

# STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023-2024



HILLS CHAPEL  
JUMPERTOWN  
MARIETTA  
NEW SITE  
THRASHER  
WHEELER  
CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

[www.prentisscountyschools.com](http://www.prentisscountyschools.com)

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## **PRENTISS COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

### **Greetings from the Superintendent**

Dear Parents & Students,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to another school year. It is my honor and privilege to serve the students, teachers, and parents of the Prentiss County School District. Our district is home to amazing students, devoted teachers and staff, supportive communities, and school board members who are committed to the overall success and growth of the district.

Our district's primary focus is delivering a high-quality education in a safe, secure environment. Our mission is to ensure academic excellence through collaboration with all stakeholders while nurturing the physical, social, and emotional growth of all our students. We strive to provide an environment which enables students to reach their full potential.

The Prentiss County School District offers an array of programs which provides an engaging learning environment that meets the needs of all our students. Our staff prides themselves on working tirelessly to prepare every student to become successful leaders. Because of their efforts, our students continue to grow and rank among the top in the state.

I am honored to be able to serve as your superintendent and to continue to collaborate with key stakeholders to promote student learning. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact on our students and communities.

I am humbled to have the opportunity to serve and am confident the 2023-2024 school year will be a success.

With Prentiss County Pride,

Nickey Marshall  
Superintendent of Education



## **Prentiss County School District Board of Trustees 2023-2024**



### **Front row left to right:**

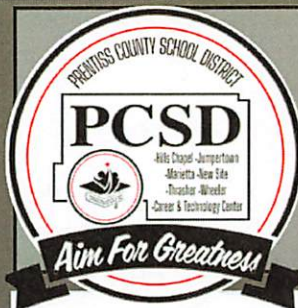
**Mrs. Teresa Botts, District 4, Board Secretary**  
**Mr. Ronny Kesler, District 3, Board President**  
**Mr. Randy Maness, District 5, Board Member**

### **Back row left to right:**

**Ms. Cathy Trimble, District 1, Board Member**  
**Mrs. Shelia Johnson, District 2, Board Member**

School	Administration
Hills Chapel Elementary School (PK-8) 8 CR 2371 Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-5181	Principal: Mr. Paul Lyles Email: <a href="mailto:plyles@pcsdk12.com">plyles@pcsdk12.com</a>
Jumpertown School (PK-12) 717 Hwy 4 West Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-6378	Principal: Mr. Tyler Stroupe Email: <a href="mailto:tstroupe@pcsdk12.com">tstroupe@pcsdk12.com</a>
Marietta Elementary School (PK-8) 42 CR 4070 Marietta, MS 38856 (662) 728-4770	Principal: Mr. Andrew Brown Email: <a href="mailto:abrown@pcsdk12.com">abrown@pcsdk12.com</a>
New Site High School (9-12) 1020 Hwy 4 East New Site, MS 38859 (662) 728-5205	Principal: Mr. Kenny Sparks Email: <a href="mailto:ksparks@pcsdk12.com">ksparks@pcsdk12.com</a>
Thrasher School (PK-12) 167 CR 1040 Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-5233	Principal: Mrs. Leigh Estes Email: <a href="mailto:lestes@pcsdk12.com">lestes@pcsdk12.com</a>
Wheeler School (PK-12) 318 CR 5011 Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 365- 2629	Principal: Mr. Nathan Garner Email: <a href="mailto:ngarner@pcsdk12.com">ngarner@pcsdk12.com</a>
PCSD Career & Technology Center 302 W George E. Allen Drive Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 728-9259	Director: Mr. Bill Glover Email: <a href="mailto:bglover@pcsdk12.com">bglover@pcsdk12.com</a>





# Prentiss County School District

## 2023-2024

August 1-2, 2023	Tuesday & Wednesday	Professional Development
August 3, 2023	Thursday	Students Begin 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester
September 4, 2023	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
October 6, 2023	Friday	Fall Break Holiday
October 9, 2023	Monday	Fall Break Holiday
October 10, 2023	Tuesday	Professional Development
November 20-24, 2023	Monday – Friday	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 20, 2023	Wednesday	End 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 60% Day Dismiss @ 12:30 pm
December 21 – January 5, 2024		Christmas Holiday Employees
December 21 – January 8, 2024		Christmas Holiday Students
January 8, 2024	Monday	Professional Development
January 9, 2024	Tuesday	Students Begin 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester
January 15, 2024	Monday	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
February 19, 2024	Monday	President's Day Holiday
March 11-15, 2024	Monday – Friday	Spring Break Holiday
March 29, 2024	Friday	Good Friday Holiday
April 1, 2024	Monday	Easter Monday Holiday
May 23, 2024	Thursday	Last Student Day End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester 60% Day Dismissal @ 12:30 pm
May 24, 2024	Friday	Professional Development

PCSD Central Office: (662) 728-4911  
 Hills Chapel Elementary School: (662) 728-5181  
 Jumpertown Attendance Center: (662) 728-6378  
 Marietta Elementary School: (662) 728-4770

New Site High School: (662) 728-5205  
 Thrasher Attendance Center: (662) 728-5233  
 Wheeler Attendance Center: (662) 365-2629  
 PC Career and Technology Center: (662) 728-3915



## Prentiss County School District Student Detailed Calendar 2023-2024

August 3	Students Return
August 31	Progress Reports
September 4	Labor Day Holiday – No School
September 21	Progress Reports
October 3-5	Nine Weeks Exams
October 6-10	Fall Break – No School
October 11	Students Return
October 12	Reports Cards
November 2	Progress Reports
November 20-24	Thanksgiving Holiday – No School
November 30	Progress Reports
December 18-20	First Semester Exams
December 20	Last Student Day / Early Release – 12:30 pm
December 21 – January 8	Christmas Holiday – No School
January 9	Students Return
January 11	Report Cards
January 15	Marin Luther King Jr. Holiday – No School
February 1	Progress Reports
February 19	President’s Day – No School
February 22	Progress Reports
March 6-8	Nine Weeks Exams
March 11-15	Spring Break Holiday – No School
March 21	Report Cards
March 29	Good Friday – No School
April 1	Good Monday – No School
April 11	Progress Reports
May 2	Progress Reports
May 21-23	Second Semester Exams
May 23	Last Student Day / Early Release at 12:30 pm
May 24	Summer Vacation Begins

## **FEDERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF POTENTIAL FRAUD, WASTE, OR ABUSE**

### **Fraud Prevention:**

The Prentiss County School District thoroughly and expeditiously supports the investigation of all reported cases of suspected fraud to determine if disciplinary, financial recovery, and/or criminal action should be taken. All reports of suspected fraud, waste, abuse, or corruption must be handled under the strictest confidentiality. Only those directly involved in the investigation will be given information. Informants may remain anonymous but should be encouraged to cooperate with the investigators and should provide as much detail and evidence of alleged fraudulent acts as possible.

### **Procedures:**

1. Anyone suspecting fraud concerning federal, state or local programs should report their concerns to the Superintendent or the Federal Programs Director. If the suspected fraud implicates the Superintendent, the informant shall report the information directly to the Board Chair. If the suspected fraud implicates the Federal Programs Director, the informant shall report the information directly to the Superintendent.
  2. Any employee of the school system who receives a report of suspected fraudulent activity shall report this information within the next business day to the Superintendent or Federal Programs Director. Employees have the responsibility to report suspected fraud immediately. All reports can be made in confidence.
  3. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall conduct or cause to be investigated of employees, providers, contractors, or vendors as necessary and appropriate.
- To ensure anonymity, the Prentiss County School District has established a private whistleblower notification system. Please use the following link below to report any concerns regarding waste, fraud, or abuse in our district:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1eGSi0juOeUCmy9PHXRFUem9dHjejBY\\_GEZTVxXIN\\_qE/prefill](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1eGSi0juOeUCmy9PHXRFUem9dHjejBY_GEZTVxXIN_qE/prefill)

Or go to the main page of the district website at <https://prentisscountyschools.com/> and scroll down the page to find and click on the "Report Fraud, Waste, Abuse" tab.

## **ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Two (2) Current Proofs of Residency  
Birth Certificate  
Immunization Record  
Social Security Number  
Affidavit Form may be required by school personnel.

## **IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

The following vaccines are required for school entry:

5 – DtaP, 4 – Polio, 3 – Hep B, 2 – MMR and 2 – Varicella; Parents may obtain Form 121

### **Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Required Immunizations**

The Mississippi State Department of Health will require the TDAP (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccination for all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade beginning with the 2012-13 school year. The student will need to present an updated form 121 upon enrollment.

In addition to the current school requirements, two doses of the Varicella Vaccine (Chicken Pox) will be required for **all kindergarten and first-time school entries.**

## **CHILD NUTRITION POLICIES & MENUS**

All meals are served with the intent to aid our students to be fit, healthy, and ready to learn. Our menus are developed and processed through a computerized nutrient analysis, to ensure federal, state and local rules are being followed. The Child Nutrition department shall serve only those foods which are components of the Federal USDA school meal patterns and such additional foods as necessary to meet the calorie requirements of the age group being served. Except for milk products, a student may purchase individual components of the meal, only if the full meal unit is being purchased. Students who bring a meal from home may purchase milk products only. Breakfast and lunch will be prepared and served to anyone in all schools. Free water is available in every cafeteria, but bottled water will be available for purchase.



### **“OFFER VS. SERVE”**

“Offer vs. Serve” helps in reducing plate waste and food costs. “Offer vs. Serve” is practiced in all Prentiss County Schools to all students. Students are offered all food components at each meal service. They may choose all food components, but they must choose and be served at least three of the food components for his/her meal to be reimbursable. **At least one of those three choices must be a fruit or vegetable. Any student served, MUST have a fruit or vegetable on their tray to be a reimbursable meal.** If they do not, they will be requested to pick one up.

### **MEAL APPLICATIONS**

Letters and applications are sent to all parents/guardians at the beginning of the year and to all new students throughout the school year or at the request of parent/guardian. These applications will be completed and immediately (preferably next day) returned to the cafeteria. Upon receiving, the child nutrition employee designee/ and/or director will determine eligibility and a notification letter will be sent to the household. If at any time during the school year, the household income decreases or the household members increase, families may reapply for meal benefits. If a student moves from school to school within the Prentiss County School District, then their meal application may be transferred with the student; however, the school may send another application home with the new student if they have moved, and different circumstances apply.

Online Meal Application process available at [www.prentisscountyschools.com](http://www.prentisscountyschools.com)

### **PAYING FOR MEALS**

The District’s Point of Sale Program allows customers to have an individual account. One may deposit **any** amount of money at any time in their account. It will be subtracted according to meals bought and extra sales purchased. Any account money not spent will be carried forward until it is used. Students who do not choose the advance payment option will pay as they go through the line but will still have an account that will keep up with meal purchases. **No meal payment shall be combined with any other school fee or activity.** If paying by check, a separate check to the cafeteria for meal payments will need to be written. If a check or cash is given to the cafeteria cashier, it will be put into the person’s meal account.

Online Meal Payment available at [www.prentisscountyschools.com](http://www.prentisscountyschools.com)

### **MEAL CHARGES**

Charging a meal is a courtesy extended to students and adults for meals **only in the event they forget or lose their lunch or breakfast money.** Repetitive charges are subject to review and action by administration. Because the Mississippi Department of Education states that no **child (student)** may be refused a meal, a student may be allowed to charge meals on their accounts if they do not have money. Additionally, because our staff/faculty regularly eats in our school cafeterias, and because they sometimes do not have their purses or checkbooks physically with them in the cafeteria, we will allow adults to charge meals, if their balances are paid **within** the month. **No extra food** will be charged at any time. **Only meals** may be charged.

### **PROCEDURES FOR COLLECTING CHARGES**

- **Verbal Confirmation:** When a customer has no money left on their account, they will be verbally told from the cashier that they are out of money, and they need to bring additional money for the next day’s meals. They will be given a verbal notice each day the account is in deficit.
- **Paper Confirmation:** After a customer has a charge of more than \$5.00, they will be given a credit letter from the cashier with the total balance owed that is sent home with the student. Parents/Adults will continue to receive written notification from the cafeteria indefinitely until charges are paid. Monies owed are expected to be repaid to the cafeteria by the next day and certainly within the week. A new meal application will be enclosed with the 3<sup>rd</sup> notice.
- **Phone Confirmation:** In addition to letters sent home, the manager or director may call the household to let them know they owe charges on their cafeteria account. Calls are generally sent via the district’s “All Call” program. Calls will be sent a minimum of two (2) times.
- **Principal Confirmation:** After the above methods have been tried, and if there is no response, the manager will go to the school principal with accounts that have been uncollectable. The principal will try to contact the home and collect charges owed.
- **Superintendent Confirmation:** After all the above efforts have been made to reach a household and/or when the amount is reaching a significant amount (\$50 or more) or the amount has not been paid within the month (for adults) and if there has been no response from the household, the Child Nutrition Director will go to the Superintendent with certified letters to mail to homes that still owe money.
- **School Board Confirmation:** If parents/guardians or employees still refuse to pay and do not attempt to make payment, then those accounts will be issued to the Board of Education for further action to be taken at the upcoming monthly board meeting. Actions may include and are not limited to small claims court, collection agency, reprimand, or garnishing of check.

Allowing charges to continuously accumulate can lead to tremendous deficits for the school nutrition program and is unfair to the households that **do** pay for their meals. Therefore, the district reserves the right to revoke the charging privilege of an employee if it becomes excessively abused. **IT IS THE PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MONITOR THEIR CHILDREN'S ACCOUNT BALANCE and IT IS THE SCHOOL EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MONITOR THEIR PERSONAL CHARGE BALANCE.**

- **Final Confirmation:** If charges are still owed at the end of the school year and EVERY method possible has been done to collect the charge, the school district maintenance fund will reimburse the district's child nutrition fund of any charges that may still be owed. This allows the child nutrition program to remain debt free which follows the federal program laws.

### **CAFETERIA – RETURNED CHECKS**

The banks notify the child nutrition department when personal checks deposited have insufficient funds available. The department will try to reissue the check through the bank first. If not collectible, the cafeteria manager, cashier or director will notify the issuer of the check by letter and/or by telephone. It is the parent/guardian's immediate responsibility to send the cash to the cafeteria/central office to cover the insufficient check amount. When the cash is sent, then the original returned check will be sent back to the parent/guardian. If the check amount is not cleared, then the matter will be turned over to the Superintendent and the Board of Education for further action.

### **CASH REFUNDS**

Cash refunds will be made only when a student withdraws from the Prentiss County School District. If a student transfers from one Prentiss County school to another Prentiss County school; their account balance (whether positive or negative) will be transferred with them. All requests for cash refunds will be made in writing to the school cafeteria or the central Child Nutrition Office.

### **MEAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS/CARDS**

Students will be assigned an account number, which will follow them from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, if they attend in the Prentiss County School District. We may issue cards at any time of the school year with a child's account number. The account number assigned is a non-identifiable meal status number. No one can identify a child to be free, reduced or paid based on their account number. Students may either show their card or verbally tell the cashier their number so their account may be accessed.

### **BEVERAGES OR FOOD BROUGHT IN CAFETERIA**

Any beverages or food brought into the cafeteria must be in unmarked, covered containers that do not leak, such as a thermos or any container deemed appropriate by the principal and/or the child nutrition director. Because of safety, no cans or glass containers will be allowed inside the cafeteria.

### **SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS**

**Medical statements are required for any student who requires meal/food substitutions or exchanges. The medical statement, signed by a licensed physician must include: a description of the disability preventing the child from eating the regular school meal, and the prescribing specific substitution(s) needed.** For students who are non-disabled and are unable to consume a food item because of medical or other special dietary needs; such substitutions may be made when supported by a statement signed by a recognized medical authority. The supporting statement shall include: (1. An indication that the medical or other special dietary needs restrict the child's diet (2. The food/s to be omitted from the child's diet and the food/s that may be substituted if needed. This medical statement should cover those students who have food intolerances or allergies but do not have life-threatening reactions (anaphylactic reactions) which are exposed to the food(s) to which they are allergic. **The school, cafeteria and child nutrition director must have a copy of all signed medical statements for the safety of these students.** Please contact the child nutrition director, 662-728-1550 at the Office of the Superintendent with any questions regarding special dietary needs.

### **COMPETITIVE FOOD REGULATION RULE**

No food items will be sold on the school campus for one (1) hour before the start of any meal service period. The MS Department of Education policy is interpreted as follows: **No food is to be sold on campus for one hour before breakfast or one hour before lunch and until the end of either serving period.** Any food may be sold after breakfast, up to one hour before lunch, and any time after the end of the last lunch period.



## MEAL PRICES

Student Breakfast	Paid Price: \$2.00	Reduced Price: \$ .30
Student Lunch	Paid Price: \$3.00	Reduced Price: \$ .40
Adult	Breakfast Price: \$2.50	Lunch Price: \$3.75

**\*Note:** If another complete breakfast is bought, we sell it for a regular price of \$2.00 for students and \$2.50 for adults. (According to state law, we may charge this amount; but it cannot be claimed as a meal equivalent; it must be put in extra sale money.)

**\*Note:** A chef salad is considered an entire meal and must be purchased as such by a student for \$3.00 and an adult for \$3.50. A fruit, dessert, and milk may be picked up with the chef salad and is included in the lunch price at no additional cost. Any other items are considered extra.

Child Nutrition receives no reimbursement for adult meals and therefore must charge the meal cost appropriately. However, adults may buy individual food items instead of entire meals if they desire.

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### STUDENT & ADULT AL-A-CARTE EXTRA SALE PRICES BREAKFAST

Meat & Biscuit:	\$1.50 or \$0.75 per each meat or biscuit only
Cereal/Pastry/Pancakes/Waffles (2)	\$1.00
Toast (Cinnamon or Buttered)	\$0.25
Fruit or Fruit Juice:	\$0.50
Yogurt	\$ .75
Milk	\$ .50
Water	

\$ .50 (small water) \$1.00 (Large Water)

#### LUNCH

Entrée, including sandwiches:	\$1.50
PBJ or Uncrustable Sandwich:	\$1.00
French Fries:	\$1.00
Baked Potato:	\$ .75 (unless as an entrée, then \$1.50)
Side Salad:	\$1.00
Vegetable or Fruit or Fruit Juice:	\$ .50
Regular Bread Component:	\$ .10
Rolls:	\$ .25
Ice Cream:	\$ .50 or \$1.00 (depending on the type purchased)
Yogurt	\$ .75
Milk	\$ .50
Dessert	\$ .25 (Adults Only)
Water	\$ .50 (Small) \$1.00 (Large)

Condiments – ketchup, mustard, mayo, and any dipping sauces are allowed, and two packs are included in our recipes. If one asks for an extra, he/she is given one, but if they keep asking for more and more; the manager may charge them \$ .02 per packet and \$ .10 per sauce. Because of their expense, extra salad dressing will cost \$ .10 for a small packet and \$ .25 for a large packet.

**\*Note:** Extra sales are only sold to students after a meal has been purchased (see Child Nutrition Policies – “Offer Vs. Serve”). **However, a student may purchase milk and milk products (ice cream/yogurt) without purchasing a meal first. This includes children who bring their lunch.** The cafeterias will serve water, milk and ice cream and menu items at all schools for extra sales. We receive no reimbursement for extra items sold, so extra sale prices must remain at a price to cover the product cost.

**\*Note:** As long as the Child Nutrition program is financially sound, coffee and tea will be included in the meal price for adults.

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## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Each student graduating from a secondary school in an accredited school district will have earned the required Carnegie units as specified in the following tables. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the *Mississippi Curriculum/Framework*. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi* published by the Office of Curriculum Instruction. (SB Policy ICFA-1) Enrollment in correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one (1) of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course. Elective courses that do not have identified content in the *Mississippi Curriculum Structure/Framework* or whose titles do not appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi* must be approved according to criteria stated in Appendix D. Students must be present at graduation practice in order to participate in commencement.

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### Graduation Requirement Options for students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade Fall 2018

## **Mississippi Diploma Options**

**Begins with incoming freshmen of 2018-2019**

Mississippi has two diploma options: The Traditional Diploma and the Alternate Diploma. The Traditional Diploma is for all students. The Alternate Diploma is an option for students with a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD).

### **TRADITIONAL DIPLOMA OPTION**

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English I</li> <li>English II</li> </ul>
Mathematics	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algebra I</li> </ul>
Science	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology I</li> </ul>
Social Studies	3½	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 World History</li> <li>1 U.S. History</li> <li>½ U.S. Government</li> <li>½ Economics</li> <li>½ Mississippi Studies</li> </ul>
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Arts	1	
College and Career Readiness	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.</li> </ul>
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	5 ½	
<b>Total Units Required</b>	<b>24</b>	

#### **Requirements**

- Student should identify an endorsement area prior to entering 9th grade. Endorsement requirements can only be changed with parental permission.
- For early release, students must have met College or Career Readiness Benchmarks (ACT sub scores 17 English and 19 Math or earned a Silver level on ACT WorkKeys or SAT equivalency sub scores). Alternately, a student must meet ALL of the following:
  - Have a 2.5 GPA
  - Passed or met all MAAP assessments requirements for graduation
  - On track to meet diploma requirements
  - Concurrently enrolled in Essentials for College Math or Essentials for College Literacy

#### **Recommendations**

- For early graduation, a student should successfully complete an area of endorsement.
- A student should take a math or math equivalent course the senior year.

## Alternate Diploma

12

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	Alternate English I-IV
Mathematics	4	Alternate Math I – III Alternate Algebra
Science	2	Alternate Biology Alternate Science II
Social Studies	2	Alternate History Alternate Social Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	Alternate Health
Art	1	
Career Readiness	4	Career Readiness I – IV (Strands : Technology, Systems, Employability, and Social)
Life Skills Development	4	Life Skills Development I - IV
Electives	2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	

### Requirements

- Students who have met the criteria of having Significant Cognitive Disabilities (SCD) may participate in a program of study to earn the Alternate Diploma.
- Students are required to participate in the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program-Alternate Assessment (MAAP-A) and achieve a level of Passing or Proficient.
- The state defined Alternate Diploma is included in graduation rates in the same manner as a traditional diploma.
- Students with an Alternate Diploma must contact the postsecondary institution to determine eligibility for Ability to Benefit (ATB).

## Traditional Diploma with Career and Technical Endorsement

13

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I      English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I
Social Studies	3½	1 World History      1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government      ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	See the Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards for implementation options.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
CTE Electives	4	Must complete a 4-course sequential program of study
Additional Electives	3½	
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	

### Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
- Earn Silver level on ACT WorkKeys
- Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One dual credit course
- Work-based Learning
- Earn a State Board of Education approved national credential
- One (1) AP, Diploma Program-IB, or Cambridge (AICE) course aligned to their career pathway. Students must earn a C or higher and take the appropriate exam



## Traditional Diploma with Academic Endorsement

14

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I and English II + two (2) additional English courses above English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I + two (2) additional math courses above Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I + two (2) additional science courses above Biology I
Social Studies	3½	1 World History ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies 1 U.S. History ½ Economics
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	See the Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards for implementation options.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	7½	Must meet two (2) advanced electives of the College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC) requirements for MS IHLs
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	

### Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
- Two (2) elective courses must meet MS IHL CPC requirements.
- Earn MS IHL and Community College readiness benchmarks (ACT sub scores of 17 English and 19 math as approved by post-secondary for non-remediation at most community colleges or IHL college-ready courses in senior year, or SAT equivalency subscore).

- Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One AP course with a C or higher and take the appropriate AP exam
- One DP-IB course with a C or higher and take the appropriate IB exams
- One dual credit course with a C or higher in the course

## Traditional Diploma with Distinguished Endorsement

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I and English II + two (2) additional English courses above English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I + two (2) additional math courses above Algebra I
Science	4	Biology I + two (2) additional science courses above Biology I
Social Studies	4	1 World History ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies 1 U.S. History ½ Economics
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	See the Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards for implementation options.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	8	Must meet two (2) advanced electives of the College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC) requirements for MS IHLs
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	

### Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 3.0
- Two (2) elective courses must meet MS IHL CPC requirements.
- Earn national college-readiness benchmarks on each subtest established by ACT of 18 in English and 22 in math or SAT equivalency subscore as defined by IHL.
- Earn four additional Carnegie Units for a total of 28.

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One AP course with a B or higher and take the appropriate AP exam
- One DP-IB course with a B or higher and take the appropriate IB exams
- One dual credit course with a B or higher in the course

### STUDENT CLASSIFICATION FOR ENTERING FRESHMAN 2016-2017 AND BEYOND

Freshman	Must complete the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade
Sophomore	7 credits to include 2 math, 1 English, 1 science, and 1 social studies
Junior	13 credits to include 3 math, 2 English, 2 science, and 2 social studies
Senior	19 credits to include 3 math, 3 English, 2 science, and 2 social studies

## **PRENTISS COUNTY CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER COURSE OFFERINGS**

Health Sciences I and II	2 credits each
Construction and Carpentry	2 credits each
Welding I & Metal Fabrication II	2 credits each
Automotive Service I and II	2 credits each
Business, Marketing, and Finance I and II	2 credits each
Educator Preparation I and II	2 credits each
Computer Science & Engineering	1 credit
Work Based Learning	credit based upon work hours
Agriculture & Natural Resources I & II	2 credits each

### **Middle School Class**

#### Technology Foundations

Students enrolled in classes at the Prentiss County Career & Technology Center (other than STEM) should be considered as being enrolled in two classes.

The Prentiss County Career and Technology Center serves students in grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. Any 9<sup>th</sup> grade student enrolled in or has taken STEM may enroll in all other classes except, Health Science I and II. Priorities will be given to grades 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>.

### **CTE Courses Satisfy Graduation Requirements**

By completing certain Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses, a student may be awarded academic credit to be used to satisfy specific graduation requirements. REFER to MDE's publication Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards (Appendices A-1, A-2, A-3, and B) for details on how CTE courses meet specific graduation requirements

#### **2 Credits in Science to Satisfy Graduation Requirements (other than Biology 1)**

A student may be awarded 2 credits in science (to be used to satisfy science graduation requirements other than Biology 1) by completing any of the following CTE course requirements.

- Health Sciences II (+ prerequisites = 4 Carnegie Units)
- Agriculture and Natural Resources II (+ prerequisites = 4 Carnegie Units) (Suggested that 1 credit be for Bio II and ½ credit for Botany and ½ awarded for Field Experiences in Science.)
- Diversified Agriculture – Concepts of Agriscience and TWO of the following three courses:
  - Science of Agricultural Plants
  - Science of Agricultural Animals
  - Science of Agricultural Environment(= 3 Carnegie Units Total)

#### **½ Credit in Personal Finance to Satisfy Personal Finance Graduation Requirements**

A student may be awarded ½ credit in Personal Finance (to be used to satisfy graduation requirements) by completing the following CTE course requirements.

- Business, Marketing, & Finance I, and or Economics (2 Carnegie Units)
- Business, Marketing, & Finance II (+ prerequisites = 2 Carnegie Units)

#### **½ Credit in Health to Satisfy Health Graduation Requirements**

A student may be awarded ½ credit in Health (to be used to satisfy graduation requirements) by completing the following CTE course requirements.

- Health Sciences I (2 Carnegie Units)

**State Board of Education Policy 3804**  
**Mississippi Graduation Assessment Options**

Assessment Options	Math	Science	English	Social Studies
ACT	17 (Math)	17 (Science)	17 (English)	17 (Reading)
Dual Credit / Dual Enrollment	C or higher in MAT credit- bearing course	C or higher in BIO credit- bearing course	C or higher in ENG credit- bearing course	C or higher in HIS credit- bearing course
ASVAB + MS-CPAS2 OR Industry Certification	ASVAB score of 36 plus one of the following:  1. CPAS score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements OR 2. Earn approved Industry Certification specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint (Appendix A-5)			
ACT WorkKeys + MS-CPAS2 OR Industry Certification	WorkKeys Silver Level plus one of the following:  1. CPAS score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements OR 2. Earn approved Industry Certification specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint (Appendix A-5)			

**Universal Concordance Table**

Concordance Table	Scale Score			
Grade in Course	1049-1048	1047-1046	1045-1044	1043-1042
A	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
B	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
C	Pass	Pass	Fail	Fail
D	Pass	Fail	Fail	Fail

\*Please see your guidance counselor for  
other graduation assessment options.

## **APPENDIX A-5**

### **Composite (Combined) Score MISS. ADMIN. CODE 7-3: 36.4(3) State Board Policy Chapter 36, Rule 36.4(3) (EFFECTIVE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR)**

Composite (Combined) Score Calculations provide opportunities for students who do not obtain a passing score on one or more EOC assessments. Students may utilize an additional graduation option by taking the average of all EOC assessments and achieving a minimal combined score of 1050. The student must have four scores (Algebra I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History). These four scores are added together and divided by 4. The student must have a 1049.5 or above. If a student has a COVID-related waiver from the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school year(s) for any required EOC assessment, the student is not eligible to use this option. Students shall be enrolled in school to utilize the composite score option.

#### **Example**

Calculate the student's composite (combined) score by determining the average score across all four assessments.

Assessment	Scale
Algebra (EOC)	1039
English II (EOC)	1048
Biology (EOC)	1055
U.S. History (EOC)	1056

$$\text{Average Composite (Combined) Score} = \frac{1039 + 1048 + 1055 + 1056}{4} = \frac{4,198}{4} = 1049.5 = 1050$$

In the example above, the student can use the Composite Combined Score for Algebra I and English II.

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### **CRITERIA FOR STUDENTS ENTERING ALGEBRA I**

The prerequisite for students going from 8<sup>th</sup> grade math to Algebra I are a final average of 90 or above and score Advanced on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade math EOY State Summative Assessment. Students who do not meet these requirements will be enrolled in Foundations of Algebra prior to Algebra I. School principals may make allowances for alternate scheduling circumstances.

### **CRITERIA FOR STUDENTS ENTERING BIOLOGY I**

Prerequisite for students going from 8<sup>th</sup> grade science to Biology I is a final average of 90 or above in 8<sup>th</sup> grade science. Students who do not meet this requirement will be enrolled in Foundations of Biology prior to Biology I. School principals may make allowances for alternate scheduling circumstances.

### **CHANGE OF SCHEDULE**

Those students desiring to make changes in their schedule must do so with the permission of the principal and/or the Counselor. No class changes can be made after 3 days have been completed from the beginning of any course. Any class dropped after that date will receive an "F" for that subject. Any extenuating circumstances will be handled on a case-by-case basis by principal and counselor.

### **DUAL CREDIT/DUAL ENROLLMENT**

Those students who are interested in taking classes at Northeast Mississippi Community College while still enrolled in high school need to see their guidance counselor for the eligibility requirements, financial responsibilities, and dual credit alignment.

### **PROMOTION AND RETENTION FOR GRADES K-8**

To be promoted students MAY NOT in.

- \*Grades 1-8 fail reading or math, they fail the grade (reading or math stands alone)
- \*Grades 7 & 8 ELA takes the place of Reading
- \*Grades 1-8 fail two subjects, they fail the grade
- \*Grades 1-8 fail the same subject two years in a row, fail the grade

\*A student scoring below level 3 in reading on the established state assessment for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will not be promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade unless the student meets the good cause exemptions for promotion.

### **MARIETTA AND HILLS CHAPEL 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ACADEMIC AWARD HIGHEST OVERALL AWARD & 2<sup>ND</sup> HIGHEST OVERALL AWARD**

The students with the highest and second highest overall average in academic coursework from beginning of 8<sup>th</sup> grade to end of 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks will be acknowledged at the schools' annual awards programs.

### **STATE BOARD POLICY MISSISSIPPI STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM ASSESSMENT OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS**

The information contained within the Testing Students with Disabilities Regulations and the Guidelines for English Language Learners, and any subsequent updates shall apply to all public-school personnel who are responsible for the implementation of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System.

The information shall set forth the rules and procedures required for proper test administration and shall be provided to each school district by the Mississippi Department of Education through the district test coordinator. The district superintendent shall assure that each school follows the established testing procedures and informs each building level administrator of their responsibilities. Local boards of education shall cooperate with the State Board of Education in implementing the provisions of this said policy.



## **EXEMPTION POLICY**

### **Exemption Policy for Grades K-6**

A student who falls into one of the following categories may be exempt from their semester exams. Absences are calculated per class. A principal may refuse a student's exemption status due to disciplinary actions. Two tardies or two early checkouts will be equivalent to one absence.

<b>Average</b>	<b>Days Absent</b>
Average of C (75-84)	2
Average of B (85-92)	4
Average of A (93-100)	6

### **Exemption Policy for Grades 7-8**

A student who falls into one of the following categories may be exempt from their semester exams. Absences are calculated per class. A principal may refuse a student's exemption status due to disciplinary actions. Two tardies or two early checkouts will be equivalent to one absence.

<b>Average</b>	<b>Days Absent</b>
Average of C (70-79)	2
Average of B (80-89)	4
Average of A (90-100)	6

### **Exemption Policy for Grades 9-12**

A student who falls into one of the following categories may be exempt from their semester exam and/ or end of course exam. Absences are calculated per class. A principal may refuse a student's exemption status due to disciplinary actions. Two tardies or two early checkouts will be equivalent to one absence.

<b>Average</b>	<b>Days Absent 1 Credit Course</b>	<b>Days Absent ½ Credit Course</b>
Average of C (70-79)	2	1
Average of B (80-89)	4	2
Average of A (90-100)	6	3

### Grading Scales

K-6 Grading Scale	7-12 Grading Scale
A 93-100	A 90-100
B 85-92	B 80-89
C 75-84	C 70-79
D 70-74	D 65-69
F 69 or below	F 64 or below

#### UNIFORM GRADING POLICY GRADES K-8

Daily Grades:	Must have a minimum of 12 grades per 9 weeks Quiz & Daily Assessments – minimum of 9 with each having at least 10 items Homework – minimum of 1 HW grade each 3 weeks for progress reports	30% of Average
Test Grades:	Must have a minimum of 6 per 9 weeks The goal for each teacher will be to provide 2 tests for each 3 weeks progress reporting period. Tests should contain at least 20 items. Project based test grades will be scored utilizing a rubric. This rubric should be made available to students at the beginning of the project.	50% of Average
9 Weeks Exam	Exam will have at least 25 items Exam will be comprehensive of objectives taught previously A copy of the Exam and a key will be submitted to the principal.	20% of Average

#### UNIFORM GRADING POLICY GRADES 9-12

Daily Grades	Must have a minimum of 25 grades per 9 weeks Classwork Homework Daily Assessments	30% of Average
Test Grades	Must have a minimum of 8 per 9 weeks Tested areas should design tests with SATP format in mind. Non-Tested areas should support overall student achievement in tested areas. Project based Test grades will be scored utilizing a rubric. This rubric should be made available to students at the beginning of the project.	50% of Average
9 Weeks EXAM	Exams will have at least 25 items. Exams will be comprehensive of objectives taught previously. A copy of the Exam and a key will be submitted to the principal.	20% of Average

## **DETERMINING AVERAGES FOR HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIAN, SALUTATORIAN, AND HISTORIAN**

### **\*For students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade Fall 2018 and after**

When calculating the individual student rankings, the following will apply:

1. Student must be on track to earn Distinguished Endorsement
2. Student must have taken and earned a C or above in a minimum of 3 Dual Credit, Physics or Advanced Placement Courses
3. A maximum of 5 Dual Credit or Advanced Placement Courses or Physics will be included in the calculation
4. Only Dual Credit or Advanced Placement courses or Physics taken in lieu of required classes will be factored into the Quality Point Average
5. Class rankings will be calculated at the end of the midterm point of the spring semester of Senior year
6. In the event of a tie in Quality Point averages, the counselors will use numerical averages to break the tie.
7. When calculating Quality Point Averages, counselors will factor in the following:
  - a. English I, English II, English III and English IV
  - b. Biology I and the three other sciences with the highest averages (one science must be a Physical Science/Chemistry/Physics)
  - c. Algebra I, two math courses above Algebra I with the highest averages, and one additional math
  - d. MS Studies, World Geography, World History, US History, Government, Economics
  - e. Art, a computer course, a PE, and Health.
  - f. Additional elective courses will not be calculated in the GPA.
8. Counselors will count grades twice for 1-unit courses and count grades once for ½ unit course
9. Dual Credit and AP courses will be weighted using the Quality Point Scale below:
10. Student must have attended their respective school as 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

<b><u>Quality Point Scale</u></b> (AP Courses, Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Courses, and Physics)	<b><u>Quality Point Scale</u></b> (for all other courses)
<b>A = 90 – 100 = 5 Points</b>	<b>A = 90 – 100 = 4 Points</b>
<b>B = 80 – 89 = 4 Points</b>	<b>B = 80 – 89 = 3 Points</b>
<b>C = 70 – 79 = 3 Points</b>	<b>C = 70 – 79 = 2 Points</b>
<b>D = 65 – 69 = 1 Point</b>	<b>D = 65 – 69 = 1 Point</b>
<b>F = 0 – 64 = 0 Points</b>	<b>F = 0 – 64 = 0 Points</b>

**\*\*\*Students must be present at graduation practice to participate in commencement.**

### **YEARLY HONOR ROLL**

The end of the year Honor Roll is determined by the grades of each individual subject during the year for the 1<sup>st</sup> three 9 weeks. To make the Superintendent's Yearly Honor Roll, the student cannot have a grade less than an (A) in each individual subject, and to make the Principal's Yearly Honor Roll, the student cannot have a grade that is less than a (B) in each individual subject. \*NOTE: Any student who does not satisfactorily continue to maintain this grade during the (fourth nine weeks), will be dropped from the list of Yearly Honor Roll recipients.

### **HONOR GRADUATES**

A student must have a 90 or above cumulative numerical average comprising all courses taken as required for graduation by MDE. These will be determined after the third nine weeks. However, any student who does not continue to maintain this cumulative numerical average during the fourth nine weeks will be dropped from the list of Honor Graduates.

### **HALL OF FAME**

Prentiss County School's Hall of Fame represents a select group of senior students who have outstanding academic records, leadership skills, character, citizenship, and community service.  
Eligibility Requirements:

1. Students must have attended the school from which they are graduating for the full junior and senior years.
2. No more than 20% of the senior class will be accepted into the Hall of Fame.
3. High school faculty will select students. The following criteria items will be used: applications, attendance records, discipline records, and academic records. Once all applications are received, faculty will vote on who should receive the Hall of Fame honor.
4. Teachers and club/athletic sponsors will have the opportunity to verify membership status and awards documented by the applicant.
5. The student must not have failed any Carnegie Course.
6. The student must not have had more than 5 unexcused tardies or 5 unexcused absences during the senior year.
7. A student must have passed all the required state tests for graduation in order to receive the Hall of Fame honor.
8. Students must have an overall 85 grade point average or higher to be eligible for Hall of Fame.
9. The student must not have had any out of school suspension during their junior or senior years or engage in any action that does not exemplify good behavior or school board policy. If a student is suspended or behaves in any way which does not exemplify good behavior after receiving the Hall of Fame honor, the student will be removed from the school's Hall of Fame and lose the honor.
10. Completed applications must be turned in to the counselor. Incomplete or incorrectly completed applications will not be considered. There are no extensions on the deadline. Applications will not be given back to the students to correct if the student leaves something off of it.
11. Applications will be distributed to students with a 85 grade point average or higher the week after Spring Break. Students will be given ten days to complete the Hall of Fame application and turn it back in to the counselor.
12. Students must complete twenty hours of community service and provide documentation of the community service signed by the adult who supervised the service.
13. The counselor or principal must sign off on every Hall of Fame application for the student to be considered for Hall of Fame. If the student does not receive the counselor or principal's signature on his or her application, the application will not be considered.

### **HONOR ROLL**

**The categories of the Honor Roll are:**

- |                                 |                           |          |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| <b>1. Superintendent's List</b> | <b>No grade less than</b> | <b>A</b> |
| <b>2. Principal's List</b>      | <b>No grade less than</b> | <b>B</b> |

### **ATTENDANCE AWARD**

PERFECT ATTENDANCE: Any student having perfect attendance at any school on all legal school days is given a Perfect Attendance Award. If a student becomes sick and must be sent home, they will be counted present ONLY if they have attended school until 1:30 p.m. and/or 63% of the student's school day. Students may also be excused early for medical appointments or other necessary reasons and be counted present provided they attend school until 1:30 p.m. and/or 63% of the student school day.

### **CLUBS AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTING CLUB OFFICERS, CLASS OFFICERS, AND/OR ANY OTHER POSITION OF HONOR AND TRUST**

It is the intent of the Prentiss County Board to have students that hold a responsible position in their respective schools or classes to be of good behavior. Students that are selected or elected, whether it be by faculty selection, class selection, or student body selection, cannot hold any position of honor or trust if they have been suspended, expelled, or have 6 or more unexcused absences for one calendar year, beginning on the date that the offense was, resulting in the suspension or expulsion.

A student must have been promoted from the previous year to be eligible for any position of honor or office. Any student selected for any of these positions will be removed from all positions immediately if they are suspended or expelled. Once elected the student must meet the requirements of the position set forth by the administration or forfeit their post.

### **STUDENT PARTICIPATION**

NOTE: If a student is suspended at the time of the trip, this student will not be allowed to go. Also, if a student has demonstrated misconduct on a previous trip the student may not be allowed to go on future trips or participate in future activities. This decision will be at the discretion of the sponsor and the principal. Also, at the discretion of the principal, any student maybe barred from any extra-curricular activity during that calendar year and be subject to review by the Prentiss County School Board.

### **BANQUETS/PROM**

Banquets held in other locations, other than Prentiss County, must be board approved. If a student desires to attend a banquet, the following rules must apply:

1. Meals are to be paid for in advance.
2. Students are not allowed to bring guests or dates who would not otherwise be involved in Banquet/Prom Activity.
3. No Wills and/or Prophecies will be allowed

\*In order to participate in Banquets, Beauty Revues, Homecoming Award's Programs, etc., a student must be at school on the day of that Banquet, Beauty Revue, Homecoming, Award's Program, etc. for at least 63% of the student's day. \*Also, at the discretion of the principal, any student may be barred from any extra-curricular activity during that calendar year.

### **ATHLETICS AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

All participants (grades 7-12) in activities sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) must comply with standards as stated in the MHSAA Handbook. All Prentiss County School District Athletics are governed by the MHSAA. Any other inquiries about eligibility can be found at [www.misshsaa.com](http://www.misshsaa.com). (This applies to all extracurriculars).

### **ACADEMIC RULE**

\*All Prentiss County School District Athletics are governed by the MHSAA. Any other inquiries about eligibility can be found at [www.misshsaa.com](http://www.misshsaa.com).

### **JUNIOR HIGH (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders)**

Pupils in the seventh and eighth grades participating at the high school level for fall eligibility must: be promoted; have passed the four core courses (English, math, science, and social studies); and the average of those four core courses must be a "C", 2.0 or above. For spring semester eligibility, the student does not have to be passing all four core courses, but the average of those four core courses must be a "C", 2.0 or above. Summer school or extended school year grades will replace the grade for a failed course in the spring semester GPA.

If a student meets promotional requirements at the end of the school year, but is retained in the same grade, the student is ineligible for one (1) year. This is commonly referred to as redshirting. If the student participates after being declared ineligible, the school will be placed on athletic probation by the MHSAA. Also, the school could lose accreditation by the State Department of Education.

### **SENIOR HIGH (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)**

Students will be required to pass 6 units of credit during the school year with a "C" or 2.0 average or better in order to maintain eligibility. Those students who opt out of the Mississippi school's curriculum and need 21 credits to graduate, will be required to pass five credits toward graduation to be eligible. However, they must pass six credits, one of those four years of eligibility.

A student athlete may become eligible only once during his/her high school career if he/she fails the last semester of the previous year, by passing 6 units with a "C" average the first semester of the following year. This will be done in order to keep the student on track for graduation.

The only change for students on the block schedule will be that students participating in athletics and activities will have to have an overall "C" or 2.0 or higher average.

Special education students will be academically eligible if they are making satisfactory progress according to the committees reviewing their Individual Education Plans (IEP).

### **SPORTING EVENT PRICES**

(If a High School and Jr. High Game is playing – highest fee will be charged)

Basketball Tournament/Classic Game High School	\$7.00 H.S. Jr. High \$5.00
Basketball Games	\$7.00 H.S. Jr. High \$5.00
Football Games	\$7.00 H.S. Jr. High \$5.00
Baseball and Softball Games	\$7.00 H.S. Jr. High \$5.00
Beauty Revue	\$15.00 entrance fee \$7.00 admission fee
Track Meet	\$5.00
Powerlifting	\$5.00
Archery	\$5.00
Volleyball	\$5.00

\* Note: All above prices will be for everyone\* All must pay gate except those with valid passes\* Employee and spouse only Prentiss County School District passes  
(County passes will not be accepted during Prentiss County Tournament)

**Students may purchase student tickets for HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS in advance for \$3.00 for any sport at their home school excluding tournament games (Non-transferable) Students may purchase student tickets for JR HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS in advance for \$2.00 for any sport other than football which will cost \$3.00 in advance at their home school excluding tournament games (non-transferable)**  
17 (1987); Section 37-15-21 (1987); Section 37-15-29 (1992)

### **ATTENDANCE LAWS AND POLICIES**

The district will implement procedures that will monitor and report student absences. When possible, medical, dental, or other personal appointments should be scheduled after school hours.

**\*Written documentation**, including medical excuses for absences, must be presented to the principal or his/her designees within two days of the student's return to school. This documentation must come from appropriate medical personnel, court personnel, funeral home personnel, or parents. In case of illness not requiring medical attention, a maximum of four (4) days per semester may be excused through written documentation signed by the parent/guardian.

An absence will be unexcused if a parent or guardian does not contact the school in writing by the conclusion of the second day after the student returns.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES INCLUDE:**

1. Sickness/medical appointments with proper documentation.
2. Death in the immediate family as outlined by Mississippi law, with acceptable documentation.
3. Absences approved by the principal.
4. Mandated appearances in court, with proper documentation.
5. Any other excuse otherwise provided by board policy JBA.

NOTE: Students participating in school activities are considered present.

All other absences are unexcused. After a student has accumulated five (5) unexcused absences, the principal or his designee will contact the County Attendance Officer. The School Attendance Officer will then mail the parent(s) or legal guardian (s) a "First Notice" at five (5) or more unexcused, a "Second Notice" at ten (10) or more unexcused absences, a "Final Notice" at twelve (12) or more unexcused, whereupon the School Attendance Officer may take Legal Action. To avoid legal action, it is imperative that parents or legal guardians promptly notify their child's school of any address or phone number changes. Legal Action. To avoid legal action, it is imperative that parents or legal guardians promptly notify their child's school of any address or phone number changes.

The above information must be included on all Parent Excuse Letters for a student to receive an excused absence. It should be written in the above format. This letter may be handwritten or printed directly from the district website.

**Student's Legal Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Absence** \_\_\_\_\_

**School** \_\_\_\_\_

**Homeroom Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please excuse** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Student's Full Name) for being absent on the date listed above.**

**Please check the absence reason that applies.**

- ☐ **Illness or injury**
- ☐ **Death or serious illness of immediate family member**
- ☐ **Court appearance**
- ☐ **Other reason**

**Explanation**

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**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **MAKE-UP WORK**

All students shall be offered the opportunity to make up work except for unexcused absences or tardies. Make-up tests may be different from regular tests. If a student knows in advance that they will be excused from classes to participate in a school-sponsored activity, they should discuss make-up work with their teacher as soon as they know they are to be absent. The student, upon return to school, must contact the teacher immediately to arrange for work and/or tests missed. Students who have been absent should contact their teachers regarding make-up work. The teacher will determine the length of time a student should have in making up missed work with a minimum of at least one (1) day for every day absent.

In instances where the student was present when work was assigned or tests were scheduled, the student is expected to submit the work or take the test upon the day after returning to school.

When work is not made up within the allotted time or by the time specified by the teacher, the student's grade will automatically become a zero. The teacher will document the schedule of make-up; dates assigned, and the date due.

### **TARDIES**

**HOMEROOM TARDIES:** Students are expected to be at school and in their designated classroom by the time the homeroom tardy bell rings. A student who arrives after the tardy bell rings must report to the office upon arrival. The fourth tardy per semester (elementary and jr. high) and second tardy (high school block schedule) or thereafter will be dealt with according to the Code of Discipline listed in this Handbook. The principal will be responsible for punishment resulting from homeroom tardies.

**CLASS TARDIES:** Students are allowed ample time to change classes. Students that are detained by a teacher should be given a note to present to their next teacher when they arrive for class. All other tardies will be considered unexcused. Any work missed because of an unexcused tardy cannot be made up. If a student enters the room after the tardy bell has rung, he/she is tardy. Every three (3) unexcused tardies will be counted as one absence. This is not an accumulation of three (3) tardies for all seven (7) periods or each block period, but three (3) for each period or block. If a student misses over 50% of a class period, they will be counted absent.

**Parental approval must be given in writing or by phone for late arrival or early departure. Students who are habitually late for school, with 3 or more tardies, will lose their driving privilege for 5 school days. For each repeated offense of 3 unexcused tardies double driving loss days will occur (10 school days).**

### **HALL PASSES**

A student will be required to have a hall pass in their possession when they leave an assigned class area during the class period. The student is responsible for getting a hall pass from their instructor before leaving their assigned class area. Failure to have a hall pass will be treated as truancy and disobedience and the student will be punished based on the policy described under the Code of Discipline in this handbook.

### **PERMISSION TO LEAVE SCHOOL**

Once a student is on school grounds, they are to remain throughout the entire day unless their parent/guardian requests an early release, or an emergency arises. If a student becomes sick at school, they are to report to the office for permission to go home. If a parent or guardian desires that their child be dismissed from school for any part of the day, they should communicate with the school office by telephone or note.

**If a student brings a note to school for permission to leave school, they should bring it to the office by 8:00 a.m. to get the note signed. All notes for early dismissal must have a home, business, or place of employment phone number listed. The school will verify every excuse or note for dismissal if possible.**

**Any student leaving the school grounds during the school day for any reason must sign out in the office after receiving permission and once they leave, they may not return to school without school office permission and must sign in upon returning. If a student leaves the school grounds during the school day without parental consent, school consent, and signing out in the office, they will be subject to punishment.**

**NOTE: Prentiss County School District students in the 12<sup>th</sup> grades who are on track for graduation are allowed to leave early on a regular basis. Refer to page 13 for early release requirements.**

### **AUTOMOBILE USE**

1. Driving on school roads and parking on school property is a courtesy offered to students and others by the School Board.
2. The parking facilities located at the various school district buildings are not public parking areas and are to be used for school purposes only. School purposes include attendance at school activities or other school authorized activities, which occur before or after the regular school day.



3. Students must have a driver's license on file in the office before they will be allowed to drive any vehicle on the school campus.
4. Violators may be charged with trespassing and/or vehicles towed at owner's expense.
5. Any violation can be referred to the Code of Discipline

Additional rules and regulations are as follows:

1. All drivers on school property and related school sponsored activities shall hold a valid State of Mississippi driver's license.
2. All such drivers shall follow the laws of the State of Mississippi relating to liability (liability insurance or security bond).
3. Copies of these documents shall be on file in the school principal's office.
4. Students will not be permitted to transport other unauthorized students.
5. Students are to leave their cars immediately after arriving on school property and are not to return to them until departure time without proper authorization by the principal.
6. Parental approval must be given in writing or by phone for late arrival or early departure. Students who are habitually late for school, with 3 or more tardies, will lose their driving privilege for 5 school days. For each repeated offense of 3 unexcused tardies double driving loss days will occur (10 school days).
7. Students will park only in designated areas. Each car will be identified with a current permit prominently displayed or attached.
8. Students will abide by all laws and common-sense rules governing driver's conduct.
9. Students shall be responsible for locking their vehicles while on school property. The school district shall assume no responsibility for any loss relating to the student driver, his vehicle, or other property.
10. Before being issued authorization to drive on school property or in connection with any school activity, principals must obtain the signature of the student driver certifying that he/she understands and will abide by this policy and its parts.
11. No student below the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) grade will be issued a permit authorizing him/her to drive a vehicle of any sort on campus.
12. Failure to abide by this policy will result in the loss of driving/car use privileges and subject the student to whatever other discipline or prosecution that might apply under school policy and/or the laws of Mississippi. A permit will not be issued to drive a three-wheeler or four-wheeler on campus.
13. A permit may be issued to drive a motorcycle on campus provided the following rules are met:  
Drivers of motorcycles must wear a helmet  
Motorcycles must have a tag  
Motorcycles must be insured  
Motorcycles must meet all state requirements  
No riders will be permitted
14. Additional rules may apply at each school.

**THIS POLICY IS ESTABLISHED TO ASSURE STUDENT SAFETY AND WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

**(SENATE BILL 2194 – EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 1, 1995)**

This bill amends section 63-1-9 to change the legal age for obtaining a driver's license to sixteen (16). There is a clause, which requires any unmarried person under age 18 to present a diploma, or a special diploma certifying high school graduation, a GED certificate, or documentation of school enrollment when applying for a license. There are exceptions listed for certain 15-year-olds to be granted a license.

Section 37-25-7 is amended to require a driver education student under age 15 to secure a learner's permit, which will be valid only when the student is under the direct supervision of a driver education instructor. The permit that costs \$1.00 shall expire at the end of the driver training course. Applicants under age 18 shall be issued a one-year license. Annual renewal must be accompanied by documentation that the applicant follows the education requirements. This documentation must be dated no more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of application.

**AUTOMOBILE USE FOR VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL STUDENTS**

Students who attend classes at the Prentiss County Career & Technology Center will ride the bus to and from their home school. Permission to drive will be given by the principal and the vocational director to those students enrolled in Health Sciences II. Permission to drive may be extended to those students whose last class of the school day is at the Prentiss County Career & Technology Center. Extenuating circumstances will be addressed at the local school. Permission-To-Drive forms must have the proper signatures and be on file at the home school with a copy sent to the Vocational School. If students ride with other students, permission forms must be completed and on file at both schools. Any student found in violation will lose all driving privileges as well as other appropriate disciplinary actions

### **WORKBOOKS, FEES, AND CHARGES**

Fees may be charged for workbooks and consumable supplies or for repair or rental of equipment. The Board of Education shall review the fees charged in August of each year and may change the fees as it deems necessary for the session immediately following. The fees and charges are as follows:

<b>Driver's Education</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>STEM</b>	<b>Consumable supply fee - \$15.00</b>
<b>Chemistry I &amp; II</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Biology I &amp; II</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Physics</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Locker Fees</b>	<b>Regular or Small-\$7.50 / Large-\$10.00</b>
<b>Vocational Lab. Fees</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Library Books</b>	<b>Ten cents (.10) a day for overdue books. Replacement value for lost or damaged book</b>
<b>School Property</b>	<b>Replacement value (desks, windows, etc.)</b>
<b>Technology Fee</b>	<b>\$50.00 Annual Non-Refundable</b>

### **DISTRICT OWNED TEXTBOOKS**

Prentiss County School District provides textbooks free of charge to students. Books will be issued by the teacher of each course, requiring the use of such textbooks. It is the duty of each student to care for the textbooks to the best of his/her ability. Students should take pride in the upkeep of their textbooks. Students who lose or damage textbooks are required to pay for them. Teachers are instructed to assess fines for amounts up to the current value of a book when it is obvious that the student has damaged or defaced the book. A book that is lost or damaged must be paid for before another will be issued.

**The following is an example of our district's fines and damage replacement schedule:**

<b><u>Damage</u></b>	<b><u>Fine</u></b>
Writing/drawing/scribbling in book	\$1.00 per page
Excess wear/damage but still usable	10% of the cost of the book
Cover of book damaged	25% of the cost of the book
Spine damaged	25% of the cost of the book
Water damaged but still usable	25% of the cost of the book
Water damaged, not usable	Cost of the book
Pages missing, not usable	Cost of the book
Obscene writing or drawing on or in the book	Cost of the book
Non-returned book	Cost of the book

### **REPORT CARDS/PROGRESS REPORTS**

Report cards will be sent home one week after the 9 weeks exam for each grading period. Progress reports will be sent home for grades K-12 at the 1/3 and 2/3 point of each 9 weeks. Parents will receive notification of students having difficulty. The student may keep their report card for each grading period but are required to show proof of parent's/guardian's signature to school personnel. Active Parent may be accessed at any point to evaluate a student's performance in each class.

### **CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY**

Students are expected to do their individual part in caring for the buildings, school buses, and school grounds. Everyone should develop pride in keeping the buildings clean and the furniture in good repair. Pupils will be required to pay for damage to buildings, school buses, and any equipment. Damages must be paid for by the guilty party and in severe instances, additional punishment may be issued.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Extra-curricular activities are viewed as an extension of the school day. All rules governing regular school day activities shall apply to all school sponsored extracurricular activities held on or off the school campuses. Violators of these rules shall be handled accordingly and shall include, but not limited to all summer activities.

## **PRENTISS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF DISCIPLINE**

The uniform Discipline Code of the Prentiss County School District provides a uniform standard of conduct for all public-school students. It describes inappropriate student behavior, ensures equal treatment for misconduct, and presents specific actions for remediating prohibited behaviors. The Code is based on the premise that rules must be enforced fairly, firmly, and consistently and in a fashion equitable and just, while complying with state mandates and regulations. It recognizes that as students' progress in school and advance in age and maturity, they will assume greater responsibility for their actions. It is also recognized that differences in age and maturity require different types of disciplinary action. HB 1182 states that children with a disability, that is children with an IEP or Section 504 plan, cannot be subject to corporal punishment in accordance with MS Code 37-11-57.

In this Code, discipline is defined as the implementation of and adherence to behavioral rules and regulations, which will ensure an educational environment free of mental and physical hazards to students, teachers, and staff. Such an environment is conducive to the practice of good citizenship and encourages learning. The enforcement of the Code will help ensure a safe and orderly school climate for students and staff alike.

### **Specific provisions of the Code include:**

1. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child enrolled in the Prentiss County School District shall be responsible financially for his or her minor child's destructive acts against school property or persons.
2. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child enrolled in the Prentiss County School District may be requested to appear at school by the school attendance officer or the principal, for a conference regarding the destructive acts of their child, or for any other discipline conference regarding the acts of the child.
3. Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child enrolled in the Prentiss County School District who refuses or willfully fails to attend such discipline conference specified in paragraph (2) of this section may be summoned by proper notification by the superintendent of schools or the school attendance officer and be required to attend such discipline conference.
4. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child enrolled in the Prentiss County School District shall be responsible for any criminal fines brought against such student(s) for unlawful activity occurring on school grounds or buses.
5. Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child who
  - a. fails to attend a discipline conference to which such parent, guardian or custodian has been summoned under the provisions of this section, or
  - b. refuses or willfully fails to perform any other duties imposed upon him or her under the law shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction shall be fined not to exceed an amount provided by law.
  - c. The Prentiss County School District shall be entitled to recover damages in an amount not to exceed an amount as provided by law, plus necessary court costs, from the parents of any minor (7-17) who maliciously and willfully damages or destroys property belonging to this school district. However, this section shall not apply to parents whose parental control of such child has been removed by court order or decree.
  - d. Any student assigned In-School Detention, Out-of-School Suspension, or placement at NMRAEC will not be allowed to attend hosted events at any PCSD including athletic events, field trips, or any extra-curricular activities until the In-School Detention, Out-of-School Suspension, or placement at the NMRAEC is completed in assignment.

## **Code of Discipline Grades K-12**

### **Student Conduct: Acts of Misconduct**

These acts of misconduct include those student behaviors, which disrupt the orderly educational process in the classroom or on the school grounds including the following:

#### **Level I**

- 1 – 1 Tardiness**
- 1 – 2 Running and/or making excessive noise in the hall or building**
- 1 – 3 Inappropriate personal contact including but not limited to pushing and shoving, inappropriate gestures and public displays of affection, recklessness, or any inappropriate contact which does not result in physical harm, or any additional contact which the principal determines to be in this level.**
- 1 – 4 In an unauthorized area without a pass (halls, etc.)**
- 1 – 5 Dress code violation**
- 1 – 6 Displaying any behavior which is disruptive to the orderly process of education**

#### **Disciplinary Action**

##### **First Violation**

**Minimum: Teacher-Student Conference,  
Maximum: Teacher-Student-Parent Conference**

##### **Repeated or Flagrant Violation**

**Minimum: Mandatory Student -Parent-Administrator Conference (Home Suspension) and/or Referral to MTSS for behavioral intervention  
Maximum: Corporal Punishment, In School detention, and/or school suspension**

#### **Level II**

- 2 – 1 Leaving the school grounds without permission**
- 2 – 2 Skipping class – Truancy**
- 2 – 3 Insubordination- refusal to follow written or verbal school rules after receiving specific directions from a person in authority including, but not limited to breaking school or classroom rules, failure to respond to staff request, refusal to complete assigned task, or exhibiting disrespect towards adults**
- 2 – 4 Possession and/or use of a tobacco product. If a student is found to have a vape product or is vaping, please see Vaping Policy and Vaping Disciplinary Action.**
- 2 – 5 Exhibiting any hostile physical or verbal actions**
- 2 – 6 Bullying (as defined in Board Policy)**
- 2 – 7 Unauthorized uses of personal electronic devices**
- 2 – 8 Cheating on tests or exams**

#### **Disciplinary Action**

##### **First Violation**

**Minimum: Administrator-Conference, In-School Detention, mandatory student parent-administrator conference, corporal punishment, and/or referral to MTSS for behavioral interventions**

**Maximum: School suspension (one to three days)**

##### **Repeated or Flagrant Violation**

**Minimum: School suspension (three days)**

**Maximum: School suspension (three days) and/or In-School-Detention for up to ten (10) days and/or Teacher Support Team Interventions**

**\*\* Additional disciplinary action for unauthorized use of personal electronic devices:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** First offense will result in confiscation of the device and parental contact. The electronic device will be returned at the end of the school day to the student or his/her parent/guardian as determined by the building principal.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** School will take and keep the device for 5 school days. After the device is retained for 5 school days, the electronic device will be returned to the student or his/her parent/guardian as determined by the building principal.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:** School will take and keep the device for 10 school days. After the device is retained for 10 school days, the electronic device will be returned to the student or his/her parent/guardian as determined by the building principal. Devices will be confiscated and turned into the office and locked up. Teachers are not to keep devices and keep them in their classroom.

### **Level III**

- 3 – 1 Fighting
- 3 – 2 Gambling
- 3 – 3 Theft or possession of stolen property \*
- 3 – 4 Acts which threaten the safety and well-being of students and/or staff: engaging in any behavior (by word or act) that encourages, incites, or instigates threatening or aggressive acts which can create the risk of harm to another person.
- 3 – 5 Extortion- use of intimidation, coercion or force
- 3 – 6 Vandalism of personal and/or school property \*
- 3 – 7 Using profane, obscene, indecent, immoral, or offensive language and/or gestures, and/or possession of obscene, indecent, immoral or offensive materials
- 3 – 8 Inappropriate sexual conduct, including un-welcomed sexual contact, indecent exposure, or transferring sexually suggestive images through personal electronic devices

### **Action**

#### **First Violation**

**Minimum:** School suspension from one to three days, In-School Detention, corporal punishment and Referral to MTSS for behavioral intervention

**Maximum:** School suspension (three days), report to authorities when applicable

#### **Repeated or Flagrant Violation**

**Minimum:** School suspension (three days), In-School Detention (ten days), and/or Levels 3-4 and 3-8 Teacher Support Team interventions

**Maximum:** School suspension (three days) and possible assignment to NMRAEC pending the results of a disciplinary hearing.

\* For theft or vandalism restitution shall be made regardless of other punishment.

### **Level IV**

- 4 – 1 Possession, use or under the influence of alcohol, synthetic drugs, counterfeit drugs, illegal drugs, narcotics, controlled substance(s) or paraphernalia. \*
- 4 – 2 Assault on a student. Assault is defined as purposely or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury (including pain or discomfort) to another.
- 4 – 3 Assault on a school employee. Assault is defined as purposely or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury (including pain or discomfort) to another.
- 4 – 4 Using profane, obscene, indecent, immoral, threatening or offensive language and/or gestures directly to a staff member  
Any student in violation of the above shall be suspended by the principal for three days and ordered to appear for a disciplinary hearing before a District Hearing Committee if the parent doesn't waive the hearing.

### **Disciplinary Action**

**Minimum:** Assignment to the NMRAEC and a report will be made to the appropriate law enforcement authorities and Referral to MTSS for behavioral intervention

**Maximum:** Expulsion

## Level V

### **5 – 1 Weapon(s) possession or use**

#### **Disciplinary Action**

**Minimum:** Possession other than gun will result in assignment to NEMRAEC and a report will be made to the appropriate law enforcement authorities

**Maximum:** Possession of a firearm/gun or use of other weapon will result in expulsion from school for a period of not less than one year (under certain circumstances expulsion can be from the student's assigned school to NEMRAEC)

### **5 – 2 Sale or distribution, or conspiring to sell counterfeit drugs, synthetic drugs, illegal drugs/alcohol, narcotics, or controlled substances**

#### **Disciplinary Action**

**Minimum:** Assignment to the NMRAEC and a report will be made to the appropriate law enforcement authorities

**Maximum:** Expulsion

### **5 – 3 Students are prohibited from wearing, displaying, or possessing in any manner on school property or at school-sponsored events clothing, apparel, accessories, drawings, or messages associated with any gang or social club that is associated with criminal activity, as defined by law enforcement agencies.**

#### **Disciplinary Action**

**Minimum:** Mandatory student/parent/resource officer/administrator meeting to investigate situation and determine proper discipline consequence

**Repeated:** Assignment to the NMRAEC

**Maximum:** Expulsion for repeated violations and/or gang activity that includes but is not limited to:

- Acts which disrupt the process of orderly education
- Recruitment with use of intimidation
- Tagging or marking
- Assault
- Battery

In addition to these penalties, provisions of the Mississippi Criminal Code are applicable to illegal behavior. Principals are required to report illegal activities to the police. Students committing any crime or involved with any criminal behavior are subject to arrest by local law enforcement.

The Prentiss County Board of Education permits individual schools to adopt additional regulations governing actions not covered by Conduct Code. However, such additional regulations may neither substitute for nor negate any of the provisions, in spirit or intent of the Conduct Code, and must be approved in writing by the School Superintendent.

#### **Student Vaping Policy and Disciplinary Action:**

Electronic cigarettes have recently surpassed conventional cigarettes as the most used tobacco product among youths. The Prentiss County Board of Education recognizes that the use of electronic cigarettes and other vaping devices, or any tobacco products, is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff and visitors and is therefore always prohibited.

This policy applies to all students, school staff, parents, and any visitors while on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, in any school bus, on school property, or at school related activities or school-sponsored events which includes, but is not limited to, athletic events.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Vaping – The act of inhaling and exhaling the aerosol (often called vapor) produced by an electronic cigarette or similar battery-powered device.

Electronic Cigarette – An electronic product or device that produces a vapor that delivers nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device to simulate smoking, and is likely to be offered to, or purchased by, consumers as an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, or electronic pipe. Also known as e-cigs, vape pens, e-hookahs, e-pipes, tanks, mods, vapes, electronic nicotine delivery system, ENDS, JUUL, etc. Some devices may resemble cigarettes while others may resemble pens, USB sticks, or other everyday items.

## **VIOLATIONS**

**Any student found in violation will have the device confiscated and not returned if suspicion of illegal synthetic or illegal drugs will be subject to further laboratory drug testing and authorities will be notified.**

### **Disciplinary Action**

**First Offense is a three (3) day suspension. In-School Detention or Out-of-School Suspension to Principal's discretion.**

**Second Offense is a five (5) day out-of-school suspension. In-School Detention or Out-of-School Suspension to Principal's discretion.**

**Third Offense is an assignment to NMRAEC (Alternative School Placement).**

**Repeated offenses after the third offense: Minimum: Assignment to the NMRAEC. Any flagrant violations can result in expulsion for a calendar year.**

### **References:**

**97-32-27 – Definitions**

## **DUE PROCESS**

In cases where the imposition of punishment is for a suspension of more than 10 days, assigned to NEMRAEC, or expulsion, the student will be orally informed of the charges lodged against him. The student shall have a right to due process. See Prentiss County School District Board Policy JDAAAA. A parent will be notified of the suspension by telephone, if possible, and in writing. The student's parent/guardian has a right to discuss this matter further and have the charge and punishment explained by the administration along with all other rights provided by board policy.

## **ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT PROCEDURES**

An Individualized Education Plan (IEP) committee meets to determine every change of placement for our special education students. Students with special education rulings follow their IEP while at NMRAEC.

Parents are notified of the recommendation for placement at NMRAEC during the disciplinary hearing. The home school will contact the parent once acceptance is granted by the District Review Board. All parents and students will meet with a NMRAEC administrator to discuss the NMRAEC program and requirements. The minimum time that is required to complete NMRAEC is 30 school days, but the stay can be longer if the student does not progress properly.

The District Review Board consists of school-level administrators, district-level administrators, and counselors as determined by the Superintendent.

## **PROHIBITION OF WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY (SENATE BILL 3349 – PREVENTION OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE ACT) (MS CODE 97-37-13, 97-37-15, AND 97-37-17) (EFFECTIVE: JULY 2, 1994)**

**AUTOMATIC EXPULSION PERMITTED SENATE BILL 3349 -EFFECTIVE: JULY 2,1994) The superintendent or principal has authority to automatically expel any student who possesses any controlled substance in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law, a knife, handgun, other firearm, or causing bodily harm, or who commits a violent act on school property. The expulsion shall take effect immediately, subject to constitutional due process rights.**

**NOTE: House Bill 323 (Effective July 2, 1994) bars any student expelled for possession of a weapon or other felonious conduct from being assigned to an alternative school program. Referrals to alternative schools must be based upon documented need for placement by the parent, legal guardian or custodian.**

**PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY A parent may be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined up to \$1,000.00 and/or up to six (6) months in county jail for knowingly allowing a child (under 18) to have, own, or carry a concealed weapon.**



### **SENATE BILL 2767 – EFFECTIVE: JULY 1, 1994**

Senate Bill 2767 states that any act attempted or committed by a child with the use of a deadly weapon, which would be a felony if committed by an adult, will be in the original jurisdiction of the circuit court. This bill requires that the youth court be notified when a child is expelled from the public schools and the reason for expulsion.

The age for relinquishing youth court jurisdiction is lowered from 18 to 17 when the offenses committed by the child would be a felony if committed by an adult.

Parents, guardians, or custodians of children under age 13 may be civilly liable for any criminal acts of their children. Section 43-21-159 is amended to remove jurisdiction from the youth court for an offense involving the use or possession of a firearm by a child who is 15 years of age if the same offense committed by an adult would be a felony. All records involving a child convicted as an adult shall be public and shall not be kept confidential.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

**“EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY”** A public or private school building, bus, campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned or used or operated for school purposes.

**“STUDENT”** A minor or adult enrolled in or suspended or expelled within the last 5 years from a public or private school, college, or university.

**“FELONY”** \$5,000.00 and/or 3 years for possession of a gun, rifle, pistol, other firearm, dynamite, cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, powerful explosive, or causing, encouraging, or aiding a minor to possess the same.

**“MISDEMEANOR”** \$1,000.00 and/or 6 months for possession of a BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razors, razor blades (except for shaving), any sharp-pointed or edged instrument (except instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips and tools used only to prepare food, instruction and maintenance of school property), or causing, encouraging, or aiding a minor to possess same.

### **PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY – CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE (SENATE BILL 3349 – EFFECTIVE: JULY 2, 1994)**

A parent may be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined up to \$250.00 for failure to attend a noticed conference.

### **SCHOOL DISTRICT’S RESPONSIBILITIES (HOUSE BILL 1602 – EFFECTIVE: JULY 1, 1994)**

The School Districts are required to notify the youth court and local law enforcement agencies, by affidavit, of the occurrence of any unlawful activity (as defined below) committed by a student or students upon school property or during any school-related activity, regardless of location and the identity of the student or students committing the illegal activity “Unlawful Activity” is defined as: possession or use of a deadly weapon; possession, sale, or use of any controlled substance; aggravated or simple assault; rape; sexual battery; murder or other violent acts as defined in section 43-21-605.

### **PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES**

A public school district is entitled to recover up to \$20,000.00 in damages, in addition to any other recovery, from the parents of a child (7-17) who maliciously and willfully damages or destroys district property. (Senate Bill 3349 – MS Code 37-11-53 -Effective: July 2, 1994)

### **Drugs and Alcohol (Possession or Reasonable Suspicion)**

#### **DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

Students are absolutely prohibited from carrying, possessing in any manner, using or selling alcoholic beverages, morphine, marijuana, cocaine, opium, heroin or their derivatives or compounds, drugs commonly called LSD, “pep” pills, tranquilizers, or any other narcotic drug, barbiturate, substance ingredient or compound which, when taken orally, intravenously, inhaled or in any other manner, may cause the person to be under the influence thereof or any other controlled substance regulated by law.

The provisions of this policy shall not apply to any student who is under the care of a licensed physician and who is taking medication which is under the supervision and direction of such physician. The provisions of this policy



shall apply to all students during all of the period of time that they are under and subject to the jurisdiction of this school district, while participating in or going to or from any school-related activity, while under the supervision and direction of any teacher, principal or other authority of this school district or when such conduct does or may threaten to interfere with or disrupt the educational process or pose a threat to the safety of the student or others.

Any student violating any of the provisions of this policy shall be automatically suspended and recommended for expulsion by the superintendent or principal of the school in which the student is enrolled. The suspension shall be effective immediately subject to the procedures of due process as stated in the Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures Policy.

This policy is for the discipline and protection of the students at this school district and their general welfare. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to avoid any prosecution under any pertinent criminal statute of the State of Mississippi.

### **TOBACCO USE PROHIBITED**

This act shall be known and cited as Mississippi Adult Tobacco Use on Educational Property Act of 2000.

### **DEFINITIONS**

1. Adult: any natural person at least eighteen (18) years old.
2. Minor: any natural person under the age of eighteen (18) years old.
3. Person: any natural person.
4. Tobacco product: any substance that contains tobacco, including, but not limited to, electronic cigarettes (see definition in policy) vaping, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff, smoking tobacco or smokeless tobacco.
5. Educational property: any public school building or bus, public school campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used or operated by any local school board, school, or directors for the administration of any public educational institution or during a school-related activity; provided, however, that the term Educational property shall not include any sixteenth section school land or lieu land on which is not located a public school building, public school campus, public school recreational area or public school athletic field. Educational property shall not include property owned or operated by the state institutions of higher learning, the public community and junior colleges, or vocational-technical complexes where only adult students are in attendance.

### **PENALTY FOR VIOLATION**

No person shall use any tobacco product on any educational property as defined in this act. Any adult who violates this section shall be subject to a fine and shall be liable as follows:

1. for the first conviction, a warning is issued.
2. for a second conviction, a fine of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00); and
3. for all subsequent convictions, a fine not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) shall be imposed.

### **ISSUANCE OF CITATION**

Any adult found in violation of this section shall be issued a citation by a law enforcement officer, which shall include notice of the date, time and location for hearing before the justice court having jurisdiction where the violation is alleged to have occurred. For the purposes of this section, Subsequent convictions are violations committed on any educational property within the State of Mississippi. ' 97-32-27 thru 97-32-29 (2000)

LEGAL REF.: MS CODE ' 37-11-18; ' 41-29-101 et seq.; ' 97-32-27 thru ' 97-32-29

CROSS REF.: Policies JDAAA C Disciplinary Procedures

### **Prentiss County School District Random Drug Testing Policy**

To protect the health and safety of students involved in extracurricular activities from illegal and/or performance-enhancing drug use and abuse to crucial the use of such drugs, the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Prentiss County School District (the "District") adopts the following policy for random drug testing of all students Grades seven (7) through twelve (12) who participate in extracurricular activities.

### **Statement of Purpose and Intent**

Although the Board of Education, administration, faculty, and staff desire that no student use or possess illegal or performance enhancing drugs, we realize that our power to restrict the possession or use of such drugs is limited. Therefore, this policy governs only the use and possession of performance-enhancing and illegal drugs by students participating in extracurricular activities. This policy supplements and complements all other policies, rules, and regulations of the District regarding possession or use of illegal drugs, including, but not limited to, all policies and rules concerning reasonable suspicion of the use or possession of such illegal drugs. The policy also supplements and complements all laws and policies with respect to special education students.

Participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities in the District is a privilege. Students respect those students who participate in these activities and see them as examples. Participating students represent the District and their community. Accordingly, students in these activities carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, their school, their families, and their community to set the highest possible examples of conduct, sportsmanship, and training, which includes avoiding the use or possession of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs.

The purpose of this policy is six-fold:

1. To educate students about the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by illegal drug use.
2. To alert students with possible substance abuse problems to the potential harms that drug use poses for their physical, mental, and emotional well-being.
3. To offer students the privilege of competition and participation in extracurricular activities as an incentive to stop using such substances.
4. To ensure that students adhere to a training program or health regimen that prohibits illegal and performance-enhancing drugs.
5. To prevent injury, illness, and harm to students that may arise as a result of illegal and performance enhancing drug use.
6. To offer students school activities free of the effects of illegal and performance-enhancing drug use. Illegal and performance-enhancing drug use of any kind is incompatible with the physical, mental, and emotional demands placed upon participants in extracurricular activities and with the positive image these students project to other students and to the community on behalf of the District. To protect the safety, health, and well-being of all students involved in extracurricular activities, the District adopts this policy for all participants in specified extracurricular activities in grades 7 through 12. The administration shall adopt regulations to implement this policy.

### **Definitions**

“Activity Student” means a member of any middle school or high school sponsored extracurricular organization. This definition includes any student who represents District schools in any extra-curricular activity involving competition of any kind, such as academic team, band, vocal, choral, cheerleader, and athletics. (See the attached list of activities.)

“Drug test” means a scientifically substantiated method to test for the presence of illegal or performance-enhancing drugs, or the metabolites thereof, performed by an independent testing company.

“Random selection basis” means a mechanism for selecting Activity Students for drug testing that”

1. Results in an equal probability that any Activity Student from a group of Activity Students subject to the selection mechanism will be selected,
2. Does not give the District discretion to waive the selection of any Activity Student selected under the mechanism, and
3. Is administered by a professional testing company employed by the District.

“Illegal drugs” means any substance that an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute, or purchase under either federal or Mississippi law. “Illegal drugs” includes, but is not limited to, all scheduled drugs as defined by Miss. Code Ann. Sections 41-29-113, 41-29-115, 41-29-117, 41-29-119, and 41-29-121, all prescription drugs obtained without authorization, and all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used for an abusive purpose.

“Performance-enhancing drugs” include anabolic steroids and any other natural or synthetic substance used to increase muscle mass, strength, endurance, speed, or other athletic ability. The term does not include dietary or nutritional supplements such as vitamins, minerals, and proteins that can be lawfully purchased over the counter. “Positive” when referring to a drug test administered under this policy means a toxicological test result that is considered to demonstrate the presence of an illegal or a performance-enhancing drug, or the metabolites thereof, using the standards customarily established by the testing company administering the drug test.

### **Notification**

Each Activity Student shall be given a copy of this policy and of the Student Drug Testing Consent. Both the student and the student’s parent or custodial guardian must read, sign, and date the Student Drug Testing Consent. No student shall be allowed to practice or participate in any extracurricular activity to which the policy applies unless the student has returned the fully executed Student Drug Testing Consent form. The District reserves the right to supplement and modify the extra-curricular activities to which the policy applies. Each semester, principals and/or a representative of the independent testing company will present an informational session to students to educate them about the sample collection process, privacy arrangements, drug testing procedures, the consequences of positive drug tests, and related procedures and practices. The purpose of the sessions is to reassure the Activity

Student, to avoid embarrassment or uncomfortable feelings about the drug testing process, and to give notice of the consequences of drug use.

### **Procedures**

Activity Students will be chosen on a random selection basis from a list of all Activity Students, no matter if the activities are off-season or in-season. The District will determine the number of names to be drawn at random for drug testing. An independent testing company will select the names of the Activity Students at Random and will administer the drug testing.

The testing company must use scientifically validated toxicological testing methods, have detailed, written specifications to assure chain of custody of the specimens, and use proper company control and scientific testing. The drug testing company will send all positive results to the medical review officer. The responsibility for verification of results belongs to the testing company.

The testing company shall conduct all aspects of the drug-testing program, including the taking of urine specimens, to safeguard the student's personal and privacy rights to the maximum degree practicable. The test specimen shall be obtained in a manner designed to minimize intrusiveness to the student. If at any time during the sampling procedure the testing company employee has reason to believe or suspect that a student is tampering with the specimen, the testing company employee may stop the procedure to determine if a new sample should be obtained.

### **Confidentiality**

The testing company will notify the principal of the school that the Activity Student attends; and will also notify the Superintendent or his designee of any positive test results. To keep positive test results confidential, the principal will notify only the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the coach/sponsor of the activity or activities in which the student participates in the test results. Test results will be kept in files separate from the student's other educational records; these records shall be disclosed only to school personnel who have a need to know.

### **Consequences**

#### **FIRST VIOLATION**

Upon the first violation, the student shall be suspended from participation in the event/s, activity or activities in which he/she is currently participating for a minimum of 28 days, beginning no earlier than the opening game or event for that sport or activity. If a student is not participating in an in-season sport or activity, he/she will have a 28 day suspension no earlier than the opening event of the next season in which he/she participates.

If the violation relates to the consumption or use of a prohibited substance, to the extent the substance is capable of being detected by a drug test, the student cannot be reinstated to the team, squad or activity until he/she tests negative for that prohibited substance as a result of an approved drug test. At the discretion of the drug testing coordinator the student may be requested to undergo counseling. The activity student must attend a drug counseling or educational program at the activity student's expense. The counselor, activity student, and his or her parents/guardians will determine the length and manner of counseling. Proof of counseling through an approved or certified program must be provided to the School Athletic Director.

#### **SECOND VIOLATION**

Upon the second violation, the student will be suspended from participating in any event or activity for the remainder of the school year in which the second violation occurs. However, the duration of the suspension shall be for a minimum of twelve weeks and shall carry over to the ensuing school year if necessary, and thereby preclude such student from participating in any other event or activity during the twelve-week minimum suspension period. Before he/she can be reinstated to the team or squad, or otherwise be eligible to participate in any other sport or activity, he/she must test negative for that prohibited substance as a result of an approved drug test if the violation relates to the consumption or use of a prohibited substance and the substance is capable of being detected by a drug test. The activity student must attend a drug counseling or education program at the activity student's expense. The counselor, activity student, and his or her parents/guardians will determine the length and manner of counseling. Proof of counseling through an approved or certified program must be provided to the School Athletic Director.

#### **THIRD VIOLATION**

Upon the third violation, the student will be suspended from participating in any event or activity for a period extending for a full calendar year, for seniors, the event includes not participating in graduation exercises. Before he/she can be reinstated to the team or squad, or otherwise be eligible to participate in any other activity, he/she must test negative for that prohibited substance as a result of an approved drug test if the violation relates to the consumption or use of a prohibited substance and the substance is capable of being detected by a drug test. The activity student must attend a drug counseling or education program at the activity student's expense. The

counselor, activity student, and his or her parents/guardians will determine the length and manner of counseling. Proof of counseling through an approved or certified program must be provided to the Athletic Director.

#### **FOURTH VIOLATION**

Upon the fourth violation, the student will be indefinitely suspended or permanently barred from participating in any event or activity in the Prentiss County School District, for seniors, the event includes not participating in graduation exercises.

**SECOND, THIRD, AND FOURTH VIOLATIONS COULD RESULT IN A ONE CALENDAR YEAR PLACEMENT AT ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL UPON RECOMMENDATION OF PRINCIPAL TO SUPERINTENDENT OR PRENTISS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMITTEE.**

#### **VII. Refusal to Submit to Drug Use Test**

If an Activity Student refuses to submit to a drug test, the Activity Student shall be considered in violation of his/her consent agreement and shall be barred from the specified extracurricular activities for one calendar year.

#### **Appeal**

The District will rely solely on the opinion of the independent testing company to determine whether the positive test result was produced by something other than consumption of an illegal or performance-enhancing drug. There shall be no appeal of the test results of the professional testing company to a principal, the Superintendent, or the Board of Education.

If disciplinary action is administered the Activity Student will be afforded due process in accordance with the Prentiss County School District Policies.

The Prentiss County School District is committed to cooperating with parents/guardians in an effort to help students avoid illegal drug use. The Prentiss County School District believes accountability is a powerful tool to help students avoid using drugs and that early detection and intervention can save lives.

#### **STUDENTS UNDER EXPULSION/OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION NOT ALLOWED ON ANY CAMPUS**

Students who are on out-of-school suspension and/or students who have been expelled to the Alternative School are not permitted on any school campus or activity during and/or after school hours including ball games etc. Vocational students will be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

#### **EXPLANATION OF ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL STUDENTS NOT ALLOWED ON ANY CAMPUS**

Students are assigned to the Alternative School by due process of the Prentiss County School District. The Superintendent is responsible for the referral of students based on their conduct. A student may be referred for any offense that they would normally be long-term suspended or expelled for. The program also serves students who have previously been expelled or have severe behavior problems prior to moving to another district or have been placed in another agency/institution. This program serves as a placement in the regular program.

**Rules and regulations of the Alternative School are addressed in a separate Alternative School Handbook.**

**NOTE: Student Removal: Any child who becomes involved in any criminal or violent behavior shall be removed from the alternative program and, if probable cause exists, the case shall be referred to youth court. (Senate Bill 3349 – MS Code 37-13-92 -Effective: July 2, 1994)**

#### **DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS Grades Prek-4 Dress Code for Students**

1. Clothing or possessions advertising alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, drug culture or clothing with obscene or suggestive language or gestures, or those promoting violence including gang-related clothing/symbols shall not be worn, carried or displayed.
2. Shoes shall be always worn.
3. Shirts and blouses shall be long enough to cover the stomach and shall not be unbuttoned below the second button.
4. (A) Piercing which may interrupt the educational process shall be addressed by the principal.  
(B) Headwear (caps, hats, beanies, ear warmers, etc....) and sunglasses may not be worn inside school buildings.
5. Belts shall be fastened. Suspenders shall be fastened and over the shoulders.  
\* Any clothing or body wear accessories considered by the principal or his or her designee to be too revealing or inappropriate shall not be worn.

Violators will be sent home to change clothes or provided alternative clothing to wear. Any violations of dress code will be treated as disobedience and punished as defined in the "Penalty for Offenses" section of this handbook.

### **Grades 5-12 Dress Code for Students**

1. Clothing or possessions advertising alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, drug culture or clothing with obscene or suggestive language or gestures, or those promoting violence including gang-related clothing/symbols shall not be worn, carried, or displayed.
2. Shoes shall be always worn.
3. Shirts and blouses shall be long enough to cover the stomach and shall not be unbuttoned below the second button.
4. Piercing which may interrupt the educational process shall be addressed by the principal.
5. Headwear (caps, hats, beanies, ear warmers, etc.) and sunglasses may not be worn inside school Buildings.
6. Prentiss County Career & Technology Center students will be allowed to wear safety headwear and safety glasses in the shop area. Sunglasses are not to be worn inside the building.
7. Belts shall be fastened. Suspenders shall be fastened and over the shoulders.
8. Fraternity/sorority jerseys/shirts shall not be worn. (MS Code 37-11-39)
9. Revealing shirts/dresses (for example: stretchy, tight-clinging, see-through, spaghetti straps, backless, lowcut or sleeveless) shall not be worn.
10. Leggings are permissible only when the top, shirt, or blouse extends to mid-thigh.
11. All students are required to wear appropriate undergarments.
12. Belts/pants' line will not be worn low, no holes in pants (above the fingertips).
13. Excessively over-sized clothing will not be allowed. Excessively baggy pants shall not be worn.
14. No pajamas or house shoes can be worn to school.
15. Clothing shall be worn as designed, and the length of appropriate clothing shall be no more than three (3) inches above the knee (shorts, skorts, etc.).
16. No trench coats are allowed.

Any clothing or body wear accessories considered by the principal or his or her designee to be too revealing or inappropriate shall not be worn.

Violators will be sent home to change clothes or provided alternative clothing to wear. Any violations of dress code will be treated as disobedience and punished as defined in the "Penalty for Offenses" section of this handbook.

### **TRANSFER OF STUDENT RECORDS**

A student transferring to another school will have his record mailed to the new school upon request without parent signature. This notice follows the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act related to school records.

#### **TRANSFER STUDENTS: Criteria for Accepting Out of District Students**

- Not to have currently more than the number of absences allowed in PCSD handbook
- Cannot currently be failing 2 or more subjects
- Must have been promoted the prior school year
- No suspensions or other significant disciplinary infractions currently or from the previous school year
- Transfers will only be accepted at the beginning of each semester

*Principals will have the right to make allowances for students with extenuating circumstances.*

Before a transfer student is enrolled in a Prentiss County School, the principal or counselor must check with the transferring school to see that there are no discipline problems and that all records are complete including immunization records. **NOTE: The Prentiss County School District may reject any student released from another school district.**

#### **TRANSFER OF STUDENTS WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

A student may only be allowed to change schools within the Prentiss County School District at the end of a semester or if that student's legal guardian moves into the other school's busing zone. In some extenuating situations transfers could be allowed, but only with both in district principals' approval.

### **ENROLLMENT AND ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS (SENATE BILL 3349 – MS CODE 37-15-9 EFFECTIVE: JULY 2, 1994)**

**EXPULSION NOTICE:** A child or parent must now indicate on the registration form if the child has been expelled from any public or private school or is currently a party to an expulsion proceeding.

**DENIAL OF ADMISSION:** If the cumulative record or application shows that the child has been expelled, the district may deny admission until the superintendent, or his designee has reviewed the record and determined that the child has participated in successful rehabilitative efforts including progress in an alternative or similar program.

**TEMPORARY ADMISSION:** If the child is a party to an expulsion proceeding, the child may be admitted pending final disposition of that proceeding. If it results in expulsion, the school may revoke admission.

**DENIAL OF ADMISSION FOR VIOLENT/OTHER ACTS:**

If the child was expelled or is a party to an expulsion proceeding for an act involving violence, weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs or other activity that may result in expulsion, the district is not required to grant admission or enrollment before one (1) year after the expulsion.

**HOUSE BILL 859 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1994:** This bill forbids youth court from placing a child in another school district after expulsion from a district for the commission of a violent act. Violent act is defined as any action which results in death or physical harm to another or an attempt to cause death or physical harm to another.

**LOCKERS:** Lockers are available for rental by the students. Lockers are the property of the school and not the individual student. Lockers are subject to inspection. Students caught damaging or destroying lockers will be required to pay for a replacement.

**SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT**

Because of the Board's concern for the safety of children riding buses to and from school, the following disciplinary procedures will be implemented: Student's reported to Principal's will be as follows:

\*Note: Superintendent and /or principal has discretion to determine the degree of "abuse" dependent upon "act" and grade level of the student.

1<sup>st</sup> offense – Warning, and letter to parents

2<sup>nd</sup> offense – (3) days off bus or corporal punishment

3<sup>rd</sup> offense – (5) days off bus

4<sup>th</sup> offense – Removed from bus remainder of school year

If misbehavior continues, the child will no longer be eligible for transportation.

(Riding a bus is a privilege.)

**BUS RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The following rules and regulations are set forth by the State Department of Education:

**PUPILS SHALL**

1. Be ready in the morning five minutes prior to the scheduled time and place for the bus to arrive.
2. Pass in front of the bus, if necessary to cross the road or highway, to mount the bus or after dismounting the bus.
3. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before trying to load or unload.
4. Be quiet when the bus is nearing and crossing a railroad or highway.
5. Wait for a signal from the safety patrol before crossing if it is necessary to cross the road to enter or leave the bus. Always look in both directions along the road to be sure that it is safe before crossing.

**PUPILS SHALL NOT**

1. Play on the road while waiting for the bus.
2. Put your head or hands out of the window.
3. Ride outside the bus.
4. Mark, or deface, cut, tear, punch, rip seats, or any part of the bus.
5. Smoke or use intoxicants
6. Fight or tussle
7. Strike or threaten the bus driver
8. Use profane language or make vulgar gestures
9. Carry deadly weapons
10. Carry any weapon, real, or imitation (including a water gun)
11. Make excessive noise
12. Throw objects
13. Commit any other act of improper conduct
14. Consume/open any food or drinks and may not chew or open any gum
15. Any student leaving home by bus must ride the bus to his/her home school. Any student leaving school by bus must ride the bus home. If a parent is to pick a child up, a note must be sent to their school stating so. If a parent is not there by the time buses depart, the child will be put on the bus to ride home. Any student who drives a car will lose that privilege for picking up students who should be riding buses. Any student driving a car to and from school is not allowed to stop at another school unless picking up a sibling and must have parent authorization.
16. Prentiss County Handbook rules apply for this offense.

### **HEAD LICE POLICY**

If a student in any public elementary or secondary school has had head lice on three (3) occasions during one (1) school year while attending school, or if the parent of the student has been notified by school officials that the student has had head lice on three (3) occasions in one (1) school year, as determined by the school nurse, public health nurse or a physician, the principal or administrator shall notify the county health department of the recurring problem of head lice with that student. The county health department then shall instruct the child's parents or guardians on how to treat head lice, eliminate head lice from household items, and prevent the recurrence of head lice. The county health department shall charge the child's parents or guardians a fee to recover its costs of providing treatment and counseling for the head lice. The school principal or administrator shall not allow the child to attend school until proof of treatment is obtained. SOURCES: Laws, 1997, Ch. 510, § 1; Laws, 1999, Ch. 348, § 1, eff from and after July 1, 1999.

**NO NIT POLICY:** After a student has been suspended for head lice the parent must bring the child back to school each consecutive school day to be rechecked through the office to be readmitted.

### **MEDICAL INFORMATION**

#### **FIRST AID:**

First aid will be rendered at school for *minor* illnesses and injuries. In serious illness/injury, an attempt will be made to notify the child's parent. When the parent cannot be reached and the situation warrants, the nearest ambulance will be phoned. (Nurses will not transport the student to the hospital, nor is it recommended that other school staff do so.) The proper first aid will be administered, and the child made as comfortable as possible until he/she is released to the care of the ambulance staff. As the child's parent/guardian, you will be responsible for any financial expenses incurred for medical costs associated with an ambulance or medical doctor. An ambulance will be called only in extreme situations which suggest medical attention that school staff or school nurses are unable to provide. It is important to have phone numbers where you may be reached on file at the school. Because many parents have difficulty leaving work, it is equally important to have a back-up plan on file which gives someone else permission to care for your child in the event you can't come pick him/her up.

#### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES:**

It is our goal to provide a healthy environment for all students. To enable us to achieve this, the following guidelines are presented. These guidelines are based on recommendations from the Mississippi Department of Health, Division of Epidemiology & Community Health Services.

- **FEVER:** Parents will be asked to pick up any student with a temperature of 100°F or greater. The student should remain at home if he/she has a temperature of 100°F or greater. Student may not return to school until fever free without being medicated.
- **VOMITING/DIARRHEA:** Parent will be notified to pick the student up from school.
- **CHICKENPOX:** Student may return to school when lesions have scabbed over, and he/she has been free of fever for two (2) days. All sores should be crusted and dry with no new ones forming.
- **CONJUNCTIVA "PINK EYE":** Students may return to school when the eye has stopped draining and proof of treatment can be provided.
- **FIFTH DISEASE:** Students with Fifth disease may attend school, since by the time the rash begins, they are no longer contagious.
- **SCABIES "ITCH":** Student may return to class as soon as treatment as prescribed by the doctor has been done.
- **RINGWORM ON BODY:** Student may return to class after *first* treatment with antifungal cream has begun. Student will be required to bring a note stating name of medication used and date medication started.
- **RINGWORM ON SCALP:** Scalp ringworm does not respond to over-the-counter medicines; therefore, students must see a doctor for a prescribed treatment. As soon as treatment is started, the child may return to school with a note from the doctor stating what medicines are used in treatment; how often; and doctor's release date to return to school. (Scalp ringworm will require medication by mouth.)
- **HEAD LICE:** See above policy
- **IMPETIGO:** The student may return to class 24 hours after treatment has been started. Parents must send a note to state what the treatment was, and any oozing lesions must be covered with a band aid.
- **OTHER INFECTIOUS & CONTAGIOUS DISEASES:** A student known to have German or Red Measles; mumps, meningitis; whooping cough; hepatitis or tuberculosis (TB) may not attend school until he/she provides a statement of return from a doctor or health official. (TB) also requires permission to return from a doctor or health official. (TB also requires permission to return from the Mississippi State Department of Health).



### **ADMINISTERING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS TO STUDENTS**

1. Administration of medication is foremost the responsibility of the parent/guardian. All medications that can be given outside of school hours without serious effects must be given before or after school. No narcotic pain medications will be given at school without prior authorization from the principal and/or Health Services Department at the Board of Education.
2. Medications will only be administered if:
  - a. A physician's order (a prescription label is considered an order) and a medical authorization form signed by a parent/guardian is received at school including the child's name, name of medication needed, and time of administration.
  - b. Prescription medication must be supplied in the bottle dispensed by the pharmacy with the following on the label before the school can accept it: child's name, name of medication, how often the medication is to be given, the dosage, and the date of expiration. Non-prescription medication must be in the original package, and it is up to the school principal if it can be given with parent consent only or parent consent plus a physician signature. The principal has the option of not allowing over the counter medication to be administered at their school.
3. Medications will not be accepted in household containers, envelopes, baggies, etc.
4. Medications are to be stored in a locked cabinet in a secure location. Medications requiring refrigeration will be stored in a refrigerator in a secured area (medication and food must be stored separately).
5. No medication will be administered without written parental/guardian consent. The schools will provide the parents/guardians with the necessary medication authorization forms, and it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to complete the form and return it to the school. The forms must be updated every school year and anytime there is a medication or dosage change. **NO CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MEDICINE WILL BE MADE UNTIL THE FORM IS SUBMITTED** to the designated staff member in the school. If there is a change in the dosage of medication, the parent/guardian will have to also supply the school with a new doctor's order indicating the change.
6. The designated staff member will maintain a daily log of medications administered to each individual student and will maintain these records in a secure location with the medication. The log should contain the student's name, date, medication given, time it was given, and the initials of the person who gave the medication along with a signature. If a medication dose is missed, the designated staff member is to document this on the daily log along with the reason why the medication was missed and notify the appropriate personnel. The school should keep medication logs on file for at least five (5) years.
7. Students that have asthma are allowed to keep their inhaler with them if they have an asthma medication permission form signed by their doctor and on file with the school. These forms are provided by the schools and should be updated every year.
8. Diabetic students should supply a diabetic care plan from their doctor to the school. Diabetic supplies are to be always accessible to the student. It is at the principal's (or principal designee's) discretion as to where medication and supplies are to be stored.
9. EpiPen's are for severe allergic reactions. An EpiPen care plan should be sent to the parent/guardian for them to get their doctor to complete and send back to the school. The EpiPen should be stored as close to the student as possible since it is for emergency use. Individual consideration will be given by the principal or principal designee to determine if the student is able to carry their own medication and properly self-administer or if a designated staff member needs to keep and administer the medication.
10. Emergency medications should be taken on field trips (e.g., asthma inhalers, EpiPen's, diabetic supplies).
11. The proper disposal of unused medications is important, and it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to obtain all unused medication from the school when the medication is discontinued, the school year ends, or the student transfers to another district or school. The unused medication must be picked up by the parent/guardian by the deadline set forth by the school nurse and/or principal or it will be disposed of by a designated person at the school with a witness present. The medication disposal should be documented on the medication log and signed by both employees.
12. Schools will not provide medications to students.
13. Prescription drugs must be brought to the school by a responsible adult. A medication receiving form (see page 3 of policy) must be signed by the person bringing in the medication and an authorized staff member indicating the number of pills or amount of liquid received.
14. All prescription drugs will be counted on a regular basis by two designated staff members. It is at the principal's or his/her designee's discretion as to how often this is to be done.
15. Medications that are not FDA approved will not be administered at school.

## **POLICY TO PROHIBIT THE DELIVERY OF BALLOONS, GIFTS AND FLOWERS ON PRENTISS COUNTY SCHOOL PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Prentiss County School District finds that the delivery of balloons, gifts and flowers is disruptive of school activities, causes a problem in that many students are allergic to flowers, balloons on the school bus distracts the vision of the school bus driver in the use of rear-view mirrors on the bus; and

WHEREAS the disruptions hinder the student's efforts in learning that day and creates a counterproductive environment for academic teaching to such an extent that the day becomes totally counterproductive to an atmosphere conducive to learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED by the Prentiss County School District that all deliveries of balloons, gifts and flowers on Valentine's Day shall be and the same are hereby prohibited. Nothing contained herein shall prevent Valentine's Cards from being given or exchanged on all campuses in the County. *RESOLVED on this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 2000*

### **BAD WEATHER CONDITION**

In the event of inclement weather, the County Superintendent of Education will decide if it is necessary to dismiss school. If this becomes necessary, the Superintendent or designee will notify parents and faculty with an automated call. The automated call will inform parents who have provided the district with a working telephone number in the system, WTVA News Channel 9, Prentiss County School District Website, and Prentiss County School District social media. Please do not call the schools or the Superintendent's Office because phone lines need to be kept open to deal with emergencies.

### **AUTOMOBILES**

The school retains authority to inspect student automobiles used as transportation to school whether on or off school property and the parents and child consent to the search of the automobile and personal property. When school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside a student vehicle, the student may be required to open the automobile, including the trunk, for further inspection. School authorities (to include but not limited to the Prentiss County Sheriff's Department) may conduct periodic general inspections at any time for any reason related to school administration. Please Note: By signing the Signature Sheet for this handbook, the parents/and child is hereby granting their consent to a random search of their automobile.

### **SEARCH OF STUDENTS**

A student's person and/or personal effects may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. If a pat-down search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted by a school official or law enforcement official of the same sex with an adult witness present.

It will be an extremely rare situation that requires a pat-down. IF such a search is necessary, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex with an adult witness of the same sex present. School authorities may conduct periodic general inspections at any time for any reason related to school administration.

#### **LEGAL REFERENCES:**

-*Zomara v Pomeroy*, 639 F.2d 662 (10<sup>th</sup> Dir. 1081)

-*Horton v Goose Creek Independent School District*, F.2d 470 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1982), cert. Denied, 103 S.Ct. 35 (1983).

-*New Jersey v T.O.L.*, 469 U.S. 325, 105 S.Ct. 733, 83 L. Ed. 2d 720 (1985).

-*Tarter v Raybuck*, 742 F.2d 977 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1984), cert. denied, 105 S.Ct. 1749(1985).

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Prentiss County School District will not discriminate against anyone because of color, race, sex, religion, limited English proficiency, national origin, disability in admission, or access to, or treatment, or employment in its programs and activities to the extent provided by law. The Prentiss County Special Education Director (662)728-4911 has been designated as the Section 504/ Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator and will handle inquiries regarding the Prentiss County School District's non-discrimination policies, the filing of grievances, and the request for copies of grievance procedures covering non-discrimination based on disability.

### **ASBESTOS AWARENESS**

TO: PARENTS, STUDENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL EMPLOYEES, ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERESTED PERSONS  
FROM: Mr. Nickey Marshall  
RE: INSPECTION OF ALL SCHOOL BUILDINGS FOR ASBESTOS CONTAINING BUILDING MATERIALS

Please be informed by this notice that all the school buildings of the Prentiss County School District have been inspected for the presence of any asbestos containing building materials, and a management plan has been developed and approved by the Mississippi State Department of Education.

A copy of the results of the inspection along with a copy of the management plans may be found in the main office of each school, and in the office of the superintendent of schools located across from the courthouse on College Street in Booneville. Any interested party should feel free to go to any of these locations to see these reports.

Nickey Marshall, Superintendent of Education

### **ASBESTOS SURVEILLANCE OF ALL SCHOOLS**

- As part of an annual notification, we are informing all persons of their option of reviewing the asbestos management plan, which would include documentation of any changes of asbestos containing material in these schools
- To provide continuing management of the asbestos in our schools, all asbestos containing materials (ACM) are inspected every six months by an engineering firm from Jackson, MS. Any changes in the ACM are being recorded in a surveillance report as a part of the management plan.
- A copy of the surveillance report, along with a copy of the management plan, is located in the principal's office at each school. In addition, a copy of all management plans for the district is maintained in the LEA Asbestos Designee's Office located at the Superintendent of Education's Office 105 North College Street, Booneville, MS 38829.

### **FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)**

#### **INTERNET ACCESS**

The internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. Internet access is now available to students and teachers in the Prentiss County School District (PCSD). We are very pleased to bring this access to PCSD and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in our schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. This computer technology will help propel our schools through the communication age by allowing students and staff to access and use resources from distant computers, communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups, and significantly expand their available information base.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies and regional state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the users who must adhere to strict guidelines. To this end, Congress has passed, and the President signed into law, the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

CIPA requires that schools receiving certain federal funds, including E-Rate discounts and Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, put into place Internet Safety policies. These internet safety policies must include a technology protection measure for blocking access to visual depictions of obscene material, child pornography, and material that is harmful to minors when minors are accessing the computer. CIPA also requires that the Internet safety policy include monitoring of all online activities of minors.

Additionally, the policy must address all of the following: (a) access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web, (b) the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications, (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) measures designed to restrict minors access to materials harmful to minors.

## **THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)** **ANNUAL NOTICE**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct record which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):

- School officials with legitimate educational interest
- Other schools to which a student is transferring
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school
- Accrediting organizations
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

PCSD may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, parents and eligible students have the right to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. To request directory information not be released a form must be completed and on file at the school. Please request the form from your student's school.

### **NETWORK RULES**

Prentiss County School District provides adequate Wi-Fi on all campuses. This includes wireless access across all academic areas and classrooms. Students and Employees are required to use Wi-Fi provided by the district when using devices owned by PCSD. **THE USE OF WIRELESS HOTSPOTS IS PROHIBITED ON ALL PCSD CAMPUSES. THESE INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO CELL PHONES AND MI-FI DEVICES THAT CAN BE USED AS PERSONAL WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS.**

Prentiss County School District provides content filtering to comply with CIPA requirements for safe Internet browsing of minors. Any attempt to bypass this content filter with the use of proxies or any other method is a direct violation of this agreement.

### **ACCEPTABLE/ UNACCEPTABLE USES OF TECHNOLOGY:**

Prentiss County School District technology resources will be used only for learning, teaching, and administrative purposes consistent with the District's mission and goals.

- Accessing, transmitting, or retransmitting:
  - Any material(s) in furtherance of any illegal act or conspiracy to commit any illegal act in violation of United States, Mississippi, local government, or Mississippi State Department laws, policies, and regulations.
  - Copyrighted materials (including plagiarism), threatening, harassing, or obscene material, pornographic material, or material protected by trade secrets, and /or other material that is inappropriate to minors.
  - Any material that promotes violence or the destruction of persons or property by devices including, but not limited to, the use of firearms, explosives, fireworks, smoke bombs, incendiary devices, or any similar materials.
  - Language that may be considered offensive, defamatory, abusive, or any forms of cyberbullying.
  - Information that could cause danger or disruption or engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
  - Information that harasses another person or causes distress to another person.

- Using the network in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
- Participating in chat sessions outside of classroom activities.
- Install software not approved by the Technology Department.
- Downloading files from the Internet that do not relate to classroom activities or administrative tasks.
- Purchasing or selling goods and/or services via the Internet.
- Disclosing, using, disseminating, or divulging personal and/ or private information about himself/ herself, minors or any others including personal identification information.
- Attempting to bypass the PCSD content filter.
- Attempting to “hack” network resources including, but not limited to servers, switches, access points, routers, and printers

## **ACCESS TO STUDENT INFORMATION**

Military Recruiters, Institutions of Higher Learning, and Student Directory

In accordance with current Federal and State laws, military recruiters and institutes of higher learning are entitled to receive the name, address, and telephone listing of high school juniors and seniors. Providing this information is consistent with FERPA. Parents may opt-out of having this information released to military recruiters by submitting this request in writing.

Student directory information will be used specifically for armed services and for information about scholarship opportunities. Parents may opt-out of the student directory by submitting the request in writing.

## **DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP**

Prentiss County School District will educate minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms as well as cyber bullying awareness and response.

## **E-MAIL**

Prentiss County School District provides a Google Gsuite account for student and employee email services. PCSD creates and manages account information. Employees and students are responsible for maintaining the information inside their account. PCSD does not archive employee or student email.

## **SECURITY**

Prentiss County School District has measures in place to protect end users on our network using Firewalls, Content Filters, and Malware/Antivirus software. These measures are not always 100% effective and users should take reasonable safeguards against security threats over the PCSD network. This includes not opening or distributing infected files or programs and not opening files or programs of unknown or untrusted origin. Users should not share personal information over the PCSD network.

In the event a user feels their device has been compromised or infected, they should immediately notify the Technology Department. Employees and Staff are never to attempt to remove a virus or malware on their own. This includes deleting files, downloading Malware/Virus removal tools, or installing Antivirus software.

## **MONITORING**

Prentiss County School District can monitor data transmitted over the PCSD network at any time. Data transferred can be tracked and identified and users held liable if their use of the network violates established policies, regulations, or laws. The content filter used at PCSD can flag and notify the Technology Department if a user searches for or accesses sites that contain certain keywords. Computers that continue to be flagged for inappropriate sites can be remotely monitored and screen captured or recorded. Data stored on devices owned by PCSD are the property of PCSD. This data includes, but is not limited to email, text documents, images, music, and other digital or electronic files.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Social media is a form of electronic communication through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content such as videos.

All students of the Prentiss County School District who participate in social media, more specifically, social networking websites such as, but not limited to, blogs, YouTube, FaceBook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc. Shall not post any data, documents, photos, or inappropriate information on any website that might result in a disruption of classroom activity. The determination of appropriateness will be made by the school administration and/or Superintendent.

Access to social networking websites for individual use during school hours is prohibited. Nothing in this policy prohibits students from the use of educational websites.



### **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

Recognizing that no filtering solution can be 100% effective, it is understood that all technology protection measures do not and will not work perfectly. In complying with CIPA, schools are expected to engage in a good faith effort to abide by the requirements of CIPA. CIPA does not create a private right to action, meaning that the discovery of objectionable material on a computer cannot result in a lawsuit complaining that a school violated CIPA.

The Prentiss County School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it provides. The PCSD will not be responsible for any damages suffered while on this system. These damages include loss of data because of delays, non-deliveries, miss-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by the system or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the information system is at your own risk. PCSD specifically disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through its services.

Prentiss County School District will not disclose personal information about students on websites – such as their full name, addresses, telephone number, or social security number.

### **EXCEPTION OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

These guidelines are provided so that you, the user and / or parent of the user, are aware of the responsibilities you are about to assume. In general, this requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. If a PCSD user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be terminated, and future access could possibly be denied.

The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

All terms and conditions as stated in this document are applicable to the PCSD. These terms and conditions reflect the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements and understandings of the parties. These terms and conditions shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi, and the United States of America.

**STUDENT:**

I (print username) \_\_\_\_\_ understand and will abide by the terms and conditions of the acceptable use policy. I understand that any violation of the regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violations, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action.

User Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are under the age of 18 a parent or guardian must also read and sign this agreement.

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN:**

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the terms and conditions of the acceptable use policy. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes and PCSD has taken available precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for PCSD to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for supervision when my child's use is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Parent or Guardian (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

User Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!!**

New laws on student violence and parent responsibilities have been passed and became effective July 2, 1994, Revised from and after July 1, 2001. These laws are much more severe than the old laws. It is very important that you read this handbook carefully, then sign and return the signature sheet.

NOTE: A separate copy of this document will be given to your child. You must sign it and return to school within five (5) days of receipt, or your child will be suspended until the document is returned to school. (Senate Bill 3349 – MS Code 37-11-53 – Effective: July 2, 1994, Revised from and after July 1, 2001)

My son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, is a student in a Prentiss County School this year. I have read the Prentiss County School System Student/Parent Handbook, including the section on student discipline, care of school property, and parental responsibility. I understand the stated rules and I agree to abide by them and take financial responsibility for my child's destructive acts against school property and persons.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/S OR GUARDIAN/S: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Both parents and guardians must sign this Signature Sheet unless there is only one custodial parent or guardian.)

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student is required to sign at school when they receive a copy of the Handbook.)

**PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD'S ACT (SENATE BILL 3349 -MS CODE -37-11-53-EFFECTIVE: JULY 2, 1994, Revised from and after July 1, 2001)**

The District's discipline plan must be given to students and parents must sign a statement verifying notice of the plan. The plan must include statements regarding parental responsibilities and penalties for failure to perform such parental duties, i.e., misdemeanor/fine up to \$250.00.

Any parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child who (a) fails to attend a discipline conference to which such parent, guardian or custodian has been summoned under the provisions of this section, or (b) refuses or willfully fails to perform any other duties imposed upon him or her under of this section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not to exceed \$250.00.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **TECHNOLOGY GOALS**

Equip all stakeholders to use technology to positively impact and interact with the world around them.

- Teach digital citizenship.
- Integrate technology seamlessly in the teaching and learning process while ensuring that the use of technology adds value to learning.
- Develop a new set of knowledge and skills for the 21<sup>st</sup>-century learner.
- Provide greater access to educational opportunities and differentiated instruction by utilizing access to technology for anytime, anywhere learning.
- Improve communication and widen our sense of community by expanding the way teachers, students, and parents can interact with each other.
- Integrate digital tools for students to develop products demonstrating their understanding.
- Provide greater access to digital content in a variety of formats and modes.

### **ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

#### **INTERNET ACCESS**

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- Any material that promotes violence or the destruction of persons or property by devices including, but not limited to, the use of firearms, explosives, fireworks, smoke bombs, incendiary devices, or any similar materials.
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- Participating in chat sessions outside of classroom activities.
- Install software not approved by the Technology Department.
- Downloading files from the Internet that do not relate to classroom activities or administrative tasks.
- Purchasing or selling goods and/or services via the Internet.
- Disclosing, using, disseminating, or divulging personal and/ or private information about himself/ herself, minors or any others including personal identification information.
- Attempting to bypass the PCSD content filter.
- Attempting to "hack" network resources including, but not limited to servers, switches, access points, routers, and printers.

## **DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP**

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## **GOOGLE ACCOUNTS**

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**Access to social networking websites for individual use during school hours is prohibited. Nothing in this policy prohibits students from the use of educational websites.**

## **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

Recognizing that no filtering solution can be 100% effective, it is understood that all technology protection measures do not and will not work perfectly. In complying with CIPA, schools are expected to engage in a good faith effort to abide by the requirements of CIPA. CIPA does not create a private right to action, meaning that the discovery of objectionable material on a computer cannot result in a lawsuit complaining that a school violated CIPA.

The Prentiss County School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it provides. The PCSD will not be responsible for any damages suffered while on this system. These damages include loss of data because of delays, non-deliveries, miss-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by the system or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the



information system is at your own risk. PCSD specifically disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through its services.

**Prentiss County School District will not disclose personal information about students on websites – such as their full name, addresses, telephone number, or social security number.**

## **IPAD POLICY**

### *Terms*

Users will always comply with the PCSD Student Handbook policies. Any failure to comply may result in termination of user rights of possession effective immediately and the District may repossess the iPad. Any lost, stolen and damaged iPad must be reported to school authorities immediately.

### *Title*

The District has legal title to the property at all times. The user's right of possession and use is limited to and conditioned upon full and complete compliance with this agreement, the PCSD Student Handbook policies, and all District policies and procedures.

### *Loss, Theft or Full Damage*

If an iPad is damaged, lost, or stolen, the student or parent/guardian should immediately notify the school administration. At that time the parent/ guardian may be advised to file a police report. If an iPad is lost, stolen, or damaged because of irresponsible behavior, the parent may be responsible for the full replacement cost of the device. Parent/guardian will be responsible for full replacement cost of iPad if not reported to PCSD personnel within 3 calendar days of missing the device.

If an iPad is damaged, lost or stolen, the iPad user will be assessed a fee for the repair or replacement based on the technology fee schedule.

In the event of a lost or stolen iPad and once a police report is filed, the PCSD, in conjunction and with police or sheriff, may deploy location software which may aid authorities in recovering the iPad. It is imperative that a lost or stolen iPad must be reported immediately. If stolen/lost device is not reported within 3 calendar days to PCSD personnel, parent/guardian will be responsible for full replacement cost.

Students who leave the District during the school year must return the iPad, along with any other issued accessories, at the time they leave the District. The iPad and all accessories should be returned to the school administrator. Any fees collected will not be refunded.

### *Repossession*

If the user does not fully comply with all terms of this Agreement and the PCSD Student Handbook, including the timely return of the property, PCSD shall be entitled to declare the user in default and come to the user's place of residence, or other location of the property, to take possession of the property.

### *Terms of Agreement*

The user's right to use and possession of the property terminates no later than the last day of the school year unless earlier terminated by PCSD or upon withdrawal from PCSD.

## Unlawful Appropriation

Failure to timely return the property and the continued use of it for non-school purposes without the District's consent may be considered unlawful appropriation of the District's property and a police report will be filed.

## TECHNOLOGY FEES

### *Technology and Maintenance Fees*

- Parents/guardians shall pay a non-refundable annual technology fee plus deductibles per service incident. Annual technology fee: iPad - \$50.00. **This is not an iPad usage fee.**
- The deductible is by incident (i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> incident, 2<sup>nd</sup> incident) AND by incident type (i.e., cracked screen, liquid damage, etc.) see table below for a description of estimated costs. The district has purchased AppleCare+ for each device to significantly reduce the repair cost.
- If the iPad is lost, stolen, or totally damaged because of irresponsible behavior, the parent may be responsible for the replacement cost. A police/sheriff report will be required for all lost or stolen devices.
- District may disable the iPad remotely to protect the device and/or data on the device

## DAMAGED IPADS

Any damage must be reported to school authorities immediately. Power adapters and case must be returned or paid in full. See below for a Table of Repair Pricing for Deductibles:

Broken Screen 1 <sup>st</sup> Service Incident within year	\$0.00
Broken Screen 2 <sup>nd</sup> Service Incident within year	\$0.00
Broken Screen 3 <sup>rd</sup> Service Incident within year	\$99.00
Broken Screen 4 <sup>th</sup> Service Incident within year	Full Device Replacement Cost
Apple USB Power Block + Cord	\$38.00
Apple USB Power Block	\$19.00
Apple USB Power Cord	\$19.00
District Assigned iPad Case	\$90.00
Liquid damage to iPad	Full Device Replacement Cost
Lost, Stolen iPad	Full Device Replacement Cost
Full Device Replacement Cost	\$462.95
Technology Fee (Non-Refundable)	\$50.00

### **What does Apple define as Accidental Damage?**

"Accidental Damage" means physical damage, breakage, or failure of Your Covered Equipment due to an unforeseen and unintentional event occurring either due to handling (e.g., dropping the Covered Equipment or through liquid contact) or due to an external event (e.g., extreme environmental or atmospheric conditions). The damage must affect the functionality of Your Covered Equipment, which includes cracks to the display screen that affect the visibility of the display.