

# 2024 - 2025



## BUCKEYE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDEBOOK

High School Phone Number

740 - 363 - 1349

*The VISION of BVLS: Where Tradition Meets Innovation*

*The MISSION of BVLS: Engaging and inspiring individuals in an ever-changing, diverse society.*

[www.buckeyevalley.k12.oh.us](http://www.buckeyevalley.k12.oh.us)



**Buckeye Valley High School  
Student Handbook/Guidebook 2024-25  
Receipt Acknowledgement Form**

I have received a copy of the student handbook/guidebook for Buckeye Valley High School and I understand that it is my responsibility to become familiar with the rules and guidelines of the school.

Student Name (Print)\_\_\_\_\_

Grade\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RIP ONLY THIS PAGE OUT**



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## **WELCOME TO BUCKEYE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

The primary purpose of this guidebook is to provide a convenient reference to school policies, procedures, regulations, requirements, etc. While it does not speak to all the details of school life, it does address some very important items of interest.

We believe in safeguarding the rights of our students. We also expect our students to promote and contribute to the common good of the school and community through personal action and conduct that reflect principles of good character. We are committed to introduce, teach, and exemplify principles related to respect, concern, and appreciation for self and others, notwithstanding circumstance or situation.

Buckeye Valley High School is an excellent place to obtain an education that will enhance the chances for success in the future. We encourage young people to plan, work hard, and meet academic and personal goals. We believe good attitudes and honest efforts will lead to many fulfilling experiences and achievements.

Please read this guidebook carefully and refer to it often. It is intended to assist you in your efforts to find answers to questions related to school life at BVHS. If you do not understand any part of it, please ask a member of the faculty, administration, or staff for assistance. Any of us will be pleased to be of service to you.

Our best to you as you prepare for this year and your future. We look forward to a productive, successful, and enjoyable school year.

Faculty, Administration, and Staff  
Buckeye Valley High School

## **Buckeye Valley Colors**

Brown and Gold

### **Mascot**

The Baron

### **Alma Mater**

Joyously to thee we raise, Buckeye Valley High,  
Songs of loyalty and praise, which shall never die.  
Thou our inspiration art, ne'er shall any heart,  
From these sacred halls depart, Buckeye Valley High.

### **Down the Field**

March, march on down the field fighting for B.V.  
Once more the brown and gold  
will break through their line.  
And then a long cheer for B.V.'s teams,  
we're here to win again.  
B.V.'s team will fight to the end for victory.

*words by Tom Kaelber*

Our fans will cheer to the end for our teams  
and lift up their spirits to lead them to victory.  
With our heads held up high,  
and our eyes filled with pride,  
B.V.'s teams will forever fight for VICTORY!!!

*words by Erik Lowe*



## DAILY BELL SCHEDULES

### REGULAR DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

PERIOD	TIME	MINUTES
1	7:40 - 8:26	46
2	8:30 - 9:16	46
Baron Time	9:20 - 9:46	26
3	9:50 - 10:36	46

Period 4 Lunch	Period 6 Lunch	Period 8 Lunch
<i>4L 10:40 - 11:10</i>	4/5 10:40-11:26	4/5 10:40-11:26
5/6 11:14-12:00	<i>6L 11:30-12:00</i>	6/7 11:30-12:16
7/8 12:04-12:50	7/8 12:04-12:50	<i>8L 12:20-12:50</i>

9	12:54 - 1:40	46
10	1:44 - 2:30	46

### PEP ASSEMBLY BELL SCHEDULE

PERIOD	TIME	MINUTES
1	7:40 - 8:26	46
2	8:30 - 9:16	46
3	9:20 - 10:08	48

Period 4 Lunch	Period 6 Lunch	Period 8 Lunch
<i>4L 10:12 - 10:42</i>	4/5 10:12-10:58	4/5 10:12-10:58
5/6 10:46-11:32	<i>6L 11:02-11:32</i>	6/7 11:02-11:48
7/8 11:36-12:22	7/8 11:36-12:22	<i>8L 11:52-12:22</i>

9	12:26 - 1:12	46
10	1:16 - 2:02	46
Assembly	2:10 - 2:30	20

**ONE-HOUR DELAY BELL SCHEDULE**

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>
1	8:40 - 9:21	41
2	9:25 - 10:06	41
3	10:10 - 10:54	44

<b>Period 4 Lunch</b>	<b>Period 6 Lunch</b>	<b>Period 8 Lunch</b>
<b>4L 10:58 - 11:28</b>	4/5 10:58-11:40	4/5 10:58-11:40
5/6 11:32-12:14	<b>6L 11:44-12:14</b>	6/7 11:44-12:26
7/8 12:18-1:00	7/8 12:18-1:00	<b>8L 12:30-1:00</b>

9	1:04 - 1:45	41
10	1:49 - 2:30	41

**TWO-HOUR DELAY BELL SCHEDULE**

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>MINUTES</b>
1	9:40 - 10:13	33
2	10:17 - 10:50	33
3	10:54 - 11:28	34

<b>Period 4 Lunch</b>	<b>Period 6 Lunch</b>	<b>Period 8 Lunch</b>
<b>4L 11:32 - 12:04</b>	4/5 11:32-12:04	4/5 11:32-12:04
5/6 12:08-12:40	<b>6L 12:08-12:40</b>	6/7 12:08-12:40
7/8 12:44-1:16	7/8 12:44-1:16	<b>8L 12:44-1:16</b>

9	1:20 - 1:53	33
10	1:57 - 2:30	33

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

### **Student Clubs and Activities**

#### **KEY CLUB**

Key Club is an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership. Hours of participation can be applied toward the Community Service Seal to meet graduation requirements.

#### **GAME AND CHESS CLUB**

Meet other students to play and learn new games and strategies in a relaxed setting. A variety of card, board and video games are welcome.

#### **ART CLUB**

Art Club is a group that explores a variety of fun, creative art media. We meet for an hour after school at least once a month. All students are welcome to attend. No prior art class/experience required.

#### **MOCK TRIAL**

Mock Trial offers an innovative approach to learning the law and how our legal system functions. Guided by teachers and volunteer legal advisors, students participate in an original, unscripted simulated trial written by attorneys. High school students argue both sides of the case in real courtrooms across the state.

#### **VISIONS SHOW CHOIR**

An award winning, auditioned group of singer/dancers that compete against other high schools across the midwest. This group teaches the importance of teamwork, develops leadership, builds confidence and helps strengthen and shape vocal and dance skills using various styles of current music.

#### **VISIONS CREW**

A group of students 'behind the scenes' who help make Visions Show Choir successful. Students are trained in how to run/setup tech/electronic/lighting equipment and assist with other backstage duties during competitions/rehearsals.

#### **VISIONS COMBO**

An auditioned group that accompanies and plays the live music that Visions Show Choir sings/dances to at competitions and rehearsals.

#### **SCIENCE CLUB**

Science Club allows students that enjoy laboratory inquiry to further explore and learn about the various branches of science. Students will conduct quarterly after school labs, support local environmental charities, and make a positive impact on their community while enjoying their love for science.

### **PHOTO CLUB**

Photographers in this club will have the responsibility of capturing the activities at BVHS and sharing the events in two ways. Their images will be used in the Sword, which is the BVHS yearbook. Also, the activities will be shared on different social media platforms. The idea is to let the student body and community see all the great things going on at BVHS.

### **MARCH FOR OUR LIVES**

March For Our Lives is a national, student-led organization dedicated to promoting civic engagement, education, and direct action to end gun violence in America. Students can join this chapter of the MFOL community and help create change locally, state-wide, and nationally.

### **FALL PLAY**

Students interested in the many facets of theater have the opportunity to study acting, performance, backstage help, set construction and design, along with many more skills. The play will be performed for an audience of community members, family, and friends. Students have the opportunity to perform on stage or to assist their peers backstage.

### **SPRING MUSICAL**

Students interested in the many facets of musical theater will refine their skills of singing, dancing, acting, and other elements of performance. Those that volunteer backstage assist with set construction and design, lighting, along with many more technical skills. The musical will be performed for an audience of community members, family, and friends.

### **DRAMA CLUB**

The Drama Club consists of the cast and crew of school drama productions and musicals.

### **FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES**

FCA meets before school and enjoys fellowship and activities.

### **THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION**

FFA is a dynamic youth organization that is part of the agricultural education program. It develops leadership, cooperation, citizenship, career preparation, and agricultural awareness.

### **FRENCH CLUB**

French Club is open to students presently or previously enrolled in a French course.

### **IN THE KNOW**

The In the Know team competes in interscholastic academic contests.

### **INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY**

The Buckeye Valley High School Thespian Society Troupe 6950 is open to qualifying students participating in theatre productions at BVHS.

### **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

NHS is an organization that recognizes outstanding students. Juniors or seniors are selected by faculty evaluations of scholarship, leadership, character and service. The selection process is described later in this guidebook.

### **RED CROSS CLUB**

Members work in conjunction with the Delaware County Chapter of the American Red Cross, striving to make a difference in the community by hosting blood drives, volunteering at local events, learning C.P.R./First Aid, and fundraising for relief funds.

### **SKI CLUB**

Ski Club introduces students to the sport of downhill skiing. A membership fee covers ski rental and lift ticket expenses for six evenings of skiing beginning in January.

### **SPANISH CLUB**

Spanish Club is open to students presently or previously enrolled in a Spanish course.

**START:** Students Teaching Acceptance, Respect, & Tolerance. The mission of S.T.A.R.T. is to work towards a more accepting environment for all young people through education, support, social action, and advocacy. We believe that schools can be truly safe only when every student has access to an education without fear of harassment or violence.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Student Council promotes leadership and understanding between the student body and the administration and faculty. Membership in the organization is voluntary. Officers are elected by the group.

### **YEARBOOK**

*The Sword* is completed by the yearbook staff. Members are exposed to journalism, photography, and layout/design.

### **TEEN INSTITUTE CLUB**

TI is open to all students and promotes student safety. This student led club focuses on awareness and prevention of drug abuse, distracted driving, bullying, and other dangers facing young people in today's society. We bring these messages to all of the BV community through assemblies, special events, and state program participation.

### **BV RESPONDERS TEAM**

The BV Responders is a student team organized by Delaware County EMS personnel to train young people in first aid, blood control techniques, and other lifesaving skills. The team is trained and equipped to respond in an emergency incident and provide immediate care, stabilizing the patient until EMS arrives. Team members will be certified in CPR and basic first aid. All students are eligible to join the team.

## **JUSTWRITE OHIO**

*JustWrite* is a creative writing club in which members meet weekly to practice writing genre specific short stories, learn writer's craft and critique peer submissions. Two teams (Division 1 - grades 9 & 10; Division 2 - grades 11 & 12) will compete in a regional tournament to qualify for state competition.

*\*The constitutions and by-laws for the National Honor Society and Student Council are available under separate cover in the office.  
Each is approved yearly by the Board of Education.*

### **THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY SELECTION PROCESS AT BVHS**

Membership in the National Honor Society is based on the accomplishments and qualities of students in the four principal areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. The NHS selection process begins with eligibility. Students must first be *eligible* for membership before they can be *selected* as NHS members.

#### Scholarship Determines Eligibility

All juniors and seniors who have an unweighted cumulative GPA of at least a 3.500, and who have been in attendance at BVHS for at least one semester, have attended classes on a full-time basis will be identified as being eligible for membership in NHS. Eligible juniors will be notified of their eligibility during the month of January. Eligible seniors will be notified in September.

Once identified, all eligible candidates will receive an eligibility packet containing various documents and forms. Candidates who wish to proceed with the membership process are required to read all of the documents and complete all of the essential forms in the eligibility packet, with an emphasis on the Student Activity Information Packet.

#### Leadership, Service, and Character Determine Selection

An NHS Faculty Council comprised of five voting members will convene to evaluate each candidate in the areas of Leadership, Service, and Character. The Faculty Council's evaluation will be based on the following:

1. Attendance and Disciplinary Reports for each candidate.
2. The information in the Student Activity Information Packet provided by each candidate, with an emphasis on the following:
  - a. Leadership Positions and Titles (*held in school, at work, or in the community*).
  - b. Service to the School (*through participation in school clubs, teams, groups, organizations, etc.*).
  - c. Service to the School and/or Community (*through participation in specific service projects*).

- d. Service to the Community (*through participation in organizations outside of school, such as church groups, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, etc.*).
  - e. Character References (*when necessary due to lack of other pertinent feedback*).
3. Input and feedback provided by the candidates' teachers, coaches, and advisors who have observed the following qualities, conduct, and traits inside and outside the classroom:
- a. Positive Leadership Qualities (*shows initiative, is influential in a positive way, takes charge in group work, communicates well, maintains excellent attendance, manages time well, accomplishes tasks, is self-motivated, participates in class in a positive way, sets a good example, accepts responsibility, etc.*).
  - b. Positive Service Conduct (*willingly helps the teacher and/or other students*).
  - c. Positive Character Traits (*has a positive attitude, is respectful to peers and adults, shows integrity, is honest, is cooperative, exhibits good behavior, is reliable, is credible, etc.*).

After thorough consideration and deliberation, the NHS Faculty Council will vote on the selection or non-selection of each candidate. (*The advisor is not a voting member of the Faculty Council*).

**Membership in NHS is more than a Great Honor – It's a Commitment!**

Once in NHS, all members are expected to fulfill their obligations and maintain their good standing in all four areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character – making every effort to be positive ambassadors for the National Honor Society and Buckeye Valley High School.

**Buckeye Valley High School**  
**2024-25 Student Fees**  
Course fees are listed in the [Course Catalog](#)

<b>COURSE</b>	<b>FEE</b>
District-wide Technology Fee	\$15.00
Pay to Participate	\$150.00*
Parking Permit	\$25.00

*\*\$150 per student with a family maximum of \$650 per school year*

**BUCKEYE VALLEY FALL SPORTS**

- Boys Cross Country – Varsity (boys)
- Girls Cross Country – Varsity (girls)
- Football – Varsity, Reserve, and Freshman (boys and girls)
- Golf – Varsity (boys and girls)
- Boys Soccer – Varsity and Reserve (boys)
- Girls Soccer – Varsity and Reserve (girls)
- Girls Tennis – Varsity (girls)
- Volleyball – Varsity, Reserve, and Freshman (girls)
- Fall Cheerleading – Varsity, Reserve and Freshman (boys and girls)

**BUCKEYE VALLEY WINTER SPORTS**

- Boys Basketball - Varsity, Reserve, and Freshman (boys)
- Girls Basketball - Varsity, Reserve, and Freshman (girls)
- Bowling - Varsity and Reserve (boys and girls)
- Gymnastics - Varsity (boys and girls)
- Wrestling – Varsity and Reserve (boys and girls)
- Winter Cheerleading – Varsity, Reserve and Freshman (boys and girls)
- Swimming and Diving (boys and girls)

**BUCKEYE VALLEY SPRING SPORTS**

- Baseball - Varsity, Reserve, and Freshman (boys)
- Softball – Varsity, Reserve, and Freshman (girls)
- Tennis – Varsity (boys)
- Boys Track – Varsity and Reserve (boys)
- Girls Track – Varsity and Reserve (girls)
- Lacrosse – Varsity and Reserve (boys)
- Lacrosse – Varsity and Reserve (girls)

**NOTE:** Teams will be officially formed only if there are enough participants.

Additional information can be found in the [Buckeye Valley Activity Handbook](#).



## **BUILDING ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF**

Zachary Riggs	Principal
Travis Rupp	Assistant Principal
Eric Music	Asst. Principal/Athletic Director
Eileen Burkhardt	School Counselor (A-G)
Tammy Cress	School Counselor (H-O)
Jessica Combs	School Counselor (P-Z)
Jackie Noel	Curriculum Instruction Assessment Specialist
Heidi Love	Librarian/Media Specialist
Kiera Naples	School Psychologist
Dep. Fred Strawser	School Resource Officer
Staci Iden	Attendance Secretary
Marjorie Harrel	Administrative Secretary
Elin Parker	Counseling Center Secretary
Fred Linn	Paraprofessional
Pam Warner	Paraprofessional
Gilberto Aguirre	Spanish
Paul Brunner	Instrumental Music
Nicole Burke	Intervention Specialist
Alison Carr	Lifetime Wellness
T.J. Chaney	Visual Arts
Michelle Craft	Spanish
Andrea Craig	Science
Cierra Culler	Vocal Music
Christina Della Rocco	Science
John DeRing	Intervention Specialist
Anna Diller-Stried	Mathematics
Eric DiSabato	Social Studies
Katy Flynn	Science
Grant Georgic	Intervention Specialist
Tom Glissman	Social Studies
Adam Hall	Intervention Specialist
Jessica Hall	Science
Shannon Hall	Mathematics
Nicole Hanlon	French
Maddy Hopkins	Intervention Specialist
Deana Hooper	English
Doug Joseph	Social Studies
Michael Kenney	English
Zachary Landefeld	English
James Lang	Social Studies
Tarasa MacMaster	Mathematics
Danielle Nowe	Spanish
Ashley Oracewski	Mathematics
Lora Pierce	Mathematics
Nathan Ritz	Physical Education/Health

Thaddeus Ruffing	Science
Bryan Santschi	Science
Jessica Sharp	English
Matt Stephens	Intervention Specialist/CBI
Sophie Stump	Visual Arts
Maria Velalis	Social Studies
David Waselko	English
Zachary Winslow	Industrial Technology
Corrine Wortz	Business/APEX
Beth Young	Mathematics
Alex Zimmer	Agricultural Education

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Admission to Buckeye Valley High School is gained in one of the following ways:

1. Completion of eighth grade in the Buckeye Valley School District.
2. Presentation of written transfer from another school indicating work completed, grades, and units of credit earned. A birth certificate, proof of legal guardianship, proof of a Buckeye Valley district address of residence, and immunization records must also be provided upon entrance. Students eighteen (18) years of age or over whose parents(s)/guardian(s) reside in a district other than Buckeye Valley must provide evidence of self-support before admission.
3. Permission of the superintendent's office.

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students attending Buckeye Valley High School and/or the Delaware Area Career Center must earn a minimum of 21 units of credit to be eligible for graduation. Credits required are the following:

English	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
(must include World History, American History and American Government)	
Mathematics	4 credits
(must include Algebra II or its equivalent)	
Science	3 credits
(must include a biological science, physical science, and advanced science)	
Physical Education and Health	1 credit
Fine Art (Vocal Music, Band, Art)	1 credit
*Financial Literacy	0.5 credits
Electives	5-6 credits

\*Starting with the class of 2026

**End of Course exams: Students must earn a competency score on the end of course tests in Algebra 1 and English Language Arts II. The competency score is set by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.**

Graduation Seals: Students must earn at least two graduation seals. Please see the counseling website for more information on seals.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER**

The Buckeye Valley Local School Board of Education has adopted a policy to excuse from the high school physical education requirement each student who, during high school, has participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, Show Choir, and cheerleading for at least **two** full seasons or JROTC for **two** years. The Buckeye Valley Board shall not require the student to complete a physical education course as a condition to graduate. However, the student shall be required to complete one-half unit, consisting of at least sixty hours of instruction, in another course of study. Twenty-one credits will be required for graduation. **Students must complete the PE Waiver Form on the BVHS Counseling Center website after they have completed their two seasons to have the PE requirement waived and recorded. Waivers for transfer students will be accepted if the Waiver is shown on the transcript of the previous school.**

### **HONORS DIPLOMA**

Honors Diplomas recognize graduating seniors who have successfully completed academic requirements above and beyond the requirements for a Diploma of Graduation. Please refer to the counseling section of our website for information on how to earn an Honors Diploma through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Please note that each student can only earn ONE Honors Diploma. Ohio students have the opportunity to pursue five different honors diplomas; each diploma has a different set of requirements. The honors diplomas available are: Academic, Art, STEM, Social Science and Civic Engagement, and Career Tech Honors Diplomas. Honors Diploma eligibility will be calculated on the first seven semesters of a student's academic career.

### **THE GLOBAL SCHOLARS DIPLOMA PROGRAM**

This three-year program earns the student a credential that recognizes global competency above and beyond the required curriculum at Buckeye Valley Local Schools. Students work with other participating districts in the Columbus area to investigate the work, recognize perspectives, communicate ideas, and take action. The purpose of the program is to increase exposure to globally relevant experiences and topics, expand the network of globally-minded students across the district and central Ohio, and participate in cross-cultural and career experience field trips. Students who successfully complete the 3-year program will earn 1.0 credit on their high school transcript under the Credit Flexibility Program (CFP) and earn a seal of recognition on their high school diploma. See page 55 for more information about the CFP.

To qualify for the Global Scholars Diploma, student must:

- Complete a required blended learning (face-to-face and online) curriculum created by both Buckeye Valley High School and the Columbus Council for World Affairs in three of the four years while attending Buckeye Valley High School
- Complete the Take Action Project focusing on an action research task that has a direct, sustained impact in the local community.

- Avoid conduct in written word, spoken word, or actions both on campus and during field experiences that reflect poorly on Buckeye Valley and/or result in referrals to the administrative office that result in suspensions.
- Meet other eligibility requirements as prescribed by the Columbus Council on World Affairs.

### **EARLY GRADUATION**

In the event that a student wishes to graduate in three or three-and-a-half years instead of the usual four years, the student and parent(s)/guardians must complete the Early Graduation Application which is available in the School Counseling Center.

### **CLASS REGISTRATION**

Courses should be selected carefully and in accordance with your abilities, graduation requirements, interests, motivation, and future plans. Students should discuss plans with parent(s)/guardian(s), teachers, and counselors. Careful planning helps eliminate mistakes and enhances the potential benefit of a high school education.

1. Student schedule requests are typically due in February prior to the next school year.
2. Due to commitments for staff employment and assignments, maximum class sizes, and ordering of textbooks and other supplies, schedule changes will be discouraged and the Course Drop/Add Policy must be followed.
3. Students who begin the school year at the Career Centers must attend the Career Center for five (5) days before a possible return to Buckeye Valley will be considered.

### **DELAWARE AREA CAREER CENTER**

The Delaware Area Career Center (DACC) is an extension of our school program; therefore, students who elect to attend DACC are subject to disciplinary action based upon the Student Code of Conduct of either Buckeye Valley High School and/or DACC. Consequently, conduct and/or involvement in any activity that may or does result in disciplinary action by one school may be grounds for similar disciplinary action by the other school.

### **COURSE DROP/ADD POLICY**

It is important for every student to select their courses after having carefully read the registration bulletin and discussing the courses with teachers, school counselors, and parent(s)/guardian(s). Special circumstances must seek review from the principal.

Changes in course selection (registration) prior to the start of the school year will be made only for the following reasons:

1. If a scheduling error/conflict occurs.
2. If the change would help balance class size.
3. If a required course or credit for graduation needs to be made up.
4. If a prerequisite has been failed.
5. If the student previously failed the course and is enrolled with the same teacher.

6. If a scheduled course is taken and passed during summer school.

### **Electives:**

After the school year begins, within the first 5 school days of a course, students may drop or add an **elective** class with approval of their parent(s)/guardian(s) and school counselor. After that time, elective courses can no longer be dropped without academic penalty; students will receive a grade of “Withdrawal/Failing.” Students choosing to drop AP, Honors, and/or CSCC (in-person taught at BVHS) classes must do so by the student’s last day of school of the school year in which they registered. Additionally, course changes can be considered only if there is available space in an alternative class or a study hall. (Note: only one study hall per semester is permitted). **Special circumstances must seek review from the principal.**

### **Required Classes:**

In all other cases (non-elective courses or courses required for graduation), changes in a student’s course selections will be made according to the following rules only:

1. Student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) must confer with the teacher of the class to be dropped.
2. Requests for schedule changes must be initiated by a request from the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) to the student’s school counselor.
3. Requests for changes must be made in consultation with the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s), school counselor, and teacher.
4. Final approval for change will be determined by the principal.
5. Unless approved by the principal, after the first 5 school days of a course, a course cannot be dropped without academic penalty; students will receive a grade of “Withdrawal/Failing.”

Students should not drop a course required for graduation. Any change in course level (i.e. Advanced English CP to English) must be made in consultation with the student’s teacher, parent(s)/guardian(s), and school counselor. Where a course level change is approved, the student will carry all grades earned to date to the next level.

In cases where a student wants to “move down” in course level and the change is **not recommended by the current teacher**, the student must remain in the course they are in or drop the course completely, according to the “Add/Drop” guidelines above.

### **FORCED WITHDRAWAL**

1. If a student fails the first semester in a foreign language, math, physics, or chemistry class, they may be withdrawn from the second semester of the class.
2. Because of the participatory nature of physical education and industrial technology classes, it becomes difficult or in some cases impossible to supervise non-participating students and an activity class at the same time. A forced withdrawal from the class may be necessary for the safety and security of all students.

## CREDIT FLEXIBILITY

The Buckeye Valley High School Credit Flexibility Plan (CFP) applies to any alternative coursework, assessment and/or performance that demonstrates proficiency. Upon satisfactory completion, credit will be awarded toward graduation as applied for and approved in advance by the CFP Committee. Approved credit awarded through this policy will be posted on the student's transcript and calculated into the student's grade point average (GPA) and class rank. The student can earn graduation credit in the related subject area or as an elective. Additional details and credit flex applications are available in the BVHS Counseling Center.

## COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (CCP)

The purpose of the program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and a wide variety of options to "college-ready" students. Eligibility: Students in grades 7-12 can apply for CCP admission to a public or participating private college. The college will admit students based on their "college-readiness" in one or more subject areas. A student or their parent(s)/guardian(s), must submit an "Intent to Participate" form (available in the Counseling Center) by April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding the school year that participation will occur. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s), must also submit a form indicating that they understand all of the provisions of CCP. They will also need to meet all college application deadlines (typically May 1<sup>st</sup>). Interested students should take the ACT and/or SAT by February of the CCP application year. **If a student fails a CCP course or withdraws after the college deadline, the student/family is financially responsible; the fees will be added to the student's BVHS account.** Students taking CCP courses will receive a grade at the end of each semester. Students will not receive quarter grades.

## GRADING PROCEDURE AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE

All faculty members will use a uniform percent system. Percent's will be converted to letter grades. Percent averages with a decimal value of .5 and above that are to be converted to letter grades will be rounded up to the next whole number.

Conversions to a GPA are as follows

Buckeye Valley High School District-wide Grade Scale				
98 -	100	=	A+ =	4.00
92 -	97	=	A =	4.00
90 -	91	=	A- =	3.67
88 -	89	=	B+ =	3.33
82 -	87	=	B =	3.00
80 -	81	=	B- =	2.67
78 -	79	=	C+ =	2.33
72 -	77	=	C =	2.00
70 -	71	=	C- =	1.67
68 -	69	=	D+ =	1.33
62 -	67	=	D =	1.00
60 -	61	=	D- =	0.67
0 -	59	=	F =	0

To determine the grade for a course, the nine weeks' letter grade values will be doubled and added to the exam grade value, then divided by 5. Students will earn credits at the conclusion of each semester. It is possible to fail the first semester and pass the second semester, and receive only ½ credit for the year in a full year class. Averages with a decimal value of .5 and above will be rounded up to the next whole number.

For example:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{B} \\ (85\% \times 2) \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{A} \\ (92\% \times 2) \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{C} \\ 75\% \end{array}}{5} = \frac{429}{5} = 85.8 = \text{B}$$

Grade Point Average (GPA) is then determined by figuring the final course grade on the 4.0 scale as in the following example:

English	½ credit	x	A (4.00)	=	2.00
Algebra 1	½ credit	x	A- (3.67)	=	1.84
History	½ credit	x	B- (2.67)	=	1.34
AP Chem.	½ credit	x	A (5.00)	=	2.50
Phys Ed	¼ credit	x	A+ (4.00)	=	1.00

Total credits 2.25 credits  
Total value points 8.68

$$\frac{\text{Total value}}{\text{Total credit}} = \frac{8.68}{2.25} = 3.85 \text{ GPA}$$

### **WEIGHTED GRADES AND CLASS RANKING**

AP, CCP, CSCC (Columbus State Community College), and honors courses offered at Buckeye Valley High School will receive an additional point value in determining grade point average. Weighted grades transferred from another school (including on-line courses and correspondence courses) will be weighted if they correspond to a weighted course at BVHS.

### **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE DINNER**

Students who have earned a weighted, unrounded 4.0 GPA or better after 7 semesters, will be invited to attend an Academic Excellence Dinner.

### **EXAMS**

Exams may be in the form of traditional testing practices or include a semester project, portfolio, presentation, performance or show as defined in the course syllabus distributed to students at the beginning of the course. Students are required to stay for the duration of the exam. Unless a student qualifies under the Exam Exemption policy, failure to take an exam will result in an “F” for the exam.

### **EXAM EXEMPTIONS**

**Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors** who pass the Ohio State Tests (OST) with a performance level of Proficient or higher in English Language Arts II, Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, American History, and American Government, can be exempt from the final exam in the corresponding class. Additionally, students who exceed their

projected performance level (but do not achieve “Proficiency”) may have an opportunity to exempt the exams associated with these OST tests.

World Language students have the above stated opportunities based on their performance on the AAPL.

Students who do not have OST projected scores will be required to take their final exams in the corresponding courses unless they meet “Proficient” on the OST for that course.

**Seniors** who have no disciplinary referrals during 2<sup>nd</sup> semester that resulted in after school detentions, SAP, or OSS, may be exempt from **two** final exams of their choice. Seniors may exempt up to two additional final exams based on **earning a grade of “A-” or better for both 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter in that class.**

**NOTES:**

1. All students (freshmen-seniors) must take first semester exams; **exam exemptions are for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester only.**
2. Students must submit the required exam release forms by the established deadline in order to be exempted from any exam(s). This is regardless of whether a student otherwise qualifies for an exemption.
3. Teachers cannot supersede the exam exemption policy, regardless of weighted or honors status. If a student chooses to exempt a teacher’s final exam, the teacher must allow it. Exception: CSCC and AP classes where the students are required to take either the AP Exam in that subject or the final exam in the class.
4. For students qualifying to exempt final exams, there will be no grade listed in the E2 column on their report card.
5. Even if a student qualifies for exam exemption(s), they can choose to take final exam(s) in an effort to improve his/her GPA or have the experience of taking the exam.
6. If a student earns a “D+ or lower” or an “F” for either the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> quarter in a class, they must take the final exam, regardless if they otherwise qualify for an exemption.

**MAKE-UP WORK WHEN ABSENT**

It is the student’s responsibility to plan ahead and check with the teacher(s) prior to any pre-planned absences. In the case of missed days, a student may be given one day per excused day of absence to complete assignments, tests, homework, etc. Students with pre-arranged absences (field trips, fair day(s), college visits, vacations, etc.) are to obtain assignments prior to their absence and submit them to teachers upon return. Tests or assignments announced prior to the student’s absence are to be taken/turned in upon the student’s return unless the teacher waives that expectation. The building principal will have final ruling.

**CREDIT FOR COURSES**

Credit will be awarded by semester for semester and year-long courses. In a semester, students will have three grades, a grade for the first quarter, a grade for the second quarter and a grade for the exam. Credit will be awarded if the student has a passing



percentage for the semester or has passed two out of the three grading opportunities. Students who study abroad will be given a letter grade (NOT Pass/Fail) for the courses they take while abroad.

### **HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR A CLASS TAUGHT TO BVMS STUDENTS**

Any Buckeye Valley Middle School student who successfully completes a class taught in the eighth grade may be eligible for high school credit; pending the following qualifications are met:

1. The class is taught by a secondary certified or licensed BVMS teacher in the eighth grade.
2. The course is the same board approved course used at both Buckeye Valley High School and at Buckeye Valley Middle School.
3. The minimum number of minutes of instructional time meets the requirements for the Carnegie Unit (minimal standard).
4. If the course was taken at Buckeye Valley Middle School for high school credit, the course and grade will become part of the high school transcript.

### **CLASS LOAD FOR STUDENTS**

Buckeye Valley High School is on a seven-class period day. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce now requires students to be enrolled in a minimum of 5 credits to be considered full time.

### **COURSE PREREQUISITES**

Some courses at BVHS require students to have met certain conditions prior to course enrollment, such as having previously earned credit or even a minimum grade in another course, qualifying by grade level, obtaining necessary permissions, etc. Students are strongly encouraged to inquire about prerequisite requirements for courses in which they intend to enroll. It is the student's responsibility to confirm prerequisite requirements and to see a school counselor if they are enrolled in a course in which they have not met prerequisite requirements.

### **HONOR ROLL/MERIT ROLL**

At the end of each nine week grading period, the All A Honor Roll and All A & B Merit Roll will be compiled. At the end of the year, underclassmen will be presented a 4.0 pin and Seniors will be presented a Medallion if they have a 4.0 cumulative GPA or better after the 1st Semester of their Senior Year.

### **VALEDICTORIAN**

Seniors will be ranked after the seventh semester. All students who achieve a grade point average of 4.15 based on the 7th semester will receive the distinction of valedictorian. Valedictorians will continue to be publicly recognized at commencement. Students must be enrolled in the District for a minimum of the last 4 semesters prior to their graduation in order to be selected as valedictorian for graduation purposes.

### **ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY - ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

All students are required to meet each of the following eligibility standards in order to participate in interscholastic activities at BVHS. The same attendance and academic

eligibility requirements for interscholastic athletics shall apply to all Buckeye Valley extra-curricular activities involving performances and/or competitions (i.e. marching band, theater, Visions, In-the-Know, Mock Trials, etc.). Credit recovery and summer school courses do not count toward activity eligibility.

#### **Ohio High School Athletic Association Standards**

Academic eligibility rules are set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and by the Buckeye Valley Local School District. Current eligibility rules are: 1) a student in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 must have received passing grades in five (5) credits (not including any Physical Education courses) during the preceding grading period 2) summer school grades earned may not be used to substitute for failing grades from the last grading period of the regular school year.

#### **Buckeye Valley High School Standards**

The minimum 9-week grade point average (GPA) for athletes is 2.0. If a student falls below a 2.0 GPA, they will be denied the privilege of participating for the current 9-week period. Each student is allowed one (1) appeal per academic year and 2 total appeals during their high school career in the case of a deficient GPA.

#### **EXPENSES, ADDITIONAL SCHOOL COSTS**

As students go through high school, additional personal expenses may be expected. These costs are often a matter of choice and not directly associated with the curricular program but with interests such as, but not limited to, the following:

1. Involvement in clubs, organizations, and athletics
2. Items that promote school spirit and pride
3. Social activities such as homecoming, prom, etc.
4. Graduation apparel

#### **LUNCH PERIOD**

Students may purchase their lunches (full lunch or ala carte items) or bring them from home. Students must eat in the cafeteria and are not to leave food and/or other debris on or around cafeteria tables. Students are not permitted to bring food from any fast food or restaurant or food service vendor into the building. During lunch periods, authorized students are permitted in the courtyard and in the library. Students are not to loiter in the halls or restrooms. Students are not permitted in the parking lot or outside the building during lunch without authorization.

#### **OBJECTIONS TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

Students may find certain instructional materials objectionable. Students should first address these concerns with the classroom teacher. If concerns persist following that discussion, students should discuss the issue with the building principal.

#### **RESTROOM USE**

Students should use the restroom between classes, at lunch, before and after school. Students may be permitted to use the restroom during class time on a one-at-a-time basis and with a hall pass. Restroom stalls are intended for privacy and one person use. Multiple students in individual stalls will be assigned disciplinary consequences.

## **LOCKER ROOM POLICY**

Lockers and locks are optional. Clothes may be kept in lockers without locks, but personal items are the responsibility of the owner and the school claims no responsibility or liability for lost or stolen personal items not properly secured.

## **SUMMER SCHOOL**

Buckeye Valley High School does not offer a summer school program. Students wishing to take a course at another school during the summer may do so with prior approval from a school counselor or administrator. A summer school course(s) can be taken as new credit(s) or a make-up credit for a failed course(s). Grades and credits earned for make-up courses will be added to the transcript. The original failing grade (if applicable) will also remain on the transcript; both grades will become part of the student's grade point average. Summer school courses are considered Credit Flex courses which require the student to complete a BV Credit Flex (Option 2) application. All summer school and credit flex forms are located on the counseling section of the BVHS website.

## **DRIVING TO SCHOOL**

The use of a motor vehicle in driving to and from school is a privilege, not a right. Students who drive to school must have the required parking permit form filed in the office, purchase a parking permit, and appropriately display the parking permit on their vehicle at all times while on school grounds. Parking in the student parking lot is on a first come, first serve basis. Students will not be assigned a designated spot, but will have a tag to display in their vehicle. Conditions for securing permission to drive a vehicle onto school property and park on school property are as follows:

1. The student must have a valid driver's license.
2. They must have motor vehicle liability insurance.
3. They must have a parent(s)/guardian(s) signature on the required permission form.
4. Parking permits cannot be purchased in anticipation of a driver's license or future vehicle acquisition.

Students driving to school should be aware of the following policies and conditions as they apply to driving a vehicle onto and parking on school property.

1. Unauthorized use of motor vehicles is prohibited.
2. Motor vehicles on school property are subject to search by school officials or other authorized personnel, including drug dogs.
3. Motor vehicle drivers must obey motor vehicle laws.
4. Motor vehicle drivers must yield to pedestrians and school buses.
5. Student driving rules apply to students on school property, or at any school-related activity at any location, at any time.
6. Failure to comply with student driving and parking policies and conditions may result in denial of the driving privileges, school disciplinary consequences, and/or the vehicle being towed off school property at the owner's expense.
7. Students who drive to school without a valid parking permit or park in a non-valid parking spot; will be given a warning for a 1<sup>st</sup> offense; a \$10 parking ticket for future offenses which will be added to student's school fees.

Students are not permitted to stay in cars before school or during the school day. Any changes in auto/license information must be reported to the high school office immediately. Driving privileges may be lost for violations of the tardy policy and/or other rules. Students choosing not to ride school-provided transportation are expected to arrive on time.

### **LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**

When a student wishes to utilize library media center facilities, equipment, or material, they should sign in at the library media center or otherwise register by presenting an official school ID card. In order for the library media center to be utilized to its fullest extent, only those who have library media center work to do will be admitted. Students may also use the library media center during their lunch period and if they receive a special pass from Library personnel. The library media center is also available before and after school (7:30AM until 2:45PM). Books and magazines check out for two weeks and can be renewed. Fines and/or fees for overdue, damaged, or lost materials will be assessed. Library media center privileges may be suspended for students with unpaid fines or fees.

### **STUDY HALL**

Study Hall is for quiet study and work. Students are encouraged to ask study hall teachers for assistance. Student responsibilities are:

1. Arrive on time and take assigned seat when the bell rings.
2. Have enough material to keep you busy the entire period.
3. Utilize time for homework, class preparation, silent reading, or advance work.
4. Be busy and quiet from time of arrival until dismissed.
5. Students desiring to use the library should report directly to study hall and sign-out to the library.

Any student who is needed elsewhere during the assigned study hall period must report to study hall first with a pass from authorized school personnel.

### **SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES**

The Buckeye Valley Local School Districts Counseling Department will promote a culture of excellence that will build on our traditions, respect our diversity and partner with stakeholders for a stronger community.

The mission of the School Counseling Program is to provide a comprehensive, developmental counseling program that empowers students to embrace the challenges of our global society. Through a collaborative partnership with students, family, school and community, we will foster the growth of every student's academic; career; and personal and social development; while respecting diversity and encouraging future success.

Buckeye Valley Local Schools adheres to the philosophy that the School Counseling Program is an essential and integral part of student education. Given the proper support, we believe that all students can learn and achieve at the highest levels that prepares them for adulthood and future career aspirations.

The school counselors at Buckeye Valley believe that:

- every student is valued and treated with dignity and respect;
- all students have access to high quality school counseling services, provided by a full-time licensed professional school counselor.
- all students ethnic, cultural, racial and socioeconomic differences and special needs are considered in the planning and implementation of the school counseling program; and that
- all students can expect that school is a safe and nurturing environment.

The Comprehensive School Counseling Career Advising Program:

- Is an integral part of the total educational process of the Buckeye Valley Local School District.
- Is preventative and proactive in nature.
- Is planned, coordinated, managed and evaluated by the school counselors and advisors.
- Is available to all students to assist them with personal, social, academic, and college or career counseling needs and goals.
- Stimulates student learning.
- Encourages supportive, positive parental involvement in the schools.
- Helps build a positive school environment by encouraging collaboration among counselors, teachers, administrators, parents and the community to further student achievement.
- Is continuously refined and improved through systematic review and evaluation of student performance data.

Finally, all counselors in the Buckeye Valley Local School District:

- Are guided by the American School Counseling Association (ACSA) Ethical Standards for School Counselors and the Counseling Principles of Good Practice of the National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC).
- Engage in professional development activities.
- Work as an advocate for all students.

### **PSAT/NMSQT- Sophomores/Juniors**

Sophomores will take the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall. All students would take this assessment, as it will identify growths from the PSAT 8/9. The same resources will be offered after this test as are available in the PSAT 8/9.

Juniors have the option to take the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall in order to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and scholarships conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation. For more information visit [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

### **SAT-Juniors**

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is required for all juniors, and will be given in the spring of junior year. For more information visit [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

### **ACT**

The American College Test (ACT) is a three-hour examination given to juniors at designated testing centers. Information about testing locations, test dates, and registration deadlines are available at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

## ATTENDANCE

### **CONSEQUENCES OF TARDINESS TO SCHOOL AND CLASS**

- Classroom tardiness will be addressed directly by teachers. After efforts to rectify a classroom tardiness issue, teachers may refer the student to the office for disciplinary consequences. Tardy numbers will be reset each semester.
- Reporting to class over three minutes late will be considered skipping class.
- Skipping class may result in an After School Detention being assigned.
- All unexcused tardies to school at the 6<sup>th</sup> tardy will result in a 1 hour after school detention.
- At 8, 10 and 12 unexcused tardies to school, students will be assigned a 2 hour after school detention.
- Tardies to school are excused when but not limited to if the student provides documentation of a doctor/dentist appointment, documentation of court appearance, if your bus is late, or if you provide a parent/guardian note stating that you were ill.
- Any tardy after 8 excused tardies from a parent/guardian note, will be marked as an unexcused tardy.
- Repeated office referrals to address tardiness may result in progressively more severe consequences and the filing of a formal complaint to juvenile court authorities.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The items shown below require a completed request form that can be obtained from the office. In each case, those forms are to be completed and have the necessary signatures prior to the absence.

1. College visits pre-approved from the Attendance Office. Two days are allowed for both juniors and seniors. Students who obtain a pre-arranged absence form from the Attendance office prior to the visit, will receive an excused absence. Students must provide proof from the college that they were there on a visit. Upon receiving proof, the attendance office will give an authorized, excused, not count absence.
2. Field Trips with pre-approved form on file in the Attendance Office. Forms are distributed by the teacher in charge of field trip.
3. Pre-approved school activities/athletic events

### **BV FAIR BOOTH WORKERS:**

Working the Buckeye Valley Fair Booth will not count as an absence provided that a student works one day at the fair booth prior to being permitted to leave school and work at the fair. Students must sign up in advance for their assigned shift. This is in accordance with the guidelines established by the Fair Booth Director.

### **LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL**

Late Arrival / Early dismissal is a **privilege** that requires administrative approval. Approval is contingent upon meeting the requirements established by the faculty and administration of Buckeye Valley High School. It is an incentive for seniors to be able to arrive and leave one period early. Applications will be available in the BVHS attendance

office after school begins. Early dismissal privileges are extended to seniors only who have a last period study hall and who have had their completed application approved. If a student participates in a school team or group that practices or meets after school, the early dismissal privilege is revoked. The early dismissal privilege may be reinstated via re-application after the team or group's activity has concluded. Additionally, students are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA in order to be afforded Late Arrival/Early Dismissal privileges. Students may also not accumulate more than one detention during the semester and can have no Out of School Suspension, Suspension Alternative Program, assignments for any reason.

### **18 YEAR OLD/ADULT STUDENTS**

Students who are 18 years old and older remain obligated to comply with school policies and follow school rules. Questions regarding independent living status, self-sufficient qualifiers, etc. should be addressed directly with the building principal. All students of Buckeye Valley High School, whether full or part-time, are governed by the policies, rules and regulations set forth in this guidebook regardless of age, marital status, or guardianship. Adult students are expected to comply with the same rules (including attendance rules) as students younger than 18. Because truancy charges cannot be filed on adult students, failure to attend may result in expulsion from school.

### **DRESS CODE**

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and all other District personnel should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

### **Clarification**

- Clothes that show stomachs, backs, chest, or bare midriffs, and see-through clothing are unacceptable. This prohibits items such as, but not limited to, spaghetti straps, strapless tops, muscle shirts and crop tops.
- Length of clothing (shorts, skirts, dresses, etc) must be appropriate for an educational setting (*mid-thigh or longer*).
- Holes in pants / shorts must be at or below mid-thigh level and appropriate for an educational setting.
- Undergarments are not to be visible.
- Clothing shall not contain obscene language, hate speech/symbols, sexually explicit images, or suggestive symbols. This includes reference to violence, drugs, alcohol (or any illegal item or activity), tobacco, vaping, and statements having sexual connotations or double meaning references.
- For safety and security purposes, all hats and unnecessary headwear, including hoods and sunglasses, must be removed upon entering the building. They are not to be worn in the building during school hours (7:00am to 2:30pm).
- Footwear deemed unsafe may be prohibited.
- Items that are not considered clothing are not to be worn.
- At no time should a student's attire or appearance cause a disruption to the educational environment of the school.

## **BVHS PROM CODE OF CONDUCT**

The following guidelines have been developed by the principal to allow special modifications to the traditional Board of Education adopted dress code. The guidelines have been adapted for a formal dance and include behavior, dress, and musical selection for the Prom.

### **Behavior**

The Board of Education Student approved Code of Conduct will be in effect at all times. Students who choose to bring an outside guest are responsible for registering the guest (needs administrative approval) when tickets are purchased or picked up by the host student. Host students who bring guests are responsible to properly inform and clarify the Student Code of Conduct to their dates.

### **Prom Dress Code**

Formal prom attire may be classified as a tuxedo or dress suit, including a tie, bow tie, a turtle neck, a shirt or priest-collar shirt which may include a vest or cummerbund. Shirts are to be worn at all times. Traditionally formal dresses or gowns may be strapless or may feature spaghetti straps. Bare or open backs are acceptable; however, bare stomachs or bare midriffs are not permitted. Undergarments should not be visible. See-through apparel and gowns or dresses with slits that are above the mid-thigh area are not permitted.

### **Music**

Music being played must be appropriate for a high school Prom. A diverse selection of music may be played but any music that implies promiscuous sexual activity or contains explicit lyrics including, but not limited to, extreme violence and language that is foul or profane will not be permitted.