

Code of Student **Conduct**

Turner County Schools



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CALENDAR



Turner County School District

423 N. Cleveland St., Ashburn, GA 31714
(229)567-3338 · www.turner.k12.ga.us

2024-2025 School Year Calendar

Jul-24

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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Aug-24

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Sep-24

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29	30					

Important Dates

- July 29-Aug 1 - Pre-Planning
- July 31 - Meet Your Teacher Night
- Aug 2 - First Day of School
- Sept 2 - Labor Day Holiday
- Sept 3 - In-Service

Oct-24

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Nov-24

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Dec-24

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- Oct 9 - Report Cards and Open House
- Oct 17 - Early Release/Parent-Teacher Conference
- Oct 18 & 21 - Fall Break
- Oct 22 - In-Service
- Nov 25-29 - Thanksgiving Holidays
- Dec 19 - Early Release/End of Semester
- Dec 20-31 - Christmas Holidays

Jan-25

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Feb-25

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Mar-25

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- Jan 1-3 - New Years Holidays
- Jan 6 - In-Service/Student Holidays
- Jan 9 - Open House
- Jan 20 - MLK Holiday
- Feb 17 - Presidents Day Holiday
- Feb 18 - Student Holiday/P.L./Parent-Teacher Con
- March 20 - Report Cards
- March 28 - Holiday (FIRE ANT FESTIVAL)

Apr-25

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May-25

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Jun-25

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- April 7-11 - Spring Break
- May 23 - Early Release Day & Last Day of School
- May 26 - Memorial Day Holiday
- May 27-28 - Post-Planning
- June 2-27 - Summer School

CALENDAR LEGEND

- First Day of School for Students
- Early Release Day/Parent-Teacher Conference Day
- Student & Teacher Holiday
- Teacher Inservice/Student Holiday
- Report Cards and/or Open House
- Summer School

BOARD APPROVED

1/8/2024

THE VISION OF TURNER COUNTY SCHOOLS

Excellence in Education

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a high-quality education leading to success in college, career, and life.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

Parents or eligible students have the right to:

1. inspect and review education records.
2. request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.
3. consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except when requested by a government agency.
4. Identifiable information contains the following: student name, a parent name, address, personal identifier, list of personal characteristics or information that would make the student's identity easily traceable.
5. file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION (FERPA)

The Turner County School System has designated the following information as Directory Information:

1. Student's name;
2. Student's date and place of birth;
3. Student's participation in official school clubs and sports;
4. Weight and height of student, if he/she is a member of an athletic team;
5. Dates of attendance at schools within the school district;
6. Honors and awards received during the time enrolled in the district's schools;
7. Photograph; and
8. Grade level.

Unless you, as a parent/guardian or eligible student, request otherwise, this information may be disclosed to the public upon request. You have the right to refuse to allow all or any part of the above information to be designated as Directory Information and to be disclosed to the public upon request. If you wish to exercise this right, you must notify, in writing, the principal of the school at which the student is enrolled within 10 days after the student's enrollment date.

You are also notified that from time to time students may be photographed, videotaped, or interviewed by the news media at school, a school activity or event, or by school officials as part of school publications. If you, as a parent/ guardian, object to your child being photographed, videotaped, or interviewed, the objection must be presented, in writing, to the principal of the school where your child is enrolled within 10 days after the student enters school.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

PPRA affords parent and eligible students (18 or older or emancipated minors) certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with who respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
9. Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of –
10. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
11. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
12. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
13. Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –
14. Protected information surveys of students;
15. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
16. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

Parents and eligible students will be notified at the beginning of the school year if the school district has identified the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any of the activities listed above are expected to be scheduled. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. The Board of Education has developed and adopted policies, in conjunction with parents, regarding these rights as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The district will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The district will also directly notify parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation in the specific activity or survey.

The school is required by federal law to give this notice to parents. However, the school does not have scheduled any such activities as are described above. If any such activities are initiated during the school year, parents will be notified accordingly and will be afforded all the rights described herein.

COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT

The Turner County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability or gender in employment decisions or educational programs and activities, including its athletic programs. Any student, employee, applicant for employment, parent or other individual who believes he or she has been subjected to harassment or discrimination by other students or employees of the School District based upon any of the factors listed above should promptly report the same to the principal of the school or the appropriate coordinator as listed below, who will implement the Board’s discriminatory complaints or harassment procedures. Students may also report harassment or discrimination to their school counselor.

The Title VI Coordinator is:

Name or Title: Director of Special Education
Office Address: 423 N. Cleveland Street Ashburn, GA 31714
Telephone Number: 229-567-3338

Title IX Co-Coordinator - Sexual Harassment:

Name or Title: Director of Federal Programs
Office Address: 423 N. Cleveland Street Ashburn, GA 31714
Telephone Number: 229-567-3338

Title IX Co-Coordinator - Sports Equity:

Name or Title: Athletic Director
Office Address: 316 E Lamar Street Ashburn, GA 31714
Telephone Number: 229-567-4377

The Section 504 and Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator is:

Name or Title: System 504 Coordinator
Office Address: 423 N. Cleveland Street Ashburn, GA 31714
Telephone Number: 229-567-3338

Students and employees will not be subjected to retaliation for reporting such harassment or discrimination. A copy of the discriminatory complaints procedure under Policy JAA (Equal Educational Opportunities) or under Policy IDFA (Gender Equity in Sports) is located on the district’s website.

RIGHT TO KNOW

In compliance with the requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA Sec. 1112), the Turner County School District informs parents that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student’s teachers and/or paraprofessionals. The following information may be requested:

1. Whether the teacher has met the Georgia Professional Standards Commission requirements for certification for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status through which Georgia qualifications or certification criteria have been waived;
3. Whether the teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher
4. Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

If you wish to request information concerning a student's teacher’s qualification, please contact the principal at your student’s school.

STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY OF PRINCIPAL

The principal is the designated leader of the school and, in concert with the staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. In cases of disruptive, disorderly or dangerous conduct not covered in this Code, administrators may undertake corrective measures which he or she believes to be in the best interest of the school provided any such action does not violate school board policy or procedures.

CHILD FIND

One in ten of Georgia's children have sensory, emotional, physical, intellectual, language, or medical disabilities that may inhibit learning. Many of these disabilities are subtle, so they go unnoticed. As a result, children may struggle in school, at home, or with their peers. The earlier these disabilities are discovered and identified, the more effectively they can be managed. This means the child will have every chance to be successful.

In accordance with IDEA regulations, the Turner County School System seeks to ensure that all students with disabilities (ages 3-21) who are in need of special education within its jurisdiction are identified, evaluated and served, including those attending private school or home school. Final identification of students with disabilities and programming for such students occurs only after an appropriate evaluation and a determination by a placement team. Once it is determined a student is in need of special education services, an offer of services will be made. School personnel will support parents in exploring what services may be available. Turner County School System personnel are available to meet with representatives from private and home schools to inform them of the district's Child Find procedures and services that may be available under the proportionate share of federal special education funds.

Turner County Schools Child Find Coordinator

Child Find Coordinator - 705 Hudson Avenue Ashburn, Georgia 31714 - 229-567-2461

Special Education Director - 423 North Cleveland Street Ashburn, Georgia 31714 - 229-567-3338

ENROLLMENT

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Students must live in the Turner County School District with their parents, legal guardians, or relatives/agents who have the authority to enroll pursuant to a power of attorney or kinship caregivers or be emancipated and be eligible for enrollment under Georgia law to be enrolled in the Turner County School System.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY

To enroll in Turner County Schools a student must reside within the boundaries of Turner County. A student must reside with a natural parent or a person who has been granted legal guardianship, or the student must be under the care of a state agency with placement in Turner County. Proof of residence is required when a student initially enrolls in a school and whenever a change of residence occurs. The principal or designee will accept two of the following records as proof of residency:

- Original recorded warranty deed. The name and address of the parent/legal guardian must appear on the deed.
- Original signed lease agreement. The name and address of the parent/legal guardian must appear on the lease agreement.
- Current gas or electric bill. The name and address of the parent/legal guardian must appear on the bill.

Proof of residence is subject to investigation. Students enrolled under false information are illegally enrolled and will be withdrawn from school. Also, knowingly, and willfully providing false information regarding proof of residence violates state law and may subject one to fine and /or imprisonment (O.C.G.A. 16-10-20).

NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS - Board Policy JBCB

In accordance with board policy students whose parents or guardians do not reside in Turner County may be considered for enrollment in the schools of Turner County School District without paying tuition, subject to the following conditions:

1. Students who reside with their parents or guardians in another Georgia school district and who desire to apply for the privilege to attend school in Turner County School District must complete an out-of-county attendance application before the Superintendent or Superintendent designee will consider granting enrollment.

2. A student seeking enrollment may not have any pending disciplinary proceedings in the school district where the student was previously enrolled and must otherwise be in good standing with the school the student last attended.
3. Students who have withdrawn from a previous school district to avoid disciplinary actions or who are under suspension, expulsion or other disciplinary action in a previous school district may not enroll in Turner County School District.
4. Space must be available in the class and school for which the nonresident student seeks to enroll. If enrollment of the student results in that class exceeding the maximum class size as set by the school district, the student will not be allowed to enroll.
5. Nonresident students will not be allowed to enroll in the School District if such enrollment would require the district to add new programs, services, or personnel.
6. If at any time during the school year a class in which an out of county student is enrolled would exceed maximum class size due to a properly zoned student enrolling, the out of county student will be withdrawn.
7. A nonresident student is admitted conditioned upon the student's good behavior and willingness to perform academic assignments. If the student's behavior or grades deteriorate, the principal of the school to which the student is assigned may revoke the student's privilege to attend school in Turner County without convening a disciplinary tribunal. The student's parents/guardians must also agree to participate in conferences involving their child and cooperate in motivating their child to maintain good behavior and maintain academic progress.
8. The parent/guardian must provide transportation to and from school. The child should arrive in a timely manner and be picked up during the times specified by the school.
9. Parents/Guardians who knowingly provide false information will be required to withdraw their child from the Turner County School District.

CURRICULUM

TURNER COUNTY PRE-K

Rules and Policies: The following pages will explain all of the guidelines and policies for Turner County Pre-K. Because your child is in Pre-K, you are agreeing to uphold all of the following guidelines and policies. If you have any questions, please let your child's teacher or let the office staff know. We are here to make sure everyone has a great year!

ATTENDANCE

All students are expected to come to school each day. Attendance is kept for each student. Students who come in after the tardy bell are marked tardy.

- Phone call after (3) three unexcused absences.
- Letter to parent/guardian after (5) five unexcused absences.
- Family meeting after (7) seven unexcused absences to determine the reason(s) and recommendation to improve.
- Referral to Pre-K Specialist after (10) ten unexcused absences.
- Children who do not attend class for (10) consecutive days without a medical or other reasonable explanation **must** be removed from the roster.

***Note:** Excessive absences for reasons other than illness may result in removal from the program. If your child is withdrawing from the program, please contact the front office at Turner County Elementary School.

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

We must have current phone numbers (work, home, and cell) for each child. We must also have at least three emergency numbers in order to contact someone during the day, if needed. It will be the parent's responsibility to inform the teacher and office of any phone number changes.

DROP-OFF (MORNING)

The school building will open at 7:15 a.m. Students will be counted tardy when the tardy bell rings at 8:00. Students should be in their classrooms **by 7:50 a.m.** and will be counted tardy **after 8:00**. Parents should make every effort to ensure that students are on time to school each day.

PICK-UP (AFTERNOON)

City route bus and Parent Pick-up students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m. County route students are dismissed at 3:05 p.m. The school day does not conclude until 3:00 p.m. Early dismissal is discouraged, because students miss valuable academic time. At the end of each day, teachers and students need time for closure for the day's learning activities. **Due to heavy congestion and disruption of the final minutes of instruction, we ask that parents refrain from coming to the office to check students out between 2:30 p.m. and 3:05 p.m.**

RECORDS

All of your child's school records (birth certificate, immunization certificate, social security card, ear, eye, and dental, proof of residency) must be completed within 30 days of beginning school. **Incomplete records will result in your child being withdrawn from the program.** We will inform you of any records that are incomplete or incorrect. Please make every effort to get any requested records in immediately.

ILLNESS

If your child becomes ill during the school day, he/she should ask permission to go to the school nurse. If it is determined that the student is too ill to remain at school, parents will be contacted for check-out, and the student will be medically excused for the day. If we are unable to reach you, we will have to contact someone from your emergency phone list. We cannot keep sick children at school. Do not send your child to school when he/she is sick, running a fever, has thrown up, or has diarrhea. You must keep him/her at home until you are sure that he/she is well. Students should wait 24 hours after the last episode before returning to school.

MEDICATION

Parents are encouraged to give medicine at home whenever possible. Student medication of any kind prescribed or over the counter, must be provided by parents and also registered using the appropriate forms in the school nurse's office. Medicine cannot be administered by school personnel without a parent's written permission. Controlled substances should never be transported and/or kept by the student at school. Students are not allowed to keep medication with them unless authorized by the school nurse/designee. The administration of prescription medicines to pupils by school personnel will be done only when ordered by the student's personal physician.

VERY IMPORTANT!! If your child takes any medication at home, or is allergic to any medication, you must notify your child's teacher and the office. It is very important that we know this information in case of an emergency.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

If your child has a contagious disease (impetigo, ringworm, pink-eye, chicken-pox, etc.) consult your doctor as to when your child may return to school. You will be contacted to pick up your child if symptoms appear while the child is at school.

THINGS TO SEND TO SCHOOL

Please send a change of clothing to school for your child. This includes underwear and socks. Make sure you change out the clothing as the seasons change, or when your child outgrows the clothing. If your child must use his/her change of clothing, remember to send replacements the next day.

Label all clothing and items, especially coats, with your child's name. If needed, diapers and pull ups have to be provided by the parents/guardians.

Breakfast, lunch, and snacks are provided at school. If you would like to send a healthy snack to your child's class, please send enough for 20 children in the classroom. Healthy snacks need to be individually wrapped.

Please do not send toys to school (even in book bags). We have a large supply of materials for the children to use at school.

APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR SCHOOL

Turner County Pre-K is an active and fun place to learn. Children paint, glue, play in the sand and water, and play outdoors each day weather permitting. Therefore, sturdy, comfortable clothes that you do not mind getting dirty are necessary. Pre-K students are asked to follow the dress code set forth for K-5 students. However, the extra clothing sent to school for accidents can be play clothes.

Make sure your child's clothes are easy to pull up and down for restroom needs (belts may be difficult for students). Tennis shoes work best for all activities, but if your child does not have tennis shoes, any type of shoe works better than flip-flops. That type of shoe is not safe for school.

Remember that we go outside each day, if the weather allows, so make sure that your child is wearing cool clothes on the warm days, and warm clothes on the cool days. Please write your child's name on all clothes that the child can take off at school (for example: sweaters, jackets, raincoats, etc).

OUTSIDE PLAY

Students will be taken out for play when the temperature is appropriate. Consideration will be given to weather conditions, cloudy, wet or windy, which make it feel much colder. On cold days, students will play in the sunshine. Again, we ask that children be adequately dressed for the season. It is our opinion that it is healthy for children to breathe cool, clean air and soak up some sunshine.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips during the year support classroom study topics. All school rules of conduct and behavior apply on field trips. Signed parental permission slips should be on file for students to participate in each field trip. Any student, who does not follow directions, disregards a teacher and/or school official's instructions, and/or who endangers the safety or security of others, may be denied the privilege of participating in future field trips. Turner Co. Schools are not responsible for any medical cost for accidents while your child is participating on school field trips.

CONFERENCES

Please contact the front office to schedule a conference with your child's teacher. Two mandatory conferences will be planned throughout the year.

DISCIPLINE PLAN

Being able to follow rules and understand consequences are vital parts of education. Learning how to live and work together enhances a child's positive self-image. Every effort is made to catch a child exhibiting good behavior. Good behaviors are praised and encouraged. The children are always told how special they are and how much they are loved.

When inappropriate behavior occurs, positive steps will be taken to assist the child in gaining control of his behavior. If the inappropriate behavior continues, or is severe, contact will be made with the parent or guardian. We expect parents or guardians to be very involved with efforts to correct behavior.

Students are expected to:

- Be kind to others.
- Listen to and follow directions.
- Show respect for others and property.

BULLYING

The Board of Education believes that all students can learn better in a safe school environment. Behavior that infringes on the safety of students will not be tolerated. Bullying, as the term is defined in Georgia Law, of a student by another student is strictly prohibited. Such prohibition shall be included within this Student Code of Conduct for all schools within the system.

TURNER COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Academic Courses: English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science

Exploratory Courses: STREAM, Music, Ag, Health/PE

Attendance: May affect a student's satisfactory performance and may cause a student to need remediation.

Acceleration/Remediation: A student's achievement of the skills for the grade to which the student is assigned must be mastered prior to accelerating to the next grade. Lack of attendance may affect a student's satisfactory performance and may cause a student to need remediation. Students must meet all of the requirements listed below to be eligible for acceleration to the next grade:

Homework: Homework will be assigned as deemed appropriate by the teacher and reviewed at the teacher’s discretion. We encourage all parents to communicate with their child’s teachers if they have questions about homework assignments. All students are expected to turn in homework assignments and all class assignments as assigned by the teacher.

Kindergarten—5th grade: Demonstrate achievement of established criteria for mastery of each standard on the state curriculum for their grade level in Reading, Mathematics, English/Language Arts, Science and Social Studies.

Weekly Folders: A folder may be sent home each week containing student work, letters from teachers and/or correspondence from the school.

Make-up Work: A student with an excused absence will be allowed to make up work that was assigned while he/she was absent.

Grading for Kindergarten: GKIDS Report Card

Grading for 1st and 2nd Grade - Standards Based Report Card

Grade Conversion	Academic Performance Level	Student Command of Standards
69-Below	Beginning-Level 1	Below
70-79	Developing-Level 2	Partial
80-94	Achieving-Level 3	Proficient
95-Above	Exceeding-Level 4	Exemplary

Grading for 3rd-5th Scale - Numeric Grades:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

F = 69 and below

Honor Roll: Grade 89.5 to 94.4

High Honor Roll: Grade 94.5 to 100

Grades and Absences: Final course grades of students shall not be penalized because of absences if the following conditions are met:

1. Absences are justified and validated for excusable reasons.
2. Make up work for excused absences was completed satisfactorily
3. In the event of prolonged absences due to extenuating circumstances, the student, parent or guardian may request the case be reviewed by the Attendance Appeals Committee. (See Attendance Appeals Committee.)

Promotion / Retention: No K-5 student shall be promoted to the next grade if the student does not achieve grade level on the state-adopted assessment in reading and meet the promotion standards and criteria established by the local board of education for the school that the student attends, in compliance with the Georgia Promotion, Placement, and Retention law (O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-282 through 20-2-285) and State Board of Education Rule (160-4-2-.11). Turner County Schools is a Strategic Waiver system and reserves the right to hold retention meetings for all grade levels to make individual decisions based on the unique needs of each learner.

Appeals: If a parent or guardian or teacher(s) appeals the decision to retain the student, then the school principal or designee shall establish a placement committee to consider the appeal.

Communication: For school/parent communication, please check one of the following digital platforms through TCSS website, Infinite Campus, TCSS Facebook, and/or other platforms such as Class Dojo, Zoom, Google Classroom.

TURNER COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Academic Courses: English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science

Connections Courses: Band, Ag, CLC, STREAM, Health/PE

Attendance: May affect a student's satisfactory performance and may cause a student to need remediation.

Acceleration/Remediation: A student's achievement of the skills for the grade to which the student is assigned must be mastered prior to accelerating to the next grade. Lack of attendance may affect a student's satisfactory performance and may cause a student to need remediation.

Students must meet all of the requirements listed below to be eligible for acceleration to the next grade:

Homework: Will be assigned as deemed appropriate by the teacher and reviewed at the teacher's discretion. We encourage all parents to communicate with their child's teachers if they have questions about homework assignments. All students are expected to turn in homework assignments and all class assignments as assigned by the teacher.

6th—8th grade: Demonstrate achievement of established criteria for mastery of each standard on the state curriculum for their grade level in Reading, Mathematics, English/Language Arts, Science and Social Studies.

Make-up Work: A student with an excused absence will be allowed to make up work that was assigned while he/she was absent.

Grading 6th-8th SCALE - Numeric Grades:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

F = 69 and below

Honor Roll: Grade 89.5 to 94.4

High Honor Roll: Grade 94.5 to 100

Grades and Absences: Final course grades of students shall not be penalized because of absences if the following conditions are met:

1. Absences are justified and validated for excusable reasons.
2. Make up work for excused absences was completed satisfactorily
3. In the event of prolonged absences due to extenuating circumstances, the student, parent or guardian may request the case be reviewed by the Attendance Appeals Committee. (See Attendance Appeals Committee.)

Promotion / Retention: No 6-8 student shall be promoted to the next grade if the student does not achieve grade level on the state-adopted assessment in reading and meet the promotion standards and criteria established by the local board of education for the school that the student attends, in compliance with the Georgia Promotion, Placement, and Retention law (O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-282 through 20-2-285) and State Board of Education Rule (160-4-2-.11). Turner County Schools is a Strategic Waiver system and reserves the right to hold retention meetings for all grade levels to make individual decisions based on the unique needs of each learner.

Appeals: If a parent or guardian or teacher(s) appeals the decision to retain the student, then the school principal or designee shall establish a placement committee to consider the appeal.

Communication: For school/parent communication, please check one of the following digital platforms through TCSS website, Infinite Campus, TCSS Facebooks, and/or other platforms such as Zoom or Google Classroom.

TURNER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Required Units per Area of Study: In order to meet graduation requirements for Turner County High School, Turner County Board of Education requires the following:

Course Requirements		
English Language/Arts		
Course Name	Tentative Year of Completion	Number of Credits Required
9 th Grade Literature and Composition	9 th Grade	1
10 th Grade Literature and Composition	10 th Grade	1
American Literature	11 th Grade	1
British Literature	12 th Grade	1
Mathematics		
Algebra Concepts and Connections	9 th Grade	1
Geometry Concepts and Connections	10 th Grade	1
Advanced Algebra Concepts and Connections	11 th Grade	1
Advance Financial Algebra or Comparable Course	12 th Grade	1
Science		
Environmental Science	9 th Grade	1
Biology	10 th Grade	1
Physical Science	11 th Grade	1
Forensic Science, Anatomy and Physiology, or a 4th Science from CTAE (according to state requirements)	12 th Grade	1
Social Studies		
World History	9 th Grade	1
American Government	10 th Grade	0.5
U.S. History	11 th Grade	1
Personal Finance and Economics	12 th Grade	0.5
Health/Physical Education		
Health and Personal Fitness* <i>*Students who complete 3 courses of ROTC meet this requirement.</i>	9 th -12 th	1
CTAE		
Course 1	9 th -12 th	1
Course 2	9 th -12 th	1

Course 3	9 th -12 th	1
Electives		
Work Force Ready I	10 th - 12 th	1
Elective 1	9 th -12 th	1
Elective 2	9 th -12 th	1
Elective 3	9 th -12 th	1
Total Number of Credits		23

Grade Level Promotion Requirements: To be classified as a sophomore, a student must pass a minimum of 5 courses (4 core classes). To be classified as a junior, a student must pass a minimum of 11 courses (8 core classes). To be classified as a senior, a student must pass a minimum of 18 courses (12 core classes).

SCHEDULE/CLASS CHANGE POLICY

- Students may receive their completed schedule for the upcoming year before classes begin in August.
- Students will also be provided with a copy of their class schedule on the first day of school.
- The counseling office and administrators will evaluate each student’s schedule and make changes based on conflicts or omission of academic classes needed for graduation.
- Students must fill out a schedule change form and a parent must sign off to be considered for a schedule change.
- Class changes will not be made after the third day of enrollment, however; any other changes will be made or initiated at the administrator’s discretion.

GRADE REPORTING / PROGRESS REPORTS: Students will not receive a paper copy of any progress reports detailing academic progress, attendance status, areas of improvement, and/or teacher comments. Parents and students are encouraged to access Infinite Campus for this information.

- It is recommended that all parents/guardians have access to Infinite Campus for Students and Parents. The media center will have the necessary information.

REPORT CARDS

Grade Reports can be accessed on Infinite Campus every nine (9) weeks. Students may also be given a written notification in the form of a deficiency. Parents are encouraged to set up a Infinite Campus parent account so that you may monitor your child’s grades.

GRADING SCALE

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

F = 69 and below

GRADING WEIGHTS

Grading weights for all classes are as follows:

- Unit Tests (45%) + Daily Grades/Quizzes (55%) = 80% of Final Grade
- EOC Grade/Final Exams = 20% of Final Grades

EOCs are only administered in the following courses: American Literature, Biology, Algebra Concepts and Connections, and U.S. History

DUAL ENROLLMENT GRADE EQUIVALENCE

- Letter Grade A = **99%**
- Letter Grade B = **89%**
- Letter Grade C = **79%**
- Letter Grade D = **69%**

Applies to incoming 9th grade students, Class of 2028 graduates

SUMMER SCHOOL

Students failing courses with a grade between 60-69 may be eligible to attend summer school to earn the high school credit needed to meet graduation requirements for up to two courses. Students participating in summer school will be required to attend in person for each session. Student attendance is mandatory for summer school and students are expected to attend the full 20 days in order to earn credit. Any specific absence must be pre-approved by the administration. If absent for any medical reason, students must provide an official medical excuse in order to be allowed to complete the summer school program. Students are required to be at the school no later than 8:15 am to start sessions.

CREDIT RECOVERY (Student Average 60-65)

Credit Recovery is a program designed for students to regain credit for failed courses. This online program (Edgenuity) can help students receive credit towards graduation through the completion of a comprehensive curriculum program with classes offered in Math, English, Science, Social Studies, Spanish, and CTAE courses. Underclassmen not successfully completing the course by the last day of summer school will be required to retake the entire course the next year. Underclassmen will not be allowed to continue courses into the upcoming school year.

CREDIT REPAIR (Student Average 66-69)

Credit Repair is a program designed for students to regain credit for failed courses. This online program (Edgenuity) can help students receive credit towards graduation through the completion of a comprehensive curriculum program with classes offered in Math, English, Science, Social Studies, Spanish, and CTAE courses. Underclassmen not successfully completing the course by the last day of summer school will be required to retake the entire course the next year. Underclassmen will not be allowed to continue courses into the upcoming school year.

HOMECOMING/PROM KING AND QUEEN CRITERIA

Turner County High School will utilize attendance, grades, and behavior data to determine which students are eligible to participate on the Homecoming and Prom Courts. This ensures that fairness, meritocracy, and academic excellence are celebrated within the school community. By incorporating these objective measures, the school will prioritize students who consistently demonstrate dedication to their studies, commitment to school attendance, and exemplary behavior, thus setting a positive example for their peers. This approach not only fosters a culture of academic achievement but also promotes responsible citizenship and upholds the school's values of merit-based recognition.

- All candidates must be officially classified as seniors as of the first day of school their cohort graduation year.
- Candidates must be in good academic standing meaning the student is on track for graduation with no failing grades at the time of voting.
- Candidates must have a good attendance record meaning not more than 5 unexcused absences.
- Candidates will have a good behavior rating meaning no assignments of suspension of any kind.
- Candidates must be drug free and avoid use of alcohol or tobacco on or off school property.
- Candidates must be in good community standing demonstrating good citizenship which upholds the school's values.
- Candidates will only qualify as potential participants based on the totality meaning behavior, character, attitude, attendance, grades, involvement, and leadership in the school community and beyond. A committee designated by the principal will oversee the process.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

- In order to participate in the commencement exercises of Turner County High School, a student must meet the required number of units for graduation. If these requirements are not met, there will be no participation in the ceremony.
- If a student earns the required number of units at the conclusion of summer school, a diploma with the appropriate date will then be ordered.
- Based on negative behavior, seniors can be removed from taking part in the graduation ceremony.
- Attending graduation practice is mandatory in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.
- Seniors are required to pay all fines before graduation day.
- Graduation Cap and Gown must not be altered or decorated in any way.
- Only tassels, cords, and stoles provided by the school system may be visible during the graduation ceremony.
- Dress code: dress pants and dress (shorter than gown), no jeans

SPECIAL EDUCATION DIPLOMA

This diploma will be awarded to students with disabilities that have not met state requirements for graduation but have completed the necessary goals as defined by their Individual Education Plan.

ACES (ACADEMIC, CAREER, & ESSENTIAL SKILLS) DIPLOMA

This diploma will be awarded to students with significant cognitive disabilities that participate in the Georgia Alternative Assessment and have completed the necessary goals as defined by their Individual Education Plan.

GENERAL EDUCATION DIPLOMA

Students will earn a general education diploma by meeting the course requirements set forth by the State of Georgia and the required local course credit of WorkForce Readiness I.

HONOR GRADUATES

Honor Graduates shall be chosen from those students having a numerical grade average of 90 or above for all coursework attempted in grades 9-12. The minimum overall numerical grade average shall be 90 with no rounding. For example, 89.999... will not qualify a student to be an honor graduate. Coursework beginning in the ninth grade and going through the end of the Fall Semester of the student's senior year will be averaged together. The Valedictorian is the student who has the highest cumulative grade point average for all coursework attempted in grades 9-12. The Salutatorian is the student who has the second-highest average for all coursework attempted in grades 9-12.

HONOR ROLL

At the end of each semester, honor roll students are recognized. Students qualify for Honor roll who earn an overall average of 90-94 for all classes. Students qualify for Superior Honor Roll who earn an overall average of 95-100 for all classes. These students will be invited to the end of year honors program.

STAR STUDENT

STAR Student-Star student nominees must satisfy all the following requirements:

- Be in the top 10% of the senior class and have the highest SAT scores in the class that meet or exceed state standards.
- Be a legally enrolled senior. Seniors who are jointly enrolled in high school and college are eligible for STAR honors if all other requirements are met. College and High School grades are averaged to determine rank in the senior class. Seniors who have completed graduation requirements prior to the end of the school year and who will graduate with the current year's graduating class are eligible for STAR honors if they meet other requirements.
- Take the College Board Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) during the junior year (11th grade beginning June following the sophomore year) through the November test date of the senior year (12th grade).
- Score highest on one test date (scores may not be combined from 2 test dates) on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) among qualified seniors in the school. Nominees' SAT scores must equal or better the latest available national high school average on each test. Scores submitted for competition must be from one test date. Scores may be from the junior year (beginning with June following the sophomore year) or the senior year (through the December test date). Verbal and Math scores may not be combined from two different test dates. To summarize, the scores to be submitted must be the highest composite score (Verbal and Math) achieved on one test date.

VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN

Selection method to determine the valedictorian for a graduating senior class:

- The student who is selected as the highest-ranking graduate with the specified number of academically rigorous courses will be eligible to serve as valedictorian.
- The student with the next highest GPA with the specified number of academically rigorous courses will serve as a salutatorian.
- To be Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must have completed a minimum of 4 semesters at Turner County High School with a rigorous course load, on track to graduate, and a general education diploma.

All calculations for this honor will be conducted at the end of the first semester of their senior year. The Grade Point Average will be calculated in accordance with the existing policy adopted by the Board of Education.

TESTING / GEORGIA EOCs

The Georgia Department of Education has mandated Georgia EOCs in certain academic classes. These Georgia EOCs will count 20% of their final grade. Turner County High School is required to comply with state board rules and will count

Georgia EOCs in the percentage mandated in the courses in which end-of-course tests are required. Georgia EOCs are very important because they are linked to the overall performance of Student Growth and school growth.

END-OF-PATHWAY ASSESSMENTS (EOPA)

Georgia, like many other career and technical education programs around the nation, has worked in recent years to establish a measurement mechanism to ascertain the level of technical skill attainment on behalf of its career pathway completers. Georgia's measurement process has been derived in direct response to the Perkins IV Legislation, specifically, Core Indicator 2S1 which requires states to implement a valid and reliable assessment model linked directly to industry-validated standards.

In working to identify existing assessment (or credentialing) opportunities that would not only support the mandates outlined in the Perkins IV Legislation but would also support Georgia students in their quest to leave high school with valuable credentials, the state's technical skill attainment inventory will be comprised of several measurement components:

- Industry certifications/credentials
- Occupational assessments, and
- State licensures and state-developed assessments

End of Pathway Assessments (EOPAs) are administered to Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) students who complete and pass all the designated courses in a CTAE pathway. Students who are eligible to participate in EOPA testing activities should: have completed the three designated courses in the pathway with a passing grade, or be enrolled in the final designated course of the pathway and be on track to successfully complete the last designated course. ***End of Pathway Assessments are mandated and students are not allowed to exempt EOPAs.***

At the end of each school year, the district submits student performance results on EOPAs through the EOPA Data Portal. Some EOPAs have practice tests that can be ordered and administered to students during the first semester. All study materials are ordered each year through the CTAE District Office by November 1. Information sheets are also available for teacher use to ensure success on EOPAs; each CTAE teacher has access to these documents. Actual assessments are ordered through the CTAE Department beginning in January. Teachers cannot administer assessments to their students. This is a violation of testing protocol. The CTAE director or a designee will serve as the testing coordinator and will be responsible for the planning of EOPA administration. Tests are administered in the spring of each year. *Reference the district testing calendar for exact dates each year.*

NOTE: If you have any questions or concerns about the End of Pathway Assessments, please contact the CTAE Director.

TESTING FINAL EXAMINATIONS

- Students are responsible for being present for final examinations.
- Make-up exams will only be given in cases of documented emergencies.
- The make-up exams must be completed within 5 calendar days of the student's return to school.
- Exams may NOT be given early without prior written approval from the principal.
-

TESTING FINAL EXAM EXEMPTIONS

Students may be exempt from end-of-year exams, with the exception of EOCs as follows:

- Must have an "A" **average** in the class **and no more than 3 total absences**, no more than one office referral during the school year for any reason including tardies.
- No OSS during the current year.

POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

The following are the minimum admission standards for both the dual enrollment and early admission programs and the minimum instructional standards for the dual enrollment program. Please note that University System Institutions may have higher or more restrictive standards.

PROCEDURES FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT (DE)

- Check with your high school counselor to determine whether you are eligible for (DE).

- Complete all (DE) paperwork provided by the high school counselor.
- You and your parent/guardian must attend a (DE) information session.
- You will be advised by the high school counselor to determine a (DE) plan.

VISITATION DAY (POST-SECONDARY)

During a student's senior year, he/she may need to visit a college or career-technical school to plan for the future. Seniors are allowed two (2) visits. Contact the school if additional days are needed. Arrangements are made in advance through the Guidance Department. The student must obtain permission five days prior to the visit and bring written documentation back from the school visit. If any of the above criteria are not met, the days will be unexcused absences. *Must have qualifying scores and a school application/acceptance letter.

COURSE CREDIT

Unit credit shall be awarded only for courses that include concepts and skills based on the current state curriculum for grades 9-12 or those approved by the State Board of Education. Unit credit may be awarded for courses offered in the middle grades that meet the 9-12 current state curriculum requirements. The Individualized Education Program (IEP) shall specify whether core courses taken as part of an IEP shall receive core unit credit. Completion of diploma requirements does not necessarily qualify students for the HOPE Scholarship Program.

HOPE/ZELL SCHOLARSHIP

The program enables every qualified graduate of a Georgia High School to receive a grant equal to the amount of a freshman's tuition at any Georgia public, college, university, or technical institute.

Qualifications: Meet HOPE's U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements, be a legal resident of Georgia, be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements, for more information see your Guidance Counselor.

TRANSCRIPTS

A student's permanent record is on file in the Counselor's Office and is made accessible to the student and parent. If a student is under 18 years of age, a parent's written request is required before a copy of the transcript is released. For seniors, the Counselor's Office will issue transcripts for no charge; graduates and undergraduates will be charged \$5 per transcript.

TESTING AND GRADE REPORTING

Georgia Milestones Assessments (GMAS)-Georgia Milestones Assessments (End of Course-EOC) are required to receive credit in the following courses: American Literature, Biology, Algebra Concepts & Connections, and US History. These scores will be factored into student grades as directed by the Georgia Department of Education. Georgia Milestones Assessment reports shall provide students, parents, and educators with individual scores on each test taken, and student scores will be recorded in the individual student records. Milestones assessments (End of Grade-EOG) for grades 3-8 are administered each spring. All students must demonstrate achievement of established criteria for mastery of each standard of the state curriculum for their grade level. Failure to do so will result in remediation. **Students will not be permitted to enter their classroom once the Georgia Milestones test has begun for that testing day.**

GIFTED PROGRAM - Code: IDDD 160-4-2-.38

REFERRAL PROCESS

Reported Referral- A student may be referred for consideration for gifted education services by teachers, counselors, administrators, parents or guardians, peers, self, and other individuals with knowledge of the student's abilities.

Automatic Referral- Students who score at specified levels on a norm-referenced test as defined in the GaDOE Resource Manual for Gifted Education Services, for further assessment to determine eligibility for gifted program services.

Consent- The LEA shall obtain written consent for testing from parents or guardians of students who are being considered for referral for gifted education services. The LEA shall obtain written consent from parents or guardians before providing gifted education services to students determined to be eligible for services.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Student is eligible for placement in the Gifted Education Program if he/she meets the State of Georgia eligibility requirements in one of the following categories:

- **Mental Ability-** Students shall score at or above the 96th percentile on a composite or full-scale score or appropriate component score, as defined in the GaDOE Resource Manual for Gifted Education Services, on a norm-referenced test of mental ability.
- **Achievement** - Students shall score at or above the 90th percentile on the total battery, total math or total reading section(s) of a norm-referenced achievement test or have produced a superior student-generated product or performance, where the superior performance is one that can be translated into a numerical score at or above 90 on a 100 point scale as evaluated by a panel of qualified evaluators.
- **Creativity-** Students shall score at or above the 90th percentile on the total battery score of a norm-referenced test of creative thinking, receive a score at or above the 90th percentile on a standardized creativity characteristics rating scale, or receive from a panel of qualified evaluators a score at or above 90 on a 100 point scale on a structured observation/evaluation of creative products and/or performances.
- **Motivation-** Students shall receive a score at or above the 90th percentile on a standardized motivational characteristics rating scale, receive from a panel of qualified evaluators a score at or above 90 on a 100 point scale on a structured observation or evaluation of student-generated products and/or performances, or for grades 6-12 have a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale where a 4.0 = A and 3.0 = B, or a numeric grade point average (NGA) of 90 percent on a 100 point scale where 100 = A and a 89 = B. Grades used to determine the GPA or NGA must be a two-year average of regular school program core subject grades in mathematics, English/language arts, social studies, science, and full year world languages.

Continued Participation: The LBOE shall have a continuation policy for students identified as eligible for gifted services to continue to receive such services. The LEA shall review the progress of each student receiving gifted education services each year. Any student who receives gifted education services shall continue to receive services, provided the student demonstrates satisfactory performance in gifted education classes, as described in the LBOE continuation policy and stated in the continuation policy.

Reciprocity: Any student who meets the initial eligibility criteria in this rule for gifted education services in one LEA shall be considered eligible to receive gifted education services in any LEA within the state. As described in the section on Reciprocity in the GaDOE Resource Manual for Gifted Education Services, a student transferring from one LEA to another within the state shall meet the criteria for continuation of gifted services established by the LBOE of the receiving school system. There is no mandated reciprocity between states unless the student is a dependent of military personnel as provided in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2140 et. seq.

Multi-Tiered System of Supports - (MTSS)

Turner County School System utilizes a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to address the learning needs of all students. MTSS is a large system of tiered interventions widely considered an umbrella framework that addresses academics and behavior, as well as connectedness and well-being. This tiered system includes the basic instruction that all learners need to progress academically. It is also designed to provide increased interventions for students determined to have learning difficulties using a multi-leveled approach. Response to Intervention (RTI) is a process to observe data and adjust (intensify, select new, or continue) an intervention based on a student's progress toward an established goal. Should a student's progress be limited even with increased or changed interventions, the student may require the added support of a student support team. This interdisciplinary team uses a systematic process to address learning and/or behavioral concerns of students, PK-12, in school. MTSS addresses ALL students, not just struggling students, and it is NOT the highway to special education identification. In fact, implementation of MTSS with fidelity leads to reduced special education referrals and placement rates.

DISCIPLINE

Philosophy of Discipline

The process of educating our youth for citizenship in Turner County Schools is not confined to the classroom curriculum. Schools must teach by example the shared values of a civilized social order and develop a positive school climate. Students, parents, teachers, and the community must work together toward promoting acceptable behavior. Discipline is not about punishment. It is about behavioral modification.

Educational values we hold:

- Respect for the worth and dignity of every individual
- Respect for moral and spiritual values and ethical standards of conduct ... Equality of opportunity for all children
- Faith in mankind's ability to make rational decisions ... Shared responsibility for the common good
- Self-Mastery is the ultimate goal of discipline

The Code of Student Conduct is critical to providing and maintaining a positive school environment that allows for expression of these values. The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to:

- Outline the role of parents, students, teachers, schools, and the community in establishing a positive learning environment.
- Specify offenses which disrupt the environment.
- Standardize disciplinary actions that schools use in responding to offenses, with sensitivity to age-appropriateness of such actions.
- List laws, policies, and procedures which are related to school conduct and impact on school climate.

Role of Student, Home, School, and Community Standards of behavior are demonstrated by:

PARENTS/GUARDIANS WHO:

- Keep in regular contact with the school concerning their child's conduct and progress and offer assistance as necessary.
- Ensure that their child is in daily attendance and report and explain any absence to the school.
- Provide their child with the resources needed to complete classwork.
- Attend conferences and meetings as invited/requested.
- Assist their child in being well-groomed, neat, clean, and following the dress standard.
- Bring to the attention of school authorities any problems or conditions which affect their child or other children as members of the school community.
- Discuss report cards and work assignments with their child.
- Support the school by keeping the child in school throughout the entire school day.
- Inform the child of the school's rules, and support the administration of discipline for violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

STUDENTS WHO:

- Attend all classes daily and are on time.
- Are prepared to come to class with appropriate working materials.
- Are respectful to all individuals and property.
- Refrain from profane or inflammatory statements.
- Conduct themselves in a safe and responsible manner.
- Are well-groomed, clean, neat, and dressed according to the dress standard.
- Are responsible for their own work.
- Abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the school and individual classroom teachers.
- Seek changes in an orderly and recognized manner.
- Participate in deciding appropriate discipline procedures.

TEACHERS/ADMINISTRATORS WHO:

- Support the teachers' plans for classroom control.
- Encourage use of good guidance procedures.
- Maintain an atmosphere conducive to good behavior.
- Exhibit an attitude of respect for students.

- Plan a flexible curriculum to meet the needs of all students.
- Promote effective training or discipline based on fair and impartial treatment of all students.
- Develop a good working relationship among staff and with students.
- Endeavor to involve the entire community in order to improve the quality of life within the school.
- Support and participate in community activities.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO:

- Assume responsibility, in part, for developing positive attitudes among children and youth.
- Offer programs and activities that reinforce positive behavior and meaningful use of leisure time.
- Participate in the enforcement of the rules in the Code of Student Conduct as appropriate.

Student Support Process

The most appropriate disciplinary action taken by school officials is the LEAST EXTREME MEASURE that can resolve the discipline problem. Teachers and administrators use a variety of student support services prior to and/or during disciplinary action. Early parent contact and involvement is expected. Some of these services include:

- Teacher-student conference
- Teacher-parent conference or contact
- Counselor-parent conference or contact
- Counselor-student conference
- Student program adjustment
- Home visit by school personnel
- Referral to counselor, social worker
- Referral to Student Support Team/team meeting with student

LAW ENFORCEMENT INVOLVEMENT: Law enforcement agencies can be contacted at the discretion of the school if criminal activity occurs on campus, if disruption is excessive, or if chronic truancy is a problem. Law enforcement agencies must be notified without exception in situations involving weapons, alcohol, drugs, battery, or sex offenses.

Turner County Schools employs our own school resource officer police department (SROs). They serve as key members of the school community, entrusted with the important task of ensuring the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors. In their role they are tasked with maintaining order and enforcing laws within the school setting, responding to incidents, and investigating criminal activity when necessary. Beyond law enforcement, they play a pivotal role in crisis intervention, employing their training to de-escalate conflicts, manage emergencies, and provide support during times of crisis.

CRIMINAL LAW VIOLATIONS:

Off-Campus Behavior Notification from law enforcement, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the court system, or any official organization that a student has been taken into custody or charged with a felony or a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, or a charge that is sexual in nature, will prompt the school principal to collect pertinent information and to make a determination whether the student’s continued presence at school presents a potential danger to persons or property at the school or may substantially disrupt the educational process.

If such a determination is made, the principal may recommend a suspension or expulsion of longer than ten (10) days. A tribunal of school officials will hold a disciplinary hearing to consider and make final decisions on such recommendations. If a student is adjudicated, or found guilty of a felony offense, the principal will make an immediate recommendation of expulsion or assignment to an alternative program. A tribunal of school officials will hold a disciplinary hearing to consider and make final decisions on such recommendations.

Any student transferring to Turner County Schools from a juvenile YDC or other disciplinary state facility will be placed in the Titan Academy for a length of time to be determined by the principal. Some misdemeanors (especially of a sexual nature) may result in a student not being allowed to attend school also.

The General Assembly of Georgia requires that this code of conduct include language encouraging parents and guardians to inform their children of the consequences, including potential criminal penalties, of underage sexual conduct and crimes for which a minor can be tried as an adult.

The student code of conduct is effective during the following times and in the following places:

- **On the school grounds during, before, and after school hours**
- **On the school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a group**
- **Off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event**
- **En route to and from school on a school bus or any other school vehicle**

Major disciplinary offenses including, but not limited to, drug and weapon offenses can lead to schools being named as an Unsafe School according to the provisions of the State Board of Education Rule 160-4-8-.16 Unsafe School Option.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any student who violates any conduct related policy will be subject to the disciplinary plan of the school system and may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Students whose actions violate the criminal code will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The disciplinary actions to which a student may be subjected include, at the discretion of the building level administrator and/or designee, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, referral to proper law enforcement authorities for protection, and/or referral to a disciplinary tribunal for possible long-term suspension, alternative placement, or expulsion.

RESPONSIBILITY —EMPLOYEE

All employees must report violations of this policy to the principal or assistant principal of the school where the violation occurred or where the student is enrolled.

Turner County Schools practice progressive discipline processes. The degree of discipline is proportional to the severity of the behavior. Students’ previous disciplinary history and other related factors are taken into consideration. Turner County Schools adheres to all due process procedures required by federal and state law.

Disciplinary Policy—Progressive Model

This progressive discipline model is divided into four levels. Each level represents progressively more serious misbehavior and consequences. The level of discipline imposed shall be based on the severity of the misbehavior.

Level I Discipline: Level I discipline is used for minor acts of misconduct which interfere with orderly school procedures, school functions, extracurricular programs, approved transportation, or a student’s own learning process. Students may be disciplined by the professional staff member involved or may be referred directly to the principal.

Professional staff may utilize any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation, including but not limited to the following:

1. Classroom detention.
2. Classroom isolation from peers.
3. Corporal punishment.
4. Student participation in conferences with parents/guardians and teachers.
5. Participation in a school-service project that enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait(s).
6. Development of a written or graphic representation that reflects understanding of the specific misbehavior, the nature of the expected behavior and the related character trait(s).
7. Isolation during lunch.
8. Restorative Practice is an alternative to using punishment-based approaches to school discipline and behavior management in K-12 classrooms. It focuses on repairing harm through inclusive processes that bring together students and educators.

The principal may utilize any of the above discipline management techniques, and/or may employ:

1. Student participation in conferences with parent/guardian, teacher, and/or principal.
2. Restriction from school programs and special assemblies.
3. Partial day in-school suspension.
4. Full day in-school suspension for up to three school days.
5. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.

6. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).

Level II Discipline: Offenses are intermediate acts of misconduct that require administrative intervention. These acts include, but are not limited to, repeated, but unrelated, acts of minor misconduct and misbehaviors directed against persons or property but which do not seriously endanger the health, safety or well-being of others. Consideration of necessary behavior support services should be given, if not already provided.

Students guilty of a Level II offense may receive any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation as determined by the principal or designee, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Student participation in conferences with parent/guardian, teacher, and/or principal.
2. Corporal punishment.
3. Restriction from programs and special assemblies.
4. Partial day in-school suspension.
5. Full day in-school suspension for up to five school days.
6. Suspension from school for up to three school days, which shall include any time during which the student was subject to suspension pending investigation.
7. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
8. Financial restitution for the repair of and damage caused to the school-related environment.
9. Participation in a school-service project that enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait(s).
10. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).
11. Assignment to detention.
12. Restorative Practice is an alternative to using punishment-based approaches to school discipline and behavior management in K-12 classrooms. It focuses on repairing harm through inclusive processes that bring together students and educators.

NOTE: Level II differs from Level I in that it increases the maximum number of days in in-school suspension from three to five, adds financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment, provides for out-of-school suspension for up to three school days, and prompts consideration of behavior support services.

Level III Discipline: Offenses are serious acts of misconduct including, but not limited to, repeated misbehavior that is similar in nature, serious disruptions of the school environment, threats to health, safety, or property and other acts of serious misconduct. These offenses must be reported to the principal. Offenses that threaten the health, safety, or well-being of others may result in immediate suspension of the student from the school and/or school-sponsored activities for up to three school days pending disciplinary investigation of the allegations. Student and parent/guardian participation in a conference with the principal is a required element of all discipline actions in this category, even if such a conference has previously occurred. Initiation of necessary behavior support services should be given, if not already provided. Due process procedures required by federal and state law will be followed. These may include such procedures as the school disciplinary tribunal and/or procedural safeguards provided by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Students guilty of a Level III offense may receive any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation as determined by the principal or designee, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Restriction from programs and special assemblies.
2. Full day in-school suspension for up to 15 school days.
3. Suspension from school for up to five school days, which shall include any time during which the student was subject to suspension pending investigation.
4. Placement in an alternative education program for up to one semester and until such a time as the student meets the exit requirements to the alternative school program.
5. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
6. Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
7. Participation in a school-service project that enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait(s).
8. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).
9. Restorative Practice is an alternative to using punishment-based approaches to school discipline and behavior management in K-12 classrooms. It focuses on repairing harm through inclusive processes that bring together students and educators.

NOTE: Level III differs from Level II because it requires the student and parent/guardian to participate in a conference with the principal for any discipline incident in this category, omits partial day assignments to in-school suspension,

increases the maximum number of days in in-school suspension from five to fifteen, increases the number of days for out-of-school suspension from three to five days, provides an option to immediately suspend a student from school for up to three school days in situations in which the health safety or well-being of others is at-risk during the disciplinary investigation, and adds alternative school placement options.

Level IV Discipline: Offenses are the most serious acts of misconduct. These offenses must be *immediately* reported to the principal. These violations are so serious that they may require use of outside agencies and/or law enforcement. Such acts may also result in criminal penalties being imposed. Any misconduct that threatens the health, safety, or well-being of others may result in immediate suspension of the student from the school and/or school-sponsored activities for up to three school days, pending disciplinary investigation of the allegations. Student and parent/guardian participation in a conference with the principal is a required element of all discipline actions in this category, even if such a conference has previously occurred. Initiation of necessary behavior support services should be given, if not already provided. Due process procedures required by federal and state law will be followed. These include such procedures as the school disciplinary tribunal and/or procedural safeguards provided by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Students guilty of a Level IV offense may receive any of the discipline management techniques appropriate for the situation as determined by the principal or designee, including, but not limited to the following:

1. In-school suspension for up to 30 school days.
2. Out-of-school suspension for up to ten school days, which shall include any time during which the student was subject to suspension pending investigation.
3. Placement in an alternative education program for up to two semesters and until such a time as the student meets the exit requirements for the alternative school program.
4. Expulsion from the regular school program for up to one calendar year.
5. Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
6. Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment.
7. Participation in a school-service project that enables the student to be engaged in the desired character trait.
8. Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s).
9. Restorative Practice is an alternative to using punishment-based approaches to school discipline and behavior management in K-12 classrooms. It focuses on repairing harm through inclusive processes that bring together students and educators.

NOTE: Level IV differs from Level III in that it requires student and parent/guardian participation in a conference with the principal for all discipline incidents in this category, eliminates restriction from programs and activities as an independent consequence, increases the maximum number of days in in-school suspension from 15 to 30, increases the length of placement in an alternative school program from up to one semester to up to two semesters, increases the maximum number of days suspended from school from five to ten, and provides for expulsion for up to one calendar year.

Discipline	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Comments
Possession, sale, use in any amount, distribution or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturates, marijuana, drug paraphernalia, alcoholic beverage, CBD with or without THC, or other intoxicant			X	X	Requires law enforcement involvement – Criminal Law Violation
Possession, distribution, attempted sale or sale of substances represented as drugs or alcohol.			X	X	Requires law enforcement involvement – Criminal Law Violation
Possession, distribution, attempted sale or sale of substances represented as drugs or alcohol to include vaping.	X	X	X	X	Requires law enforcement involvement – Criminal Law Violation
Sale, attempted sale, distribution, or being under the influence of a prescription or over-the-counter drug.		X	X	X	Requires law enforcement involvement – Criminal Law Violation
Possession or use of a weapon or dangerous instrument.				X	Requires law enforcement involvement – Criminal Law Violation
Assault, including threats of bodily harm and/or sexual assault, of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, other students, or persons attending school-related functions.			X	X	Terroristic threats fall into this category. Requires Law enforcement involvement – Criminal Law Violation
Battery, including sexual battery, of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, other students, or persons attending school-related functions			X	X	Requires law enforcement involvement – Criminal Law Violation

Discipline	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Comments
Any behavior based on a student's race, national origin, sex, or disability that is unwelcome, unwanted, and/or uninvited by the recipient is prohibited, including verbal or non-verbal taunting, physical contact, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature.		X	X	X	Sexual Harassment falls into this category. May require law enforcement involvement.
Possession or use of tobacco in any form		X	X		May require law enforcement.
Damaging or defacing personal property or school property (vandalism).	X	X	X	X	May require law enforcement.
Theft, willful or malicious damage to real or personal property of school or person at school.	X	X	X	X	May require law enforcement.
Extortion or attempted extortion	X	X	X		May require law enforcement.
Possession and/or use of fireworks or any explosives			X	X	May require law enforcement.
Activating a fire alarm under false pretenses or making a bomb threat			X	X	May require law enforcement.
Marking, defacing or destroying school property or the property of other school members.	X	X	X	X	May require law enforcement.
Insubordination, disorderly conduct, disobeying school rules, regulations, or directives; disobeying directives given by teachers, administrators, or other school staff	X	X	X		

Classroom and school disturbances	X	X			
Violation of school dress code	X	X			
Use of profane, vulgar, or obscene words (including ethnic or racial slurs)	X	X	X		
Discipline	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Comments
Indecent exposure, and/or inciting, advising, or counseling of others to engage in prohibited acts.		X	X	X	Level IX if age disparity outside of legal limit; may involve law enforcement
School day use/misuse or inappropriate storage of a cell phone, or electronic communication device, except for health or other unusual reasons approved by the Board of Education	X	X	X		
Inappropriate public displays of affection;	X	X	X	X	
Gambling or possession of gambling devices	X	X	X	X	May require law enforcement.
Moving and non-moving driving violations	X	X			May require law enforcement.
Giving false information to school officials	X	X	X	X	
Academic Dishonesty	X	X			
Unexcused absences, chronic tardiness, truancy, skipping class, leaving campus without permission, in unauthorized area	X	X	X		
Bullying			X	X	On the third offense, the student will be automatically placed in alternative school.
Criminal law violations			X	X	

Habitual violations	X	X	X	X	
Improper use of electronic devices: sharing/recording inappropriate material (verbal / physical altercations, inappropriate physical contact, etc.)	X	X	X	X	
Vaping/Electronic Smoking Devices		X Unintentional Possession	X Use or knowledgeable possession	X Distribution and/or selling of devices. Also applies to students with 3 or more vape violations	May require law enforcement.

Disciplinary Policy and Procedures

The offenses and disciplinary actions listed below apply to all situations which occur on school campuses, during school activities, or during school-related functions, and en route to and from school on school buses. The school has the flexibility to implement the plan to best address the needs of the school and student. Any disability of the student must be taken into account when addressing misbehavior, in accordance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, IDEA, and the Georgia Special Education rules. All actions for offenses are **minimum dispositions**. The age of the child and the severity of the offense are considered in the administration of these rules. **Repeated episodes of misconduct will result in increasingly severe disciplinary actions.**

Tribunal: A due process disciplinary hearing before a three-person tribunal to hear charges made against a student in any grade K-12 who is alleged to have violated the Code of Conduct. More information: disciplinary tribunal hearings are held following any instance of an alleged violation of the student Code of Conduct if the principal recommends a suspension or expulsion of a student longer than ten days or following an alleged assault or battery upon any school system employee if that employee requests a hearing. The objective of the hearing is to determine if the student did or did not violate the Code of Conduct, and if so, to determine appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary Tribunal Hearings: Disciplinary tribunal hearings are held following any instance of an alleged violation of the student Code of Conduct if the principal recommends a suspension or expulsion of a student longer than ten days or following an alleged assault or battery upon any school system employee. The purpose of the hearing is to hear the charges and the evidence; to determine if the Code of Conduct was violated; and if so, to determine appropriate disciplinary action. The student and parents/guardians have a right to this due process hearing before a long-term suspension (more than ten days) or expulsion can be administered. The maximum penalty that can be imposed by a tribunal is permanent expulsion.

In the event that a student chooses to admit guilt or chooses not to contest the charges before a tribunal; and if the school and a parent/guardian agree as to appropriate disciplinary action; and if the parent/guardian chooses to waive the opportunity to participate in a tribunal hearing present evidence, subpoena and cross examine witnesses and be represented by an attorney at such hearing; a Tribunal Waiver Agreement may be written, co- signed and dated. If the tribunal chooses to adopt the agreement as its decision, the decision will be final and cannot be appealed by the school or the family. If the agreement is not adopted as the decision of the tribunal, the document becomes null and void, all parent/guardian rights will be restored, and a new hearing date and time will be established.

Tribunal Waiver Agreement: An agreement not to contest whether a student has committed an infraction of the Code of Conduct and the acceptance of consequences in lieu of an actual hearing before a disciplinary tribunal. If the tribunal accepts the agreement as its decision, the agreement becomes a disciplinary order of the school system.

PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING STUDENT DISCIPLINE REPORTS/REFERRALS

It is the expectation of the Turner County School System for teachers to incorporate Positive Behavioral Intervention Strategies within the classroom environment. All of Turner County Schools will participate in the *Leader in Me* program that focuses on building leadership and life skills in students and staff members, creating high-trust culture, and accelerating academic achievement. When specific strategies generate limited to no success, teachers are expected to submit a student discipline report via the student information system to the school principal or the principal's designee. This documented student behavior report should only include an individual student's behavior details. The principal or the principal's designee will notify the student's parent or guardian of the behavior incident within one day of his/her receipt of the behavior referral. The principal or principal's designee will provide parents and/or guardians with a written notification of the school's resolution of their student's student discipline report. The referring teacher may access the student discipline referral resolution via the school's information system.

PROCEDURES WHEN DISCIPLINING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

School personnel may, for not more than ten school days in a row, remove a child with a disability who violates the code of student conduct from his or her current placement to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting, another setting, or suspension without consulting the student's IEP team. School personnel may also impose additional removals of not more than ten days for separate incidents of misconduct, as long as those removals do not constitute a change of placement.

Once a child has been removed from his or her current placement for a total of ten, consecutive or not consecutive, school days in the same school year, the school system must, during any subsequent days of removal in that school year, provide services that enable the child to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the child's IEP.

Within ten school days of any decision to change the placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct (except for a removal that is less than ten school days and is not a change in placement), a manifestation determination review must be conducted by the school system, which includes all member of the IEP team including the parent and student (if applicable). The manifestation determination will review all relevant information in the student's file, in the IEP, any teacher observations and any relevant information provided by the parent to determine:

- a. If the conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to, the child's disability; or
- b. If the conduct in question was a direct result of the school systems failure to implement the child's IEP.

If the relevant members of the IEP team determine that either of these conditions was met, the conduct must be determined to be a manifestation of the child's disability. If the conduct was the result of the school system's failure to implement the IEP, the school system must take immediate action to remedy those deficiencies.

When the conduct is a manifestation of the student's disability, the IEP team must conduct (or review if already in place) the Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and develop and implement (or review and modify) a behavioral intervention plan (BIP) for the student to address the behavior so as to prevent it from occurring in the future.

1. If your child carries a weapon to school or to a school function; if your child knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function; or if your child inflicts serious bodily injury on another person while at school, on school premises or at a school sponsored function, school system personnel may order a change in placement of your child to (a) an appropriate interim alternative educational setting, another setting, or suspension, for not more than 10 school days (to the extent such alternatives would be applied to children without disabilities), or to (b) an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for the same amount of time that a child without a disability would be subject to discipline, but for not more than 45 days without

regard to whether or not the behavior was a manifestation of disability. The alternative education setting shall be determined by the IEP team.

2. School personnel may consider any unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining whether a change in placement is appropriate.
3. An Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) or hearing officer may order a change in placement of your child to the IEP-determined appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 days if the/hearing officer determines that maintaining the current placement of your child is substantially likely to result in injury to your child or to others; and determines that the interim alternative educational setting meets the requirements of paragraph (5).
4. Any interim alternative educational setting in which your child is placed pursuant to paragraph (1) or paragraph (4) in this section shall: (a) be selected so as to enable your child to continue to receive educational services in order to participate in the general curriculum, although in another setting, and to continue to progress toward the goals set out in the IEP; and (b) receive the services and modifications of a functional behavioral assessment and behavior intervention plan designed to address the behavior so that it does not recur.
5. If a disciplinary action is contemplated as described in paragraph (1) or paragraph (4) of this section for the behavior of your child, you shall be notified of that decision and of all procedural safeguards accorded under this section no later than the date on which the decision to take that action is made, and immediately, if possible, but in no case later than 10 school days after the date on which the decision to take that action is made, the school system, the parent and relevant members of the IEP team shall conduct a review of the relationship between your child's disability and the behavior subject to the disciplinary action.
6. In carrying out a review described in paragraph (6) of this section, the school system, the parent and relevant members of the IEP team (as determined by the parent and the school system) shall review all relevant information in the student's file, including the child's IEP, and teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents to determine (1) if the conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability; or (2) if the conduct in question was the direct result of the school systems failure to implement the IEP. When the school system, the parent and the relevant members of the IEP determine that either (a) or (b) is applicable, the conduct is a manifestation of the disability.
7. If the determination is that the behavior of your child was not a manifestation of his or her disability, the relevant disciplinary procedures applicable to children without disabilities may be applied to your child in the same manner in which they would be applied to children without disabilities except that the child: (a) must continue to receive educational services so as to enable the child to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the child's IEP; and (b) receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment, and behavioral intervention services and modifications that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur.
8. If the determination is made that the conduct was a manifestation of the disability, then the IEP team shall conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement the behavior intervention plan or review such and revise as necessary if already in place. The child shall be returned to the placement from which he or she was removed, unless the parent and the school system agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan. For circumstances described in paragraph (1) or (4) an interim alternative setting may be used as determined by the IEP team.
9. If you request an expedited due process hearing regarding a disciplinary action described in paragraph (1)(b) or paragraph (3) to challenge the interim alternative educational setting or the manifestation determination, your child shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the time period provided for in paragraph (1)(b) or paragraph (3), whichever occurs first, unless you and the State or the school system agree otherwise. Such expedited due process hearing must occur within 20 school days of the date the hearing is requested and must result in a determination within 10 school days after the hearing; a resolution session meeting must occur within seven days of the date the hearing is requested and the hearing may

proceed unless the matter has been resolved to the satisfaction of both parties within 15 days of receipt of the hearing request. The decision of an expedited due process hearing may be appealed.

10. When an expedited due process hearing has been requested regarding placement as a result of a violation of code of conduct, the child shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the time period defined, whichever occurs first, unless the parent and the State or local agency agree otherwise.

11. If a child has not been determined eligible for special education and related services and violated a code of student conduct, but the school system had knowledge before the behavior occurred that the child may be a child with a disability, then the child may assert the protections described in this notice. A school system has knowledge that the child may be a child with a disability if:

- A. The parent of the child has expressed concern in writing that the child is in need of special education and related services to supervisory or administrative personnel or the teacher of the child.
- B. The parent requested an evaluation related to eligibility for special education and related services under the IDEA.
- C. The child's teacher or other system personnel expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the child directly to the school system's director of special education or to other supervisory personnel of the school system.

A school system does not have knowledge if:

- a. The child's parent has not allowed an evaluation of the child.
- b. Has refused special education and related services.
- c. Has revoked consent for the delivery of special education and related services or;
- d. The child has been evaluated and determined not to be a child with a disability eligible for services under the IDEA.

If you would like a further explanation of any of these rights, you may contact the Special Education Director for Turner County School System.

WEAPONS NOTICE

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §16-11-127.1, it is unlawful for students and certain others to carry, possess or have under control any weapon or explosive compound within a school safety zone or at a school building, school function, or on school property or on a bus or other transportation furnished by the school.

The term "weapon" may include but is not limited to:

1. Any pistol, revolver, handgun, firearm, rifle, shotgun, machine gun, any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any weapon which will or can be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or electrical charge; any explosive compound or incendiary device; or, any other dangerous weapon as defined in OCGA sec 16-11-121, including a rocket launcher, bazooka, recoilless rifle, mortar, or hand grenade, and
2. Any hazardous object, including any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chankha, nunchuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star, oriental dart, or any instrument of like kind, and any stun gun or taser as defined at O.C.G.A. § 16-11-106(a). (See O.C.G.A. § 16-11-127.1)(a)(2).

The term “weapon” shall not include any baseball bats, golf clubs or other sports equipment possessed by competitors for legitimate athletic purposes, nor any firearms possessed by participants in school organized sport shooting events or firearm training courses, or persons participating in military training programs conducted by or on behalf of the armed forces of the United States or the Georgia Department of Defense.

Any violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-11-127.1 by a student may result in expulsion from school for one year and/or criminal prosecution. A juvenile who violates O.C.G.A. §16-11-127.1 may have a juvenile complaint filed against him or her and be subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 15-11-63.

Any employee who has reasonable cause to believe that a student possesses or has had possession of a weapon as defined in paragraph 1 above, is involved in an assault using a weapon as defined in paragraph 2, or is involved in a second offense with a weapon on campus must report such violations to the principal or assistant principal of the school. If the principal has reasonable cause to believe that such a report is valid, he/she must immediately make an oral report to the Superintendent and to the appropriate law enforcement authority and district attorney.

The student’s parents or guardian shall be notified immediately of his/her child’s involvement in any activity involving weapons.

The Turner County Board of Education with the guidance and direction of the Superintendent of Schools ensures that the qualifying Student Discipline Hearing Officer and Disciplinary Tribunal or Panel Members receive the appropriate training prior to serving in the related capacity. Student Discipline Hearing Officer and Disciplinary Tribunal or Panel Members participate in on-going related professional learning as they continue to serve in the above capacity.

In an effort to comply with the requirements of State Board Rule 160-4-8-.16, Turner County Schools reports annually to the Georgia Department of Education data regarding students found by official action to be in violation of a school rule related to a criminal offense that occurs on school property. See also O.C.G.A 160-4-8-.15 Student Discipline Code JD.

- All incidents listed in **bold type** are subject to inclusion in annual discipline reports to the Georgia Department of Education

BOARD POLICY – JB

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

In responding to student attendance issues, the Turner County School System shall comply with all requirements of state law, applicable State Board of Education rules, and the protocol developed by the student attendance and school climate committee.

Student Attendance-Every day is important. We need you at school. Missing more than 5 days for any reason could put you at risk for not passing. Contact your child's school for his/her bell schedule. In the event there is inclement weather, TCS will use multiple resources of communication to make all parents aware of any dismissal changes. The compulsory school attendance law is pertinent to all children between the ages of six and sixteen years old residing in the State of Georgia. Regular school attendance promotes positive academic outcomes such as being able to read proficiently, being promoted to the next grade level, and graduating from high school on time. Ensuring regular attendance of a school-age child is the responsibility of the parent or guardian, with whom the child resides (O.C.G.A. 20-2- 690.1).

Parents/Guardians may write an excuse for up to 5 absences (tardies and early check outs included) per semester. Any absences that exceed this limit will be considered unexcused. Prior to a student acquiring 3 unexcused absences, the school will contact the parent/guardian to inform them the student has reached his/her limit for unexcused absences.

School System Procedures:

The Turner County Board of Education-monitors student attendance daily. Attendance codes used in Infinite Campus (student information system) will be consistent amongst all schools to indicate excused absences, unexcused absences, excused tardies, unexcused tardies, early withdrawals, in-school suspensions, and out-of-school suspensions. Each school will utilize an Attendance Support Team to address attendance concerns. Support Team Meetings -are held at the school level.

When a student is absent from school the parent/guardian will receive an automated call to inform them of the absence.

- **3 Unexcused Absences**-The school (teacher) will contact the parent/guardian to inform them the student has reached his/her limit for unexcused absences.
- **5 Unexcused Absences**- A letter is mailed/emailed to the parent notifying them that the student has reached this level.
- **7 Unexcused Absences** (Consecutive or Nonconsecutive)-An attendance meeting is scheduled by the school or the school social worker for the parent/guardian to meet with the Attendance Support Team (AST). During this meeting a school attendance contract between the parent/guardian and the school is signed by all parties.
 - If the parent/guardian does not attend the AST meeting or refuses to sign the contract, the Social Worker will convene another meeting and summon the parent and the student to attend the meeting by mail or via home visit.
- **10 Unexcused Absences**-The district will initiate legal action to resolve truancy. The social worker may initiate any or all of the following actions:
 - Contact the parent for a second attendance conference;
 - Refer matter to district attorney's office to initiate an action in juvenile court alleging the child to be a child in need of services (CHINS);
 - File a complaint in juvenile court alleging the child to be in need of services.
 - Refer matter to the Department of Family and Children services for an investigation of possible educational neglect.

- o File a complaint in juvenile court alleging the child to be a dependent child for reasons of parental inability to ensure the child attends school and for educational neglect.
- o Refer matter to the District's Attorney's office to request that a criminal action be initiated in state court alleging the parent to have violated the Georgia Mandatory School Attendance Law.

Policies and Procedures to Reduce Unexcused Absences: Notification

- The school system shall provide to the parent, guardian, or other person who has control or charge of a student (hereinafter referred to as “parent”) when the student has five unexcused absences. The notice will outline the penalty and consequences of such absences and that each subsequent absence will constitute a separate offense. After two reasonable attempts to notify the parent, the school system will send written notice via first class mail or via certified mail, return receipt requested; and
- Prior to any action to commence judicial proceedings to impose a penalty on the parent for failing to comply with compulsory attendance law, the school system will notify the parent by certified mail, return receipt requested; and
- Each school shall provide to the parent of each student enrolled a written summary of possible consequences and penalties for failing to comply with compulsory attendance. By September 1 of each school year or within 30 school days of a student's enrollment, the parent will be asked to sign a statement indicating receipt of such a written statement of possible consequences and penalties. In addition, students ten years or older by September 1 must sign a statement indicating receipt of a written statement of possible consequences for non-compliance with the local Board policy.

An Appeals Process shall be established by the administrative staff to consider extenuating circumstances which may need to be addressed based on individual needs.

Excused Absences

It is the policy of the Board to excuse students from school for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness or when attendance in school endangers a student's health or the health of others
2. A serious illness or death in a student's immediate family necessitating absence from school.
3. A court order or an order by a governmental agency, including pre-induction physical examinations for service in the armed forces, mandating absence from school.
4. The observance of religious holidays, necessitating absence from school.
5. Conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety.
6. Registering to vote or voting in a public election, which shall not exceed one day (pre approved by administrator).
7. A student whose parent or legal guardian is in military service in the U. S. armed forces or National Guard, and such parent has been called to duty for or is on leave from overseas deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, will be granted up to 5 days of excused absences per school year to visit with his or her parent prior to the parent's deployment or during the parent's leave.
8. Students will be counted present when they are: (1) participating in an activity or program sponsored by 4-H or other school related activities (2) attending court proceedings related to foster care (3) summoned to court for CHINS proceedings (4) serving as pages of the Georgia General Assembly.
9. Any other absence not explicitly defined in this policy but deemed to have merit based on circumstances as determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

The principal may in certain circumstances require students to present appropriate medical or other documentation upon return to school for the purpose of validating that absences are excused.

School days missed as a result of out of school suspension shall not be counted as unexcused for the purpose of determining student truancy, but shall be counted as unexcused for all other purposes.

Grades and Absences

Final course grades of students shall not be penalized because of absences if the following conditions are met:

1. Absences are justified and validated for excusable reasons.
2. Make up work for excused absences was completed satisfactorily

Procedure for Making up Work Missed during an Absence: Students are responsible for bringing an excuse after each absence and submit to school's designee. This documentation will be used in the event of an absence-related discrepancy. Students are responsible for collecting and completing make-up work. In situations where the assignment was made to the student prior to the absence, make-up work can be required by the teacher on the first day the student returns to school unless illness would preclude the work from being completed.

Students who are pre-approved by the principal to miss school due to out of town or family business will receive absences classified as "UNEXCUSED." While the student will be allowed to make up all work missed at the convenience of the teacher and within the three-day grace period, these absences count as unexcused absences and, should the student exceed the limit of 3 unexcused absences, the student may have to attend scheduled make-up sessions to excuse the excessive absences. Students should take notes requesting such pre-approved absences to the principal's office for approval prior to the anticipated absence(s).

Skipping: Regular attendance is essential to the educational process. It is important that you attend all class sessions. Skipping class will not be tolerated. Skipping is identified as any intentional unauthorized absence from school, which includes leaving school without permission. Skipping is an unexcused absence and a violation of school rules.

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

The following administrative procedures shall be followed by the school, students and parents/guardians as students return to school after an absence:

Definitions for Student Attendance Protocol

1. **Tardy to Class** – A student is “tardy to class” when he/she arrives to class after the tardy bell.
2. **Excused Tardy** – Includes events that are physically out of your control such as: a verifiable accident, road closed due to an accident, power outage, sickness when verbally verified by parent, doctor appointment when verified by doctor's office visit slip, etc.
3. **Unexcused Tardy** – Over-sleeping, traffic too heavy, errands for parents, delayed at train crossing, out of gas, car trouble, missed bus, personal business, out of town, etc.
4. **Truant** -- Any child subject to compulsory attendance who, during the school calendar year, has 10 or more unexcused absences.
5. **Withdrawal** – When a sixteen or seventeen year-old student desires to withdraw from school, he/she must have the written permission of his/her parent or guardian prior to withdrawing. Prior to accepting such permission, a school administrator will have a conference with the student and parent/legal guardian within two school days of receiving notice of the intent of the student to withdraw. The purpose of the conference is to share with the student and parent/guardian educational options available and the consequences of not earning a high school diploma

Exception for Suspension

School days missed as a result of an out of school suspension shall count as excused days for the purpose of determining student truancy.

AST Referrals: Protocols for Referrals

The overall objective of this team is to improve attendance and graduation rates of youth in Turner County. The purpose of the AST is to: (1) Define procedures for determining the cause of absence and tardiness; (2) Provide a summary of possible consequences for students and parents in violation of the compulsory attendance law; (3) Review attendance records of students who have been referred for chronic absenteeism and tardiness; (4) Identify and try to remove barriers

that may be prohibiting successful school attendance; (5) Create public awareness of the importance of school attendance for the benefit and well-being of the entire community.

- If the parent/guardian does not attend the AST meeting, refuses to sign a AST contract, or if a AST contract is broken, the District School Social Worker will file a complaint to Juvenile Court and/or State Court requesting court intervention for parents and/or students between the ages of 6 and 16. For any other student, the individual school policies will be followed. Failure to sign a contract or breaking a contract after the AST meeting will result in a referral to state and/or juvenile court.
- **Documentation:** All activities and actions leading up to referrals to the AST will be documented to provide support for any necessary action.
- **Consequences:** Potential consequences that may or may not be imposed by court intervention include -

For Parents: fines of not less than \$25.00 or more than \$100.00, jail time not to exceed 30 days, community service, or a combination of such penalties.

For Students: Possible disposition for disruptive children, and truant children.

Attendance Appeals Process: Grades K-12

- An Attendance Appeals Committee shall be established by the building administrator.
- The Attendance Appeals Committee in each school shall be composed of an administrator, counselor, school social worker, teacher, or any other person the principal feels necessary who has information for the Committee to consider.
- The Attendance Appeals Committee shall meet as the building administrator deems it necessary. (The Attendance Appeals Committee must meet upon the request of a parent or student.) Minutes are to be kept for all attendance hearings.
- Parents/guardians must be advised of their right of appeal to the Superintendent. This advice must be recorded.

TRUANCY PREVENTION PROTOCOL

Upon receiving a referral for a child in danger of becoming truant, the Attendance Support Team (AST) shall initiate the following steps:

# of unexcused absences	Intervention Action
3	Infinite Campus Call Out
5	Mail and/or email letter to parents
7	Schedule mandatory a conference with the School Social Worker or AST. Mail attendance conference letter. The Parent attends the conference and signs the letter. At the discretion of the AST, the child may also be required to attend the conference.
10	Initiate legal action to resolve truancy. Social worker may initiate any or all of the following actions : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Contact the parent for a second attendance conference; Refer matter to District attorney’s office to initiate an action in Juvenile Court alleging the child to be a child in need of services (CHINS); File a complaint in Juvenile Court alleging the child to be in need of services. Refer matter to the Department of Family and Children’s service for an investigation of possible educational neglect. File a complaint in Juvenile Court alleging the child to be a dependent child for reasons of parental inability to ensure the child attends school and for educational neglect.

- | | |
|--|--|
| | f. Refer matter to District Attorney’s Office to request that a criminal action be initiated in State Court alleging the parent to have violated Georgia’s mandatory school attendance law |
|--|--|

MEDICATION

Parents are encouraged to give medicine at home whenever possible. Student medicine of any kind prescribed **or** over the counter, must be provided by parents and also registered using the appropriate forms in the school nurse’s office. Medicine cannot be administered by school personnel without a parent’s written permission. Controlled substances should never be transported and/or kept by the student at school. Students are not allowed to keep medication with them unless authorized by the school nurse/designee.

The administration of prescription medicines to pupils by school personnel will be done only when ordered by the student’s personal physician.

- All medications must be presented in a prescription labeled bottle with the student’s name, date, instructions, name of drug, and name of physician
- Medication forms are available to be filled out by the physician and parent on all long-term/short-term medication.
- A record must be kept for all children receiving medication This record must be easily accessible.

NEVER PUT MEDICATION OF ANY KIND INTO YOUR CHILD’S BACKPACK OR BAG. DO NOT ASK YOUR CHILD TO GIVE MEDICATION TO THE TEACHER. YOU MUST DELIVER ALL MEDICATION TO THE NURSE’S CLINIC AND SIGN A MEDICATION FORM. ALL MEDICATION WILL BE KEPT IN THE CLINIC.

Hospital/Homebound Program:

The hospital/homebound program is provided for students who qualify when there is a prolonged illness or when medical care is required. Contact the principal or the school social worker (district office) concerning eligibility and services for this program.

HEAD LICE

Turner County Schools follow a “no-nit” policy. Your child can return to school only when all head lice and nits are removed from the child’s head. Your child will be rechecked by the clinic aide/school personnel before being allowed to return to class. If nits are found, the child will not be allowed to return to class. The student will be allowed up to two excused absences for head lice treatment. Any days after those two days will be counted as unexcused absences. Chronic head lice (as determined by the school nurse) will be referred to the school social worker and recommended to see their primary care physician or local health department.

BOARD POLICY – JCDAG

BULLYING

The Turner County Board of Education believes that all students can learn better in a safe school environment. Behavior that infringes on the safety of students will not be tolerated. Bullying, as the term is defined in Georgia law, of a student by another student is strictly prohibited. Such prohibition shall be included in the Student Code of Conduct for all schools within the school system.

Bullying is defined as follows: An act that is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;

2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
 - a. Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
 - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
 - c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
 - d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

The term applies to acts which occur on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system. The term also applies to acts of cyberbullying which occur through the use of electronic communication, whether or not electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication (1) is directed specifically at students or school personnel, (2) is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school, and (3) creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose. Electronic communication includes, but is not limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system.

Procedures may be developed at each school encouraging a teacher or other school employee, student, parent, guardian, or other person who has control or charge of a student, either anonymously or in the person's name, at the person's option, to report or otherwise provide information on bullying activity. Any teacher or other school employee who, in the exercise of his or her personal judgment and discretion, believes he or she has reliable information that would lead a reasonable person to suspect that someone is a target of bullying is encouraged to immediately report it to the school principal. Any report will be appropriately investigated by the administration based on the nature of the complaint in a timely manner to determine whether bullying has occurred, whether there are other procedures related to illegal harassment or discrimination that should be implemented and what other steps should be taken. Any report of retaliation for reporting bullying will also be investigated and addressed as called for in this policy and in accordance with school procedures.

Acts of bullying shall be punished by a range of consequences through the progressive discipline process, as stated in the Code of Conduct. However, upon a finding by the disciplinary hearing officer, panel or tribunal that a student in grades 6-12 has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, the student shall be assigned to an alternative school.

Upon a finding by a school administrator that a student has committed an act of bullying or is a victim of bullying, the administrator or designee shall notify the parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of the student by telephone call or through written notice, which may be done electronically.

Students and parents will be notified of the prohibition against bullying and the penalties for violating the prohibition by posting information at each school and by including such information in the student/parent handbooks.
 OCGA 20-2-751.4

OFF-CAMPUS CONDUCT

The Turner County Board of Education and the institutions under its jurisdiction shall have authority to control the conduct of students under the general power to provide for control and management of the school system. It is the duty of

the Board of Education to make necessary rules and policies to regulate student conduct for the purpose of maintaining good order and discipline in the school. The Board has a responsibility to provide protection for students and employees and to provide and maintain a safe and orderly environment for education to take place.

Administrators are authorized to take disciplinary action for conduct which occurs:

(a) on the school grounds during or immediately before or immediately after school hours; (b) on the school grounds at any other time; (c) off the school grounds at a school activity, function or event; (d) en route to and from school or school activity.

Authority to take disciplinary action also extends to any off-campus non-school related actions by students which have a direct and immediate impact on school discipline, the educational function of the school or the welfare of the students and staff. A student who has been formally charged with violation(s) of criminal law, whether or not the case has been adjudicated, and whose presence on school property may endanger the welfare and/or safety of other students or staff, or whose presence may cause substantial disruption at school is subject to disciplinary action. Off-campus, non-school related misconduct may be considered as a sufficient basis for suspension, exclusion from school. Other appropriate disciplinary action including but not limited to in-school suspension and assignment to an alternative educational program or site may be taken.

School officials shall contact proper authorities to verify any and all allegations that a student has been arrested or charged. The Superintendent and staff shall cooperate with the probation office or courts in order to allow for that office to conduct a proper investigation. If the matter involves a juvenile, the Superintendent and staff shall cooperate with the Juvenile Court concerning the student's conduct and record in school.

Any suspension, expulsion, or exclusion from enrollment under this policy shall not waive the student's rights to a due process hearing as set out in Board policy relating to suspension or expulsion.

STUDENTS – INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES

Search of School Property

Any property owned by, loaned to, or otherwise entrusted to the Board may, even though possession thereof has been assigned by school employees to individual students, be searched by school officials where there exists reasonable cause to believe that such property contains or otherwise conceals items, the possession of which is prohibited by either rules adopted by the Board or criminal laws.

Search of Private Property, and the Person of Students

On reasonable cause that private property brought onto school property by a student or that the person of a student while on school property contains or conceals items described in the Code of Student Conduct, school officials may search such property or person. Upon the failure of any student to grant such permission, school officials may detain such a student until such time as the school day ends, the school receives permission of the student's parent or guardian for such search, or a warrant is issued authorizing such search, whichever event shall first occur.

Seizure

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these rules, school officials may seize and retain custody of any item referred to in the Code of Student Conduct upon the discovery of the existence of any such item either in or on any school property, in or on any private property brought onto school property by a student, or on the person of a student while on school property.

Student Tobacco Use

All students are prohibited from smoking, using tobacco in any form, and using electronic nicotine delivery systems on Turner County School System school grounds, in facilities, in system owned vehicles or at any on or off campus school sponsored events, at all times. School grounds include all school campuses, athletic fields and facilities, all central office facilities, and school buses.

PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT REPORTING OF ACTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

- A. Any student (*or parent or friend of a student*) who has been the victim of an act of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct by a teacher, administrator, or other school system employee is urged to make an oral report of the act to any teacher, counselor, or administrator at his/her school.
- B. Any teacher, counselor, or administrator receiving a report of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct of a student by a teacher, administrator, or other employee shall make an oral report of the incident immediately by telephone or otherwise to the school principal or principal's designee, and shall submit a written report of the incident to the school principal or principal's designee within 24 hours. *If the principal is the person accused of the sexual abuse or sexual misconduct, the oral and written reports should be made to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee.*
- C. Any school principal or principal's designee receiving a report of sexual abuse as defined in O.C.G.A. 19-7-5 shall make an oral report immediately, but in no case later than 24 hours from the time there is reasonable cause to believe a child has been abused. The report should be made by telephone and followed by a written report in writing, if requested, to a child welfare agency providing protective services, as designated by the Department of Human Resources, or, in the absence of such agency, to an appropriate policy authority or district attorney.

Reports of acts of sexual misconduct against a student by a teacher, administrator, or other employee not covered by O.C.G.A. 19-7-5 or 20-2-1184 shall be investigated immediately by school or system personnel. If the investigation of the allegation of sexual misconduct indicates a reasonable cause to believe that the report of sexual misconduct is valid, the school principal or principal's designee shall make an immediate written report to the superintendent and the Professional Standards Commission Ethics Division.

TRANSPORTATION RULES AND PUPIL RESPONSIBILITIES

Message to Parents and Students:

The bus riding privilege is granted to your child as a service of the Turner County School System. Transportation service is provided to/from an assigned bus stop ONLY. To maintain a safe environment, students are expected to follow the rules set forth in the Code of Conduct and the School Bus Safety Rules while walking to or from the school bus stop, waiting at the school bus stop and riding on the school bus. Students are expected to be safe, orderly, and respectful at all times to the bus driver and fellow passengers. Failure to act accordingly may result in suspension or expulsion from the bus.

On school buses, Georgia law specifically prohibits acts of physical violence, physical assault, or battery, bullying, verbal assault, disrespectful conduct toward the bus driver or any other person, the use of mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective devices in a manner that may interfere with the driver's operation of the bus and engaging in any other unruly behavior.

Use of School Bus Video Cameras: The Turner County Board of Education supports the use of video cameras as a means to monitor and provide a safe environment for students and employees. Accordingly, Turner County School Buses are equipped with Silent Witness Camera Systems. These cameras will record at all times: transportation to and from school, field trips, and/or curricular and extracurricular events/activities. The contents of the videotapes may be used as needed to settle misbehavior problems on the bus or as evidence in a student disciplinary hearing.

Driver Authority: The bus driver is authorized to give directions, assign seats, and prohibit any item from the bus that may threaten the safety or welfare of any person. The driver's actions are subject to review by the Transportation Director.

School Bus Safety Rules:

1. Students will follow the directions of the driver and monitor.
2. Students should be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives, waiting in a safe place, clear of traffic and 12 feet from where the bus stops. Do not approach a moving bus. Students will wait in an orderly line and avoid playing.
3. Students will cross the roadway in front of the bus after the bus has stopped, they have looked at the driver for a hand signal, and they have looked in both directions for traffic. (Left, right, left)
4. Students will signal the driver with a waving motion if something is dropped and wait for the driver to give a signal before picking up an object.
5. Students will use the handrail to go up or down the steps.
6. Students will go directly to an available or assigned seat when entering the bus. Keep aisles and exits clear.
7. Students will remain properly seated, back against the back of the seat, bottom against the bottom of the seat, and keep hands to themselves.
8. Students will not transport items which may endanger the health or safety of any other passengers. Example: animals, glass objects, nuisance items, hazardous materials, fireworks, balloons, large band instruments, or weapons.
 - a. Audible electronic music playing devices such as radios, iPad, tablets, etc. may be used with the permission of the driver and must be used with headphones.
 - b. Electronic communication devices, including cell phones, pocket pagers, etc., may be transported on a school bus if not prohibited by the school, but they must be kept in the OFF mode and concealed in a book bag, purse or similar carrying device. Most cellphones and other electronic devices have the ability to take pictures and videos, which can inadvertently put the safety and privacy of our students at risk if these pictures are made public via social networking outlets, e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Blogs, etc. In the event that a student makes pictures and/or videos public, administrative action will be taken.
 - c. Exception: Some items prohibited in another section of the Code of Conduct may be permitted on a bus during field trips, athletic trips, etc., if approved in advance by the principal and the teacher/coach in charge (Example: baseball bats may be transported to a baseball game, radio with headphones may be used with permission on a field trip, etc.). Ref. O.C.G.A. §16-11-127.1
9. Students will not eat, drink, chew gum, or bring tobacco, vapes, alcohol, or drugs on the bus. Students may bring approved objects (for school projects) that can be held on their lap.
10. Students will refrain from using loud voices, profanity, inappropriate language and/or obscene gestures.
11. Students will respect the rights and safety of others. Students shall not be abusive or aggressive as follows: it is unacceptable to fight, mistreat, misuse, demean, insult, intimidate, extort, mock, ridicule, bully, threaten or use excessive force.
12. Students will not extend their head, arms, or objects out of the bus windows.
13. Students will be totally silent at railroad crossings. The driver will turn off all radios, fans, heaters, etc. and illuminate the dome light to alert students to be quiet. This is a requirement of the State of GA, Pupil Transportation Division and Turner County School Bus System.
14. Students will stay seated until it is time to get off the bus. The open bus door is the signal to get up from the seat. Students must stay clear of and must not tamper with the emergency door nor any other emergency equipment.
15. Students must provide a written note, signed by a parent or guardian to the school officials for a note with the school logo on it, giving permission to ride a different bus or get off the bus at a different bus stop location.
16. Students will complete a student information and/or bus registration form in order to utilize the bus transportation provided by TCSS.
17. Students must conduct themselves in an orderly manner and follow all the bus rules to be transported. Students who disobey the driver may not be allowed to continue to ride. A student who threatens, verbally assaults, or physically assaults a school bus driver in any manner will be immediately suspended from the bus and may be referred to the Student Hearing Tribunal for possible out of school suspension (Georgia code 20-2-7515). Suspension may be permanent.
18. Students will comply with any and/or all other policies and regulations as stipulated by the Turner County Board of Education and Turner County Schools.
19. Students must treat the bus as an extension of the classroom/school and the bus driver as the classroom teacher.
20. Students will follow the dress code set forth by their schools.
21. Any vandalism to the interior or the exterior of the bus is prohibited and will require payments for the amount of damage, along with bus suspension.
22. Ride only the bus assigned by school officials. Students must only get on and off at the a.m. and p.m. assigned stops.
23. Pupils will not leave the bus on the way to school or home without a written request from the parent/guardian except in cases of personal emergency or if approved by the Principal or Transportation Director.

BUS VIOLATIONS

Discipline for bus misconduct will be handled with an age appropriate, progressive plan of discipline that may include any of the punishments listed in the disciplinary action plan. In addition to these punishments, bus conduct will also be subject to bus contracts, assigned seating, and short-term, long-term, or permanent removal of bus riding privileges.

Automatic suspension of bus riding privileges can be implemented for the following offenses: fighting, cussing, vulgar language, obscene gestures, vaping, bullying, sexual misconduct, or other behavior deemed significant by the school administration. When a student is removed from a bus, they are not allowed to ride any Turner County bus. During any bus suspension, the parent/student is responsible for school attendance, unless he/she has been suspended from school.

Pre-K-5

1st Offense: Discretion of administrator.

2nd Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for up to 3 days.

3rd Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for up to 5 days.

4th Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for up to 7 days.

5th Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for a maximum of 10 days.

Six or more Offenses: Suspension of bus privileges for a minimum of 10 days.

Automatic Suspension: Suspension of bus privileges for the remainder of the semester.

6-12

1st Offense: Discretion of administrator.

2nd Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for up to 3 days.

3rd Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for up to 5 days

4th Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for up to 7 days

5th Offense: Suspension of bus privileges for up to a maximum of 10 days

Six or more Offenses: Suspension of bus privileges for a minimum of 10 days.

Automatic Suspension: Suspension of bus privileges for the remainder of the semester.

TECHNOLOGY

STUDENT OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES ON CAMPUS

In order to increase student achievement, Turner County Schools will be restricting the use of all personal electronic devices on campus. Cell phones can be a barrier to instruction and learning by causing unnecessary distraction, inhibiting class participation and social interaction and threatening student privacy. All cell phones brought onto campus will be turned in to school administrators upon entering the building when students arrive in the morning. Cell phones will not be allowed in the classrooms during the school day. Devices will be returned to the student at the completion of the day by their last period teachers.

In the event of an emergency, families may contact the school's front office to communicate with their student and vice versa.

Cell phones not turned in when arriving on campus will violate the code of conduct and consequences will be as follows:

- 1st offense - Device confiscated. A parent/guardian must make an appointment with the school administrator to pick up the device. Parents will sign a memorandum of understanding regarding this protocol. A retrieval fee of \$10 will be required at time of pickup.
- 2nd offense - Device confiscated. A parent/guardian must make an appointment with the school administrator to pick up the device. A retrieval fee of \$20 will be required at time of pickup.
- 3rd and all subsequent offenses - Device confiscated. A parent/guardian must make an appointment with the school administrator to pick up the device. Students who violate this policy three (3) times will be deemed habitual offenders. Habitual offenders may be suspended from school for up to 10 days. A retrieval fee of \$40 will be required at time of pickup.
- Students who refuse to turn in devices
 - 1st offense - will receive an immediate 3-5 days of in school suspension (ISS).
 - 2nd offense - parent conference and five (5) days of ISS and a behavior contract.
 - 3rd offense - parent conference and two days of out of school suspension (OSS).

Confiscated cell phones may be retrieved by the parent from the front office between the hours of 8:30am and 3:30pm.

Turner County Schools is not responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen personal electronic devices brought to campus.

DEFINITION OF “ELECTRONIC” DEVICE

An electronic device is a gadget that can be used for word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc. This includes but is not limited to computers, smartphones, e-readers, and wearable technology. This list is not all inclusive and the administration of the building will determine if the device is acceptable.

SECURITY AND DAMAGES

The responsibility for keeping one's device secure rests with the individual owner. **The school system, its staff and employees, shall not be liable for any loss or damage to any device owned by a user or third party.** If a device is stolen or damaged, it will be handled through the administrative office similar to other personal property that is stolen or damaged. It is recommended that serial numbers are recorded and that skins (decals) and other custom touches are used to identify a user's device. Serial numbers will be used to identify "found" items. Additionally, protective cases for devices are encouraged.

ACCEPTABLE USE PROCEDURES

- The Turner County Schools' network is intended for educational purposes.
- All activity over the network or using district technologies may be monitored and retained.
- Access to online content via the network may be restricted in accordance with our policies and federal regulations, such as the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
- Students are expected to follow the same rules for good behavior and respectful conduct online as offline.
- Misuse of school resources can result in disciplinary action.
- Turner County Schools will make a reasonable effort to ensure students' safety and security online, but will not be held accountable for any harm or damages that result from use of school technologies.
- Users of the district network or other technologies are expected to alert the school level principal or assistant principal immediately of any concerns for safety or security.

All technologies provided by the district are intended for education purposes. All users are expected to use good judgment: be safe, respectful, and responsible; don't try to get around technological protection measures; use good common sense; and ask if you don't know.

INTERNET ACCESS

Turner County Schools provide its users with access to the Internet, including web sites, resources, content, and online tools. That access will be restricted in compliance with CIPA regulations and school policies. Web browsing may be monitored and web activity records may be retained indefinitely.

Users are expected to respect that the Turner County Schools' web filter is a safety precaution, and should not try to circumvent it when browsing the Web. If a site is blocked and a user believes it shouldn't be, the user should follow district protocol to alert the Technology Department to submit the site for review. The user should submit a helpdesk ticket via IncidentIQ website, the district's helpdesk support software program for review. It is our goal to maintain a safe and engaging learning environment for all learners both online and in the classroom.

GOOGLE APPS FOR EDUCATION (GAFE)

TCS will provide students with Google Apps for Education accounts. GAFE includes free, web-based programs like email, document creation tools, shared calendars, and collaboration tools. This service is available through an agreement between Google and the TCS. This agreement ensures Turner's Google student accounts are protected and not marketed for commercial purposes. GAFE runs on an Internet domain purchased and owned by the district and is intended for educational use. Your student's teachers will be using Google Apps for lessons, assignments, and communication.

GAFE is also available at home, the library, or anywhere with Internet access. School staff will monitor student use of Apps when students are at school. Parents are responsible for monitoring their child's use of Apps when accessing programs from home. Students are responsible for their own behavior at all times. GAFE usage may be monitored and archived.

GAFE is primarily for educational use. Students may use GAFE for personal use subject to the school rules and policies that may apply. Examples of approved personal use relates to college and career ready resources and requirements - i.e. SAT Application/Prep; Job and College Applications.

OTHER EDUCATION APPLICATIONS AND SERVICES

TCS can provide students access to other online applications and/or services deemed appropriate by administration to aid in all levels of education.

SOCIAL/COLLABORATIVE CONTENT

Recognizing the benefits collaboration brings to education, TCS may provide users with access to web sites or tools that allow communication, collaboration, sharing, and messaging among users. Users are expected to communicate with the same appropriate, safe, mindful, courteous conduct online as offline. Posts, chats, sharing, and messaging may be monitored. **Users should be careful not to share personally-identifying information online.**

TECHNOLOGY FINES

Like textbooks, team uniforms and other school property issued to your child, there is a responsibility to take appropriate care of these valuable resources. The Chromebook is no different, but it does represent an increased cost to the district and liability to students and parents. Our experience with mobile technology has shown students take great care of these tools. But we know that loss and accidents will happen. With Chromebooks, the cost of loss or damage can be significant.

- In the event a Chromebook is **intentionally damaged or destroyed** the family is responsible for the full replacement cost.
- In the event a Chromebook is lost, the full replacement value will be the responsibility of the family.
- In the event a Chromebook is stolen, the parent is responsible for the full replacement cost until a **police report is filed within 24 hours and a copy submitted to the school.**
- Fees for damages will be assessed to students based on the current part replacement cost.
- The charger is not covered by the Device Usage Policy and a replacement cost of \$25 will be issued.

Turner County School District will be responsible for the normal maintenance of the Chromebook including normal wear and tear or malfunction due to manufacturing. Each Chromebook issued contains a District Asset Tag (reference 4-digit number) and a charger.

DRESS CODE

GENERAL STUDENT DRESS STANDARD

The **rationale** for dress standards is to foster good citizenship and the school's ability to achieve its academic and instructional purposes. The **goal** is to promote student learning, safety, and behavior by assisting students and parents in making choices about appropriate school attire. The **expectation** is for students to dress in a clean, modest, and dignified manner reflecting self-respect and respect for others.

FORMAL ATTIRE GUIDELINES:

Formal attire applies to events such as prom, homecoming, and/or school dances. Dresses must receive prior approval by the school administration and/or school designee. If you are not modeling the gown in the approval picture, please keep in mind that the dress must fit you exactly like the model to meet approval. In order to receive tickets to the event, attire must be approved prior to ticket purchase.

- Formal Gown expectations
 - Dress should not be too revealing:
 - See-through/flesh tone: skin colored fabric, sheer or mesh fabrics are not appropriate for the torso region
 - Low cleavage: dresses may not be cut below the bust line.
 - Low back line: dresses may be backless, as long as they are not cut below the navel (small of the back).
 - Crop top: Midriffs will not be exposed. This includes both the front and side. With arms down at your side, if flesh touches flesh, the dress is inappropriate.
 - Deep side cuts: Slits may not exceed mid-thigh (fingertip length)
 - The length of the dress should adequately provide coverage even while dancing and/or walking.
 - All private areas must be completely covered with full coverage fabrics. Undergarments should not be visible.
 - No cover-ups (coats, shawls, sweaters) will be allowed over dresses that do not meet the dress code.
- Gentlemen are expected to wear formal attire.
 - Formal attire may be classified as a tuxedo or dress suit or sports coat, including a tie or bow tie, a dress shirt,
 - Shirts are to be worn at all times.
 - Dress hats are permitted
 - NO Jeans (unless specifically stated allowable)

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- Clothing must be worn with appropriate undergarments and the undergarments must not be exposed or visible.
- Clothing must not expose the breast bone, midriffs, or low back.
- Clothing with holes or tears above the knee must have an additional layer under to cover flesh.
- Clothing must fit appropriately; excessively loose or tight clothing is not permitted.
- Tight fitting pants, leggings, jeggings, or tights must have a top that extends to the fingertips.
- Clothing, body, and hair should be clean.
- No hoods (including hoodies and bonnets) on the head within the building.
- Sleepwear should not be worn at school (shoes, pants, tops).

- Clothing with words, abbreviation of words, or graphics depicting or alluding to any of the following are strictly prohibited:

Violence	Alcohol	Weapons	Tobacco
Gang Affiliation	Intimidation	Sex	Bullying
Profanity	Self-Destructive Behavior	Vaping	Drug Use
Inappropriate Messages			

Any attire deemed by the administration to be a threat to the safety and security of the campus or a distraction to the learning environment will not be permitted.

QUICK GUIDE DRESS CODE

Pants:

- All must be appropriately fitted, not baggy, not excessively large or tight, and worn and fastened at the waist (no sagging).

Shorts and Skorts:

- All must be appropriately fitted, not baggy, not excessively large or tight, and worn and fastened at the waist (no sagging).
- All must be no shorter than 3 inches above the bend behind the knee.

Skirts and Dresses:

- All must be no shorter than 3 inches above the bend behind the knee.
- Skirts must be fastened securely at the waist.
- Dresses must have sleeves (or covered by jacket/shirt/sweater).

Shirts and Tops (including tops of dresses)

- All must be buttoned and worn so the breast bone, midriff, or low back are not exposed.
- All must have sleeves; a jacket, blazer, shirt, or sweater may be worn to cover a sleeveless top.
- If worn untucked, shirts must be hemmed and may not exceed length of hips (for males).
- Shirts worn with leggings, jeggings, or tights need to be at the fingertips (mid-thigh) length.

Shoes and Footwear:

- Shoes must be worn at all times and properly secured.
- Appropriate footwear is required for science labs, vocational shop classes, P.E., and other classes as deemed by administration.
- Bedroom shoes/slippers and roller-skate shoes/heelys are **NOT** allowed.

Accessories:

- Leggings, jeggings, or tights can only be worn under a skirt or dress that is no shorter than the fingertips (mid-thigh).
- Hats, hoods, bonnets, and bandanas are not allowed.
- Undergarments must be worn and should not be exposed or visible.
- Glasses should only be worn for prescription. Sunglasses cannot be worn inside the building.
- All headwear, including hats, caps, and hoods, must be removed upon entering the building. (Including durags, bonnets, stocking caps, sleeping caps, scarves, etc.)
- Other accessories must be worn in a non-distracting manner and must be deemed appropriate by school level administration or must be removed.
- Insignias that are deemed offensive to a given sector of the school population or cause a disruption to the school's routines or the smooth operation of its educational process are not allowed.
- No blankets allowed

Hair:

- Hair bands/hair pins designed to secure hair from eyes are allowed; no picks/ combs, or head wraps in hair.
- Any headbands should not exceed 3 inches in width.

Bookbags

- Students will only be allowed to bring **clear** or **mesh** book bags to school and/or school events only.
- Females will be allowed a small cosmetic bag (3X5) for personal hygiene items.

LUNCHROOM CONDUCT

Breakfast/Lunch Programs: Turner County Schools participate in the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). Breakfast and lunch are served daily at no charge to the students. We highly encourage children to eat school breakfast and lunch. The cafeteria operates on a nonprofit basis for the welfare and convenience of the students. Cooperation with the food service director and the lunchroom staff is expected from all students. Questions regarding food allergies should be directed to the School Nutrition Department at 613-0154.

Cafeteria Conduct: Students are not allowed to leave the building during lunch periods. Students can bring lunch from home or accept what is offered through the nutrition department. To assure the proper maintenance of the facilities and help maintain order, the following list of rules must be observed by all students. Violators are subject to disciplinary action.

- Students are not allowed to bring in or order hot meals from outside of the cafeteria for breakfast nor lunch.
- Do not run to the cafeteria or break in line ahead of other students. Crowding or jumping in line will not be permitted and may result in loss of cafeteria privileges. Food is to be eaten only in the lunchroom areas. Food and beverages must not be taken out of the lunchroom areas.
- All tables must be left clean.
- Trash must be removed as soon as you finish eating. Everyone at the table is responsible for the cleanliness of the table and the immediate area.
- Throwing objects is prohibited in the cafeteria.
- Any objects dropped on the floor must be picked up.
- Students are not to sit on the cafeteria tables.
- Students will refrain from loud, unnecessary talking in the cafeteria. The lunch period should be a pleasant break in the day and an excellent opportunity to socialize with friends. Please converse at your table in normal conversational tones.
- Once a student has received a reimbursable meal they should not return to the lunch line to receive another meal or food item.
- Signs will be placed throughout the cafeteria to display a reimbursable meal.
- Students are required to visit cafeterias before visiting the snack room.
- Snacks sold on premises must be Smart Snack approved.
- The Georgia Department of Education's Board approved 30 exempted fundraisers per school per school year not to exceed 3 days in length. However, there are time and place restrictions. Exempted fundraisers cannot operate anywhere on the school campus 30 minutes prior until 30 minutes after the end of breakfast and lunch meal services. Exempted fundraisers cannot be in vending machines, school stores, snack bars or a la carte sales. Fundraisers occurring in these venues must meet the Smart Snacks standards.

BOARD POLICY – JGF(2)

SECLUSION OR RESTRAINT OF STUDENTS

The Turner County Board of Education shall require that all schools and programs within the district comply with State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.35 concerning “seclusion” and “restraint”, as those terms are defined within the rule.

This policy is not intended to prevent the use of physical restraint in limited circumstances where a student exhibits behaviors that place the student or others in imminent danger and the student is not responsive to verbal directives or less intensive de-escalation techniques. The Board of Education recognizes that in determining when and how to implement this policy and any procedures related to it, educators will have to exercise their professional judgment and discretion. Therefore, the policy is not to be construed as imposing ministerial duties on individual employees. Further, it is not intended to interfere with the duties of law enforcement or emergency medical personnel.

For schools and programs within the district that use physical restraint as defined within the SBOE rule, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement written procedures governing its use, which shall include the following provisions:

- Staff and faculty training on the use of physical restraint;
- Written parental notification within a reasonable time, not to exceed one school day from the use of restraint, when physical restraint is used to restrain a student;
- Procedures for observing and monitoring the use of physical restraint;
- Documentation by staff or faculty participating in or supervising the restraint for each student in each instance in which the student is restrained;
- Periodic review of the use of restraint and the documentation described in item 4.

BOARD POLICY – IDFA

GENDER EQUITY IN SPORTS

It is the policy of the Turner County Board of Education to prohibit discrimination based on gender in its elementary and secondary school athletic programs. As a part of achieving this goal, the Turner County School District annually shall notify all of its students of the name, office address, and office telephone number of the employee(s) who coordinate efforts to comply with and carry out the provisions of state law. This notification shall be included in a student handbook containing the code of conduct and distributed to all students.

An equity in sports grievance procedure is hereby adopted which provides for prompt and equitable resolution of written student complaints, including those brought by a parent or guardian on behalf of his or her minor child who is a student, alleging any action which would be a violation of the pertinent Code section. The grievance procedure shall be as follows:

- The employee designated as the person who coordinates efforts to comply shall render his or her decision in writing no later than 30 days after receipt of the complaint, and such decision shall set forth the essential facts and rationale for the decision;

- A copy of such decision shall be provided to the complainant within five days of the date of the decision; and
- A complainant shall have a right to appeal such a decision to the local board within 35 days of the date of the decision;
- A complainant may appeal a decision of the Board in accordance with the procedures specified in O.C.G.A. §20-2-1160.

The Superintendent shall annually appoint an Equity in Sports Coordinator whose responsibility is to coordinate efforts to comply with and carry out requirements in regard to Equity in Sports.

The Equity in Sports Coordinator shall investigate any complaints communicated to the school system in regard to Equity in Sports.

Athletics and Extracurricular

A student and/or his/her guest may be barred or removed from an activity if, in the opinion of the sponsoring authority, he/she creates a disruption or violates the code of conduct. Any misconduct on the part of a student may be considered a disciplinary matter and will be handled as such in addition to the above actions. To participate in extracurricular or interscholastic activities, the school system requires resident students, other than home study students, to be enrolled full-time during the semester of participation unless the student's schedule approved by school officials during the registration process provides otherwise. Home study students must enroll in an attempt to complete one qualifying course as defined in state law for each semester of participation. Students must physically be present in their regular classes at least one-half day in order to practice or participate in an extra-curricular activity on a date when the student is absent from school. The principal or his designee has the authority to set aside this rule when circumstances are deemed appropriate.

No Pass, No Play

The State of Georgia mandates the No Pass, No Play regulation for all students in grades 6-12. Grades 6-8th students cannot fail more than one course that he/she is taking in a given semester to be eligible for any extracurricular activity in the following semester. A passing grade is 70 or above. Grades 9-12th students who do not pass at least three (3) of the 4 classes in a given semester will not be eligible to take part in any inter-scholastic competitive activity. This applies to sports, clubs, and competitive band activities.

In an effort to ensure academic success for our students, student academic reviews will be conducted bimonthly. Students determined to be in academic jeopardy and failing an academic course will not be allowed to participate in athletics and/or extracurricular activities until grades have been updated or the next academic review period.

Sportsmanship: Can be defined in one word - **RESPECT**. Respect for self, officials, schools', and guests to our schools to help build a positive image not only with the community, but also with all those who participate in competitive activities in our schools. Responsibilities of participants and parents:

NOTICE OF RIGHTS OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS UNDER SECTION 504

Section 504 states: No qualified handicapped person shall, on the basis of handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which benefits from federal financial assistance. Under Section 504 a person with a disability (handicap) is anyone who has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, such as caring for oneself; performing manual tasks; walking; seeing; hearing; speaking; breathing; learning and working; eating; sleeping; standing; lifting; bending; reading; concentrating; thinking; communicating; and major bodily functions (i.e. immune systems, cell growth, digestive, bowel, or bladder functions). The term "substantially limits" means the person is unable to perform a major life activity or major bodily function that a non-disabled person can do, or the person is significantly restricted in the performance of a major life activity in comparison to a non-disabled person.

It is the policy of Turner County School System to comply with the provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in providing a free appropriate public education for students with disabilities who qualify under the definition of the law. No student or other qualified individual shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to

discrimination in any program or activity, on the basis of disability. Turner County School System has specific responsibilities under Section 504, including the requirement to identify and evaluate students with disabilities. Any student or other disabled individual who is qualified for services under Section 504 will receive appropriate accommodations providing equal access to educational programs, services, and facilities.

Copies of the 504 Procedural Safeguards and Notice of Rights of Students and Parents Under Section 504 may be found at the system website (Turner.k12.ga.us) or may be requested from the School or District Section 504 Coordinator

For more information regarding Section 504, or if you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact your local system's Section 504 Coordinator at the following address:

Electronic devices are allowed 504 accommodations when necessary to monitor medical conditions.

System 504 Coordinator 423 N. Cleveland Street Ashburn, GA 31714 229-567-3338

SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS

School sponsored clubs (excluding competitive interscholastic activities or events) are those under the sponsorship, direction, and control of the school that organize and meet for common goals, objectives, and purposes. State law requires that parents have the right to withhold permission for their students to participate in any school sponsored club or organization designated by them. School sponsored clubs will be in operation during this school year and are listed annually in the school's student handbook. You, as a parent/guardian, have the right to withhold in writing your permission for your student's participation in any club or organization. For your convenience, a form is included in this handbook if you do not wish for your student to participate in the club you have designated on the form. If a club is added during the school year, you will be provided information on the club and your written permission will be required prior to your student's participation. (Schools then will list the club information, including the name of each club, its purpose, faculty sponsor, and a description of past or planned activities.

**Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-33-HAVEN (1-800-334-2836)**

**Reports of child abuse and neglect can be made to
1-855-GA CHILD (1-855-422-4453):**

OR

***If a child is in immediate danger call 911**



Civility Guidelines

It is the goal of the Turner County School Board and the Turner County Schools that staff, principals, teachers, students, parents, and guardians treat one another with mutual respect and courtesy. The Turner County Schools is committed to maintaining an orderly educational environment free from disruptions. We do not intend for these guidelines to deprive any person of his or her right of freedom of expression. Rather, we seek to maintain, to the extent possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment-free workplace for our students and staff. In the interest of presenting teachers and other employees as positive role models, Turner County Schools encourages positive communication and discourages offensive, disruptive, volatile, hostile, or aggressive communications or actions. Principals, staff and teachers, may in their discretion take the following steps:

1. Disruptive individuals may be directed to leave the school or district facility. The disruptive individual(s) may be directed to leave by the principal or his/her designee.
2. If any member of the public uses loud and/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, or displays a temper, he or she may be calmly asked by the teacher or employee to refrain from such behavior and if the behavior continues the teacher/employee may terminate the phone conversation, meeting, or conference. The principal or designee may direct the individual to leave the facility if the incident happened on campus.
3. If an individual refuses to leave the school or district facility, the superintendent, principal, or designee may notify law enforcement.
4. Threatening to do bodily or physical harm to a teacher, school administrator, school employee or student may constitute a criminal violation.
5. If any district employee receives an email, text, or voice mail which is abusive, offensive, threatening, or obscene, the employee is not obligated to respond to the email, text, or telephone call. Such incidents may be reported to the employee's immediate supervisor.

NOTICE

Search & Seizure Warning

All Persons, Vehicles and Personal Belongings on School Property Are Subject to
Search by

School Administrators

and/or

School Resource

Officers.

If You Suspect a Weapon

**in Your School, Call
1-877-SAY STOP
(1-877-729-7867)**

Turner County Public Schools
423 N. Cleveland St., Ashburn, GA 31714

PARENT STATEMENT

I have read and understand the policies and procedures in the Turner County Code of Student Conduct.

Student's Name/Grade

Student's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

Comments:

For questions, please contact the district office @ 229-567-3338.

Parental Opt-Out of Club and Activity Participation

I hereby acknowledge receipt of information through the school handbook regarding student clubs and activities that are scheduled to be operational at the school during the upcoming school year. I understand that if a club or activity for which information has not been provided is started during the school year, I will be provided the club or activity information at that time and my written permission will be required prior to my student's participation.

I wish to withhold permission for my child to participate in the following student clubs (please list).

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Student's Signature

Date

Turner County Schools Transportation

Christy C. Wray, Superintendent

Michael Wiggins, Transportation Director

421 North Cleveland Street
Ashburn, GA 31714

Phone: 229.567.3338
turner.k12.ga.us

School Bus Transportation Sheet

Bus Driver: _____ Route Number: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like to welcome each student back for the 2024-2025 school year. Please read and complete the following information. Return this to your bus driver. Bus drivers are required to keep this form for all students who ride their bus.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

AM Pickup Location: _____

PM Drop Off Location: _____

Health Issues (Allergic reactions, diabetes, asthma, etc.)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

Riding the bus is a privilege. Students must follow the rules found in the Turner County Schools Code of Student Conduct. Students should be present at the stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives. Students should wait at least 12 feet away from the roadway. Students should not cross the roadway or step towards the road until directed so by the bus driver. All loose items should be secured in the student's book bag. No horseplay or ear coverings are allowed when loading and unloading. Students under 12 should be supervised while waiting for the bus. No eating or drinking on the bus. If you have a transportation question, please call the Transportation Department at (229) 567 3825. This form is required for all students who ride the bus. It must be completed and returned immediately.

Student Name _____ Grade: _____

School _____

Parent or Guardian Section

I have read the Turner County Schools Technology Acceptable Use Policy, also available online at:
<https://www.turner.k12.ga.us/Administration2/12>

I hereby release the district, its personnel, and any institutions with which it is affiliated, from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my child's use of, or inability to use, the district system, including, but not limited to, claims that may arise from the unauthorized use of the system to purchase products or services. **I understand that I can be held liable for damages caused by my child's intentional misuse of the system.**

I will instruct my child regarding restrictions against accessing material that are in addition to the restrictions set forth in the Technology Acceptable Use Policy. I also will emphasize to my child the importance of following the rules for personal safety.

I give permission for my child to access only those portions of the local and wide area network connections that are approved by the Turner County Schools, and to use personal electronic devices/issued devices and services only as approved by the district.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian Name Printed _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Student Section

I have read the Turner County School District's Technology Acceptable Use Policy (site address above). I agree to follow the rules contained in this policy. I understand that if I violate the rules my account can be terminated and I may face other disciplinary measures.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this completed form to your child's school office.