the FAFSA by June 30 each year. There is a maximum of eight semesters of eligibility to receive this grant. Students must meet satisfactory academic progress and earn at least 24 credit hours each year for renewal. The amount of the grant changes each year due to state funding.

SC HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

SC Commission on Higher Education

http://www.che.sc.gov Phone: (803) 737-2260

The SC Hope Scholarship Program was established under the SC Education Lottery Act in 2001. It is a one-year merit-based scholarship created for eligible first-time entering freshmen attending a four-year institution. Eligible full-time students may receive up to the following award amount:

Up to \$2,800 towards the cost of attendance. This amount is based on the previous year's funding and is determined each year by the S.C. General Assembly

Initial Eligibility Requirements:

Must earn a cumulative 3.0 GPA on uniform Grading Scale upon high school graduation; Must

be a South Carolina resident at the time of high school graduation and college enrollment;

Must not be a recipient of the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship or LIFE; and Must meet all

general eligibility criteria.

There is no application required for the SC HOPE Scholarship. CSU students should complete the FAFSA online at <u>www.fafsa.ed.gov</u> and will be notified on their financial aid award letter if eligible for the scholarship.

Renewal Requirements: The HOPE Scholarship is for the first year only.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

2.0 GPA POLICY- (Altered for the 2021-2022 School Year)

The Beaufort County Board of Education endorses athletic activities that support students' attainment of high academic achievement. The Board believes that student participation in interscholastic athletics should be contingent on student successes in school as measured by grade point average, attendance and conduct. Subject to law, local rules adopted by BCSD and rules established by the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL), high school students are eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics. Eligibility of students in the programs for exceptional children will be in accordance with local, state and federal guidelines. The Beaufort County Board of Education has established standards for student eligibility and developed forms and assurances for students, parents, coaches and assistant coaches.

Violations of any standards established for athletic participation by students or their parents or guardians and/or any misrepresentation of any information submitted for athletic participation may result in the loss of the student's eligibility to participate in athletics in Beaufort County School District, and, potentially, in any school sanctioned by the SCHSL.

Additionally, staff members who exercise direct or indirect influence upon prospective athletes in an attempt to influence an athlete's choice of school assignment for the purpose of athletics or who otherwise violate any part of the rules regarding athletic eligibility will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

Grade Point Average and Eligibility to Participate in Athletic Activities

To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics, students participating in athletics must pass a minimum load as established by SCHSL and must meet BCSD promotion standards. In addition to existing academic requirements, all students are required to earn a weighted GPA of 2.0 each semester.

First semester eligibility is determined by the GPA earned during the preceding school year's final grades and second semester eligibility is determined using the GPA in the first semester of the same school year. Students first entering the 7th and 9th grades are academically eligible to participate in athletic activities. The GPA requirements outlined above will be fully implemented during the 2020-2021 school year.

Out of District Transfer Students

Out of district transfer students with a GPA less than 2.0, but eligible according to SCHSL policy, will be eligible to participate on probation for the remainder of the semester in which they enroll. Thereafter, the student must meet the BCSD 2.0 grade average eligibility requirement.

Special Education Students

Special Education students being served in a non-diploma program are eligible to participate if they are meeting the requirements of their IEP. Diploma program students must meet the requirements of the 2.0 GPA standards.

Summer School

Courses taken during the summer school program under guidelines established by BCSD may be used to recover credit affecting athletic eligibility for the fall semester. Per SCHSL guidelines, credits earned during summer school may be applied to the immediately preceding spring semester for athletic eligibility purposes.

Student Conduct

A student who is suspended from school is not eligible to practice, play, dress out, travel or attend any meeting during the time of suspension. If the suspension includes the last day of school before a vacation or weekend, the student becomes eligible at their base school the next calendar day after the last day of the suspension. Students who transfer in lieu of completing or in the midst of serving a long-term suspension at their base school are not eligible to participate in athletics at their new school for 365-days.

A student who is absent from school will not be allowed to practice, play, dress out, travel or attend any meeting of the team or group on the day of the absence. Exceptions such as funerals, field trips and college visitations must be approved by the principal in advance.

The superintendent shall develop procedures for the implementation of this policy.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS



Statement of Policy

This is the policy of the Beaufort County School District to regulate reasonable attire of students during the school day. Students in all schools need to wear an approved school uniform with only legally-mandated exceptions. To maintain an educational environment that is safe and productive to the educational process, students in all grades will abstain from wearing or possessing specified items during the school day.

Statement of Purpose

The Beaufort County School District has determined that reasonable regulation of school attire can further important educational interests, including the following:

- Reducing distraction and loss of self-esteem caused by teasing or competition over clothing.
- Minimizing disruption from wearing inappropriate clothing or possessing inappropriate items at school.
- Providing an environment where students can focus more on learning.
- Enhancing school safety by making it harder to conceal weapons or contraband.
- Enhancing school safety by helping teachers and administrators identify individuals that are not enrolled in the school when they encounter them on school grounds.

Enhancing school safety by prohibiting gang colors and paraphernalia. • Reducing the cost of school clothing.

- Providing an educational environment where financial disparities between students, as reflected in clothing, are minimized.
- Creating a greater sense of community and school pride among the students. Instilling discipline in students.
- Helping students and parents/legal guardians to avoid peer pressure.
- Helping prepare students for future roles in the workplace.
- Creating an atmosphere reflecting seriousness of purpose about education.

Attire Requirements

Shirts and sweaters (tops)

• Tops may be solid white, purple, black, gray or yellow gold. Solid colors only.

• Students must wear plain shirts with a collar. Mock turtlenecks and turtlenecks are acceptable.

- Shirts may have school-approved logos.
- Shirts must be tucked in provided that the type of shirt is reasonably worn out, not more than 1 inch below the waist.
- Only white t-shirts (long or short sleeves) may be worn under uniform shirts.

• Students may wear plain sweaters over school uniform. The sweaters may be white, purple, black, gray or yellow gold. They can also have an approved WBECHS Warriors logo.

• Hoodies are not permitted.

Slacks, skirts, skorts, jumpers, Capri length pants and shorts (Bottoms)

- Bottoms may be solid khaki or black.
- Denim or jeans of any type or color are not permitted.
- Bottoms must be free of graphics or embroidery.
- Dresses, Shorts, skirts, skorts and jumpers will be modest and of sufficient length.
- Cargo style pants or shirts are not permitted.
- Clothing may not exceed one size larger as necessary as determined by a school administrator.
- Belts must be worn if pants, skirts, skorts or shorts have belt loops.
- Jeggings, spandex, fishnet stockings, tights or sweatpants/wind pants are not permitted.
- Tights **may only be worn** if they are under the appropriate length short, skirt, or other approved bottoms.

<u>Coats and Jackets (Outerwear)</u>

- Outerwear can be worn to school but must be placed in their bags upon arrival.
- Outerwear must **not be** worn in the building during the school day. (Until 3:45)
- Outer wear may be worn during a class change, only if the student is exiting the building.

• Only solid color jean jackets may be worn (no holes, no cuts, no slices, no multicolor, etc.)

Shoes, sneakers and boots

- Footwear must be worn at all times and as needed. Shoes will conform to special requirements, e.g. PE classes, ROTC, science labs, etc.
- Laces on shoes or sneakers must be tied.
- Flip flops, crocs, slides, or slippers are not permitted.
- Heelys are **not permitted**.

Other clothing items or accessories

- Students may wear earbuds and headphones **only in the cafeteria and the media center during breakfast and lunch times.**
- Students may not wear large pendants or medallions.
- Any adornment that can be perceived as, or used as a weapon such as chains, spikes, or etc., is not permitted.
- Gang related clothing, accessories, symbols or intimidating items of dress, as identified by local law enforcement.
- Head coverings of any kind are not permitted. (Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Scarfs or Bandanas)
- Blankets are not permitted.

*** Students are expected to be dressed according to the uniform standards at all times when school is in session***

Dress Code Violations Continuum

1st Offense The student will be sent to ISS until proper attire is obtained and a written warning will be given and recorded in the school disciplinary system as a minor incident.

2nd Offense The student will be sent to ISS until proper attire is obtained, and a telephone call will be made to a parent requesting assistance in correcting the problem. The offense will be recorded in the school disciplinary system as a minor incident.

3rd Offense A change of attire will be required, and the student will be sent to ISS for the day with an office referral. A written letter will be sent home to the parent requesting assistance in correcting the problem, and the offense will be recorded in the school disciplinary system as an office referral.

4th Offense A change of attire will be required, and the student will be given an office referral, assigning him or her to Saturday School. A written letter will be sent home to the parent requesting assistance in correcting the problem, and the offense will be recorded in the school disciplinary system as an office referral.

5th Offense A change of attire will be required, and the student will be given an office referral. He or she will be assigned to ISS for 2 days, and a written letter will be sent home to the parent requesting assistance in correcting the problem. The offense will be recorded in the school disciplinary system as an office referral.

6th Offense A change of attire will be required, and the student will be given a disciplinary referral. The student will be suspended out of school for 1 day and placed on a school behavioral contract. A written letter will be sent home to the parent requesting assistance in correcting the problem, and the offense will be recorded in the school disciplinary system as an office referral.

CONTINUUM OF CONSEQUENCES FOR MINOR CONSEQUENCES

1st Offense Teacher: Verbal Warning

2nd Offense Minor Incident Referral- Teacher lunch detention and Parent Contact (If student does not show up to lunch detention please move to the next consequence)

3rd Offense Minor Incident Referral- Two lunch detentions, Counselor Referral and Parent Contact (If student does not show up to lunch detention please move to the next consequence)

4th Offense Minor Incident Referral- Parent Contact and 1 hour after school detention (Parents need 1-day notice prior to detention.)

5th Offense Office Referral, Administrative Parent Conference and 1 day of Saturday Academy 6th

Offense Office Referral, Parent Contact, and 1 day of ISS

7th Offense Office Referral and 3 days of ISS

8th Offense Office Referral and 4 days of ISS

Each succeeding offense will result in the consequences for the 8th offense and 1 additional day of ISS to the number of times the student has broken classroom rules. (ex. 9th Offense would be 5 days of ISS)

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students may use a cell phone or portable communication devices during designated times and in designated areas. Designated times would include before the 8:40 morning bell, during their scheduled lunch period, and after the dismissal bell. Students may only use a cell phone or communications devices in the cafeteria, gym, and courtyards. During class and on the school bus cell phones or communication devices must be turned off (not on vibrate mode) and stored out of sight in pockets, book bags, backpacks, etc. Using a cell phone or telecommunication device may include but not be limited to text messaging, taking pictures, receiving and/or sending calls.

Students using or having cell phones or telecommunication devices visible at non-authorized times or in non-authorized areas will have their cell phone or communication device confiscated.

School personnel and/or administrators are not responsible for the loss, theft or damage of any cell phone or telecommunication device brought onto school property.

Electronic Devices Violation Continuum

1st Offense Minor Infraction Referral, item confiscated, and It will be returned to the student at the end of the day. After School Pickup (\$5.00 fine)

2nd Offense Minor Infraction Referral, item confiscated, and the item may be picked up by the parent or guardian after school. The confiscated items may only be picked up from the front offices after school. The parent must leave the school property with the confiscated item in their possession. (\$5.00 fine)

3rd Offense Office Referral, item confiscated, and the item may be picked up by the parent/guardian/student at the end of the 2020-2021 Academic Year.

Tardy Practices

The Beaufort County School System provides bus transportation for all students daily. Those students who do not use this transportation are still expected to arrive to school on time, ready to participate and learn. Students are expected to plan their time effectively so that they may arrive to school and classes in a timely manner. It is the belief of WBECHS that each student is entitled to the maximum instructional time each day, each period, therefore; a tardy policy has been implemented which supports and reinforces this philosophy.

Unexcused tardiness to school are logged separately from unexcused tardiness to class; however, we recognize both can have a negative impact on instruction. Therefore, both are cumulative for the duration of one semester with the following consequences.

A student who arrives at school after the 8:45 am bell is considered tardy. Such a tardy may be excused if a parent accompanies his/her student into the school building to sign him/her in with a valid excuse or with a valid note written by the parent/guardian only. Tardies to school will be excused if student present a note from the doctor indicating a morning appointment. Appointments for court will also be waived and counted as an excused absence. All other excuses will be counted as unexcused unless approved by administration.

Unexcused Tardy to School Violation Continuum

Every student late to school for the first and second time will receive a warning. Additional unexcused tardiness to school will result in the following disciplinary actions:

1st tardy Warning
2nd tardy Warning and parent contact
3rd tardy 1 hour after school detention (any violation will result in ISS)
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- 4th tardy 5-day parking pass suspension for student driver and passenger (any violation will result in ISS)
- 5th tardy Saturday School and 10-day parking pass suspension (any violation will result in two days ISS)
- 6th tardy Saturday School and parking pass suspension for the semester (student must reapply for parking pass)
- 7th tardy 2 days OSS and parking pass suspension for the year (any violation will result in further disciplinary actions)

Students will learn best when they begin the school day in a timely fashion. Teaching and learning cannot take place without the full cooperation of students and teachers. Students can cooperate by arriving to school and to class <u>ON TIME</u>.

Tardies to Class

Any student arriving to class after the bell to begin class has sounded without a pass from a staff member will be considered tardy. Failure to report to class in a timely manner will result in the following disciplinary actions:

1st tardy Warning

2nd tardy Warning and parent contact

3rd tardy Parent conference with school counselor

- **4th tardy** 1 hour after school detention and meeting with the Social Worker (Any violation will result in ISS)
- **5th tardy** 1 Saturday School (Any violation will result in two days of ISS) day ISS and meeting with administration (Seat time of 1.5 hours to complete.)

6th tardy 1 day ISS and meeting with administration

7th tardy 2 days ISS and parent conference

Students accumulating 10 tardies will have an additional 3.0 hours of seat time to complete and anyone with 15 tardies will have 4.5 hours of seat time to complete.

We must be in the habit of being on time. This is a necessary soft skill for employers.

Saturday School will be from 8 am – 4 pm.

ORGANIZATIONS



Parent/Teacher/Student Organization (PTSO)

The PTSO is a group that supports the mission of the school and provides enrichment activities for the school community. Membership is open to all parents, staff and students. Monthly meetings are held the second Monday of each month. For a list of officers and meeting times/locations, see the school web site.

School Improvement Council (SIC)

The School Improvement Council (SIC) is a group of parents, teachers, administrators, community members and students who meet to discuss, research, advocate and assist the school administration. Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. For a list of officers and meeting times/locations, see the school web site.

Athletic Booster Club (Warrior ABC)

The Warrior Athletic Booster Club is a group of parents, coaches, athletes, community members and administrators who meet to discuss, research advocate and assist the school athletic director. Monthly meetings are held on the 4th Mondays of each month. Please see Coach Carlos Cave for more information.



APPENDIX



TEACHER'S NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS		
Corina Allen	Corina.Allen@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Michelle Brisbane			
Robert Bryant	Robert.Bryant@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
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Matthew Plantinga	Matthew.Plantinga@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Brian Powell	Brian.Powell@beaufort.k12.sc.us		

Directory of Teacher E-Mail

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Kara Robinson	Kara.Robinson@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Jessica Russell	Jessica.Russell@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Pretel Simmons-Hill	Pretel.Simmons@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Danielle Smalls	Danielle.Smalls@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Hannah Stevenson	Hannah.Stevenson@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Todd Stowe	Richard.Stowe@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Brad Taracuk	Brad.Taracuk@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Yanique Walcom			
Willie White	Willie.Whits@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Christine Williams	Christine.Williams@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
John Williams	John.Williams@beaufort.k12.sc.us		
Ashley Wright	Ashley.Wright@beaufort.k12.sc.us		

Important Links

District Website: http://beaufortschools.net/

Academic School Calendar 2020-2021: http://beaufortschools.net/cms/One.aspx?portalld=170925&pageId=211809 Whale Branch

Early College Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/wbechswarriors/</u> See Something

Say Something: https://form.jotform.com/200344520803038 SC Discus:

https://www.scdiscus.org/

No Red Ink: https://www.noredink.com/

PowerSchool Student-Parent Tutorial:

English version: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSR5B8csSn4</u>

Spanish version: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=036IVOm2Mt8</u>

How to set up and use the PowerSchool Mobile App tutorial:

English version: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSR5B8csSn4

Spanish version: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnPP-kWBBpI

Whale Branch Early College High School COVID-19 Handbook



2021-2022

Parents, Guardians and Students:

Welcome to a new year at Whale Branch Early College High School where Warriors are on the warpath for excellence. We know we are faced with unprecedented and uncharted times and wanted to give you guidance for this upcoming school year. We know that your years with us will be educationally profitable for you. We are extremely excited about the upcoming year and what the future has for our students.

This handbook is to assist you with guidance and regulations to keep all stakeholders safe, especially our students.

This year, we will continue our theme; Warriors are on the Warpath for Excellence. We want to strive for academic, social, emotional and athletic excellence. Most of all, we want all stakeholders to practice intelligent behaviors and habits.

Here at Whale Branch Early College High School, we want to create a successful and safe learning and teaching environment for all. The Faculty and Staff at Whale Branch Early College High School invites you to become learning and teaching partners as we strive for excellence and accuracy during these unchartered and unprecedented times.

Students, we want to encourage you to be persistent with your studies, stay safe, be healthy and sanitized, manage your impulsivity and reach for your individual and school goals to achieve an Associate's Degree and your High School Diploma.

I look forward to meeting and working with all of you this year to make Whale Branch Early College High School, simply the best.

Have a successful, safe and healthy year of teaching and learning. Let's Go Warriors!!

With kindest regards,

Mona Lise Dickson Principal During the COVID-19 virus, we want to set forth expectations that will ensure a safe, healthy and sanitized learning environment for all. Please review the following expectations as we journey through these uncharted times.

VISITORS: While we welcome and encourage people to visit our school, we will keep Zoom meetings, email, and phone calls in place as an option for our stakeholders who prefer to not enter the school building.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES: All transportation changes must be sent/given to the teacher. An email or note signed by the parent should be sent to the front office receptionist regarding transportation changes no later than 12:30 pm. It is important that all transportation changes are clear and made in advance. Notice is critical to maintain and implement our physical distancing plan.

BRINGING THINGS TO SCHOOL: Any item not related to, or contributing to, or an item that is a distracting influence, is prohibited. At this time, we will limit the contamination and sharing of items.

CONFERENCES: Teacher/parent conferences will be held using the Zoom platform or on the phone.

LUNCHES: Lunches will be delivered to your student's classroom during lunch time. Students will not share their food with each other.

HAND HYGIENE: Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If there is no soap, please use hand sanitizer with alcohol level of 60% or more.

BATHROOM BREAKS: Each classroom will be given a time for students to use the bathroom and ensure physical distancing is followed properly.

MASK-UP: Per Governor McMaster's Executive Order issued on May 21, 2021, school districts cannot require students or residents to wear facial coverings except areas such as the nurse's office or isolation areas; masks must be worn in those areas while being serviced. BCSD recognizes individual rights to wear masks and encourages their appropriate use per the CDC. Masks must also be school appropriate and shall not include markings, pictures, or lettering. **Students, parents and staff members may not wear bandanas of any kind for a mask.** Bandanas are not acceptable face covering per existing dress code.



MANAGEMENT OF POSSIBLE POSITIVE TEST OR CONTACT: This is in the event that we may have a possible positive test or contact within our school. This is based on what is currently known about COVID-19.

SICKNESS: If your student has a temperature, please keep him/her home for 24 hours after having a fever. If your student becomes ill at school, Nurse Simmons will call you to pick up your student immediately.

Please keep a child home for 24 hours after having a fever



Students or staff with symptoms of COVID-19:

Students and staff should be excluded from school if they have: Any one (1) of the following:

- Fever or
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing or
- Loss of taste or smell: or

Any two (2) of the following:

- Sore throat and/or
- Muscle aches and/or
- Chills and/or
- New or worsening cough

Note: Any student with any one of these symptoms should consider not attending school regardless of meeting exclusion criteria. If these symptoms are explainable by an underlying condition (such as shortness of breath or cough for an individual with asthma) exclusion may not be necessary. Warrior Nation will have a room identified to isolate students or staff with symptoms of COVID-19 identified during the school day.

- Students and staff will be moved safely, respectfully, as well as in accordance with any applicable privacy laws or regulations, to the isolation room for evaluation. The individual will be provided a mask if they are able to use one, and students will be supervised by a staff member who will maintain at least six feet of distance and uses appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- School nurses and other healthcare providers will use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people.

Return to school:

• Advise sick staff members and students not to return until they have met criteria for return.

• Students or staff excluded for these symptoms should not return until they have either **tested negative for COVID-19** or a medical evaluation determines that their symptoms were more likely due to another cause (e.g. sore throat due to strep throat). In this later case, the individual can return when they meet criteria for that condition.

• Students or staff that choose not to be tested must complete the current isolation criteria for COVID-19 to return to school. The current isolation period is ten (10) days if they meet the criteria: (1) no symptoms are reported during daily symptom monitoring and (2) reported DHEC recent Disease Activity by the County remains "low." BCSD may make adjustments as necessary.

Current isolation criteria for COVID-19:

Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 and persons with symptoms of COVID: 19 (see list above) who do not get tested, should isolate until:

- Ten (10) days have passed since symptoms started and –
- Three (3) days (72 hours) have passed since last fever without taking medicine to
- reduce fever and -
- Overall improvement in symptoms.

Those who test positive by a PCR test but do not have symptoms will be required to stay out of school until ten (10) days after the specimen was collected.

The criteria above should be used to determine eligibility to return to school. Negative PCR test results are not required after meeting these criteria.

Testing:

A student or staff member who develops symptoms of COVID-19 but does not get tested could limit DHEC's ability to appropriately respond to new cases and ensure the health and safety of other students and staff. PCR testing (nose or throat swab) is highly recommended and is strongly preferred over antibody testing.

- Location of testing sites is available on the DHEC website: <u>https://scdhec.gov/infectious:diseases/viruses/coronavirus:disease:2019:C</u> <u>OVID-19/COVID 19:screening:testing:sites</u>
- Location of DHEC mobile and pop-up testing sites: <u>https://www.scdhec.gov/infectious:diseases/viruses/coronavirus:disease:2019:CO</u> <u>VID-19/COVID 19:mobile:pop:clinics</u>

Cases in classroom:

If a student or staff member tests positive, they could have been contagious with the virus up to 48 hours before their symptoms began. It is essential that staff ensure maximum distancing between students and other staff while in the classroom and throughout the day to limit the possibility of transmission. Encourage the use of masks among student and staff able to use them. Routinely using these precautions will help avoid needing to quarantine all classroom contacts of persons with COVID-19.

- Classroom contacts to a known COVID-19 case should remain together in the same cohort to the extent that is possible. They should receive screening for fever and symptoms (see above) each morning until 14 days after last contact with the case.
- Anyone identified as a classroom contact of a case and who has symptoms of COVID-19 should be sent home and excluded and will be required to get tested to return to school.

• The classroom will be closed for cleaning and disinfection before use again.

Quarantine:

Unvaccinated students or staff may have been told they were a close contact to a case of COVID-19 and have to complete a quarantine period. This means they will be required to stay home so they do not risk exposing others to COVID-19 if they become sick. DHEC staff will inform them of the length of their quarantine period. For students, a parents' note that they have been cleared from quarantine may be used to allow return to school

• Household contact: If the student or staff lives in the same household as the case, they will have to quarantine until seven (7) days after their household member has been cleared from their isolation period.

• Other household member in quarantine: If the student or staff lives in the same household as someone in quarantine, they will not necessarily need to quarantine themselves unless the household member in quarantine is then determined to be a COVID-19 case. DHEC will notify those who are required to complete quarantine.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND INFORMATION ON COVID-19:

South Carolina DHEC

https://www.scdhec.gov/infectious:diseases/viruses/coronavirus:disease:2019:COVID-19

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – Get the Facts About Coronavirus https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019:ncov/index.html

10 Ways to Ease Your Coronavirus Anxiety

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/18/smarter:living/coronavirus:anxiety:tips.html

Support for Families Helping Students Learn at Home

https://expectmoresc.com/support:for:families:helping:students:learn:at:home/

Second Step: COVID-19 Response Resources for Educators and Families https://www.secondstep.org/covid19support

Inside Social Emotional Learning: SEL Resources for Parents, Educators & School Communities Related to COVID-19 <u>https://insidesel.com/2020/03/12/COVID-19/</u>

Supporting Children's Mental Health: Tips for Parents and Educators

https://www.nasponline.org/resources:and:publications/resources:and:podcasts/mental:health/prevention :and:wellness:pro_motion/supporting:childrens:mental:health:tips:for:parents:and:educators Still Confused About Masks? Here's the Science Behind How Face Masks Prevent Coronavirus https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2020/06/417906/still:confused:about:masks:heres:science:behind:how:face:masks:prevent

STAY SAFE, HEALTHY AND SANITIZED WARRIORS!! WE ARE ON THE WAR PATH TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19!!

A special thank you to Warrior Nation's COVID-19 Task Force: Shelia Alston, Peter Burvenich, Carlos Cave, Celine Disalvo, Josh Ferguson, Lynn Garrett, Sharika Green, Melanie McGrath, Sonia Perez Roberson, Nurse Jissie Simmons, Pretel Simmons-Hill, and Brad Taracuk. District Staff members: Geraldine Henderson, Jennifer Staton, Mary Stratos and Alice Walton.



Beaufort County School District – Whale Branch Early College High School Parent/Student/Teacher Compact

Parent/Student/Teacher Compacts

Learning can take place only when there is a combination of effort, interest, and motivation. Since we are committed to your child's progress in school, we are going to do our best to promote his or her achievement.

Compacts make sure that everyone owns the responsibility of helping children achieve high academic standards. This compact is a promise to work together. We believe that this compact can be fulfilled by our team effort. Together we can improve teaching and learning.

The school will:

• Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the challenging State's Student Academic Achievement Standards and state/local academic assessments.

Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.

Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress.

Provide parents reasonable access to staff in person and via the parent portal system.

• Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and to observe classroom activities.

Ensure that information related to school and parenting programs, meetings, and other activities sent to parents of participating children and sent in a format and to the extent practicable in a language the parents understand.

• Provide materials and training to parents to work with their children to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy).

• Provide all parents with access to fully participate in school activities including students who are classified as homeless, foster-care, military dependent and/or migrant.

Principal's Signature: _____

As a Parent/Guardian, I will:

- encourage my child to be independently responsible;
- listen or read to my child every night;
- communicate regularly with my child's teacher;
- provide a home environment that encourages my child to learn;
- recognize that I am my child's first teacher;
- review my child's progress report;
- strive to develop the skills needed to help my child;
- if possible, volunteer in my child's school; and
- provide educational opportunities for my child during the summer.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

As a Student, I will:

- be an active participant in school and community service;
- obey school and bus rules;
- be respectful at all times;
- attend school regularly and be punctual;
- come to school prepared with homework and supplies;
- do my best in my work and in my behavior;
- read aloud or silently everyday; and
- assume responsibility for my actions.

Student's Signature: _____

As a Teacher, I will:

- believe that each student can learn;
- show respect for each child and his or her family;
- help each child grow to his or her fullest potential;
- provide a safe and productive learning environment;
- come to class prepared to teach and learn;
- model professional behavior and a positive attitude;
- ensure fairness and equity in adherence to school, district, and classroom rules;
- maintain open lines of communication with students and parents;
- provide a variety of opportunities for parents to become involved in school activities;
- schedule conferences that are considerate of parent's schedules;
- provide parents with appropriate resources;
- provide meaningful and appropriate homework;
- recognize and celebrate the cultural diversity of the students; and
- consult and coordinate with other teachers about the specific needs of each child.

Teacher's Signature		Date:	
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