

Kilgore Middle School

Handbook Addendum

2024-2025

Please note the procedures contained herein is an abridged version of the complete student handbook may be found on the district and school website

ABSENCES AND TARDIES - AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

Be sure you attend school every day and are on time for every class. Within 24 hours of a student's absence, the parent must contact the campus attendance office.

If the reason is unavoidable, an illness of the student or serious illness or death in the family, the student will have the opportunity to make up any classwork missed. You are responsible for checking with your teachers as soon as you return to school for the assignments. This is an excused absence.

If the reason for your absence is a trip with the family or for some other cause that might be justified, you and your parents must justify the absence in writing to the attendance clerk PRIOR to the absence. An absence of this type will allow a student to make up any classwork missed. All arrangements must be made in advance with the attendance clerk first, then the teachers. This type of absence should occur only on rare occasions. This is called an unavoidable but justifiable absence.

Another type of absence is the unexcused absence. Examples of unexcused absences are: visit the beauty or barber shop, visiting family who live out of town, working on a car, sleeping late, shopping, and studying for an exam, preparing for parties, hunting, fishing, or other appointments that should be made outside of school hours. Also, truancy will be an unexcused absence.

NOTES AFTER AN ABSENCE

Medical Visits - After any form of a medical visit, i.e. doctor, dentist, counseling, a note from that office must be provided within two business days for the absence to be considered excused.

Multi-Day Illness - Upon return to school, a student absent for more than 5 (five) consecutive days because of a personal illness must bring a statement from the doctor or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's extended absence from school. Should the student develop a questionable pattern of absences, the principal or attendance committee may require a statement from a doctor or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's absence from school.

ACCIDENTS

In the event of a serious accident, your parents will be notified immediately. For your security. **It is VERY important that the office has updated telephone numbers on file at ALL times.** Every effort will be made to render emergency treatment until parents arrive. However, the school will not be responsible for subsequent treatment.

Morning Drop-off

All students should be dropped off in the mornings in the front drive. Staff will be on duty and doors open at 7:15 a.m. **Students should not be dropped off behind, or beside the school, or before the 7:15 a.m. bell.**

Afternoon Transportation and Dismissal

All pick-up students will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. to the pick-up are in the front of the school. Students will not be allowed to go to the back or side of the school to be picked up. Using double lanes will allow students to be picked up in less than 30 minutes at the end of the school day.

Students riding KISD transportation must have a bus card on file with the transportation office. Bus cards will be provided at registration or from the school office. **Students are only allowed to ride one afternoon bus. If your child is unable to ride their assigned afternoon bus, they will need to be picked up.**

All transportation changes must be in written form. You may send a note, email (mbellman@kisd.org, kaudas@kisd.org, or mhampton@kisd.org) before 2:45 p.m. Transportation changes will not be taken over the phone.

Walker Dismissal Policy

To ensure the continuous safety of each student on our campus, walkers must follow the procedures. Only

students who live in neighborhoods adjacent to KMS will be allowed to walk home. All walkers must provide the address which your child will be walking to, and it must match the address that is on the proof of residence for your student's attendance at our school.

Fill out the KMS Walker Request Form using the link below with the correct information. We will let you know if your child is able to be a walker for the 2023-2024 school year by using the address that you provide for verification.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScWoaY1V6ZHwNei7uQJ28pp28cVpYHETpPFI3f9AXED71kIFQ/viewform>

AFTER SCHOOL

Students must be picked up by 4:00 pm unless they are attending the following programs: Tutorials, detention, after school practices, and or another after school program.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

The use of illicit drugs and unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful. No student shall knowingly possess, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any of the following substances on school premises during any school term, off-premises at a school activity, function or event.

Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by law, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic, stimulant, depressant, amphetamine, or barbiturate, including prescription and non-prescription drugs. Alcohol or any alcoholic beverage. Any abusable glue, aerosol paint, or any other volatile chemical substance for inhalation. Any other intoxicant or mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-altering drug.

The transmittal, sale, or attempted sale of what is represented to be any of the above listed substances is also prohibited under this policy. Students who violate this policy shall be subject to expulsion, reassignment to an Alternative Educational Program, and/or suspension. When students commit drug and alcohol related offenses, they may be referred to legal authorities for criminal prosecution, in addition to school-imposed discipline.

Students shall not possess, smoke, or use tobacco products, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff, chewing tobacco or vaping on school premises or at a school related function. All possessions will be referred to the Kilgore Police Department.

ASSEMBLIES

We have assemblies throughout the year. Everyone (teachers and students) are expected to attend scheduled assemblies. Each class will sit with their assigned teacher. All students will be expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen and give attention to the participants in the program. If a student misbehaves in an assembly they may not be able to attend future assemblies and or Pep rallies.

INCENTIVE/REWARD/ 8th GRADE FUN DAY

Students who have not been to DAEP, ISS, OSS, or Saturday School, and have no missing work resulting in zeros may attend incentive/reward events. We have reward incentives throughout the year. All students have the opportunity to participate in the incentive reward events. Students must meet the criteria to participate.

CAMPUS PASSES

If it is necessary for you to leave your classroom to go to another part of the campus, you MUST have a campus pass. Our campus will use colored passes as listed below:

RED - Nurse

YELLOW - Restroom

GREEN - Office

TURQUOISE - Counselor

PURPLE - Library

CELL PHONE/BLUETOOTH EARBUD POLICY

A student violates this policy if the electronic communication device is out of your backpack either visible and/or turned on without the express permission of a school official. **Cell phones and Earbuds are not allowed to be on your person.** A violation of this policy will result in the confiscation of the device. **The device will be returned to the student upon payment of \$15.00. Repeated violations of this policy can result in the administrator's request for parent conference/pick-up or confiscation of the device for the remainder of the semester or school year. Students who use their cell phones to record inappropriate behavior at school may lose the privilege of bringing their phones to school.** The district expects that parents will promptly retrieve electronic communication devices confiscated under this policy. The district is NOT responsible for the theft, damage, or loss of such confiscated devices. Any devices not retrieved by noon on the last day of the semester in which the device is confiscated will not be returned and will be forwarded to Student Services for disposal.

DRESS CODE

The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority. Student dress reflects the quality of the school and affects students' conduct. Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health or safety hazard to themselves or others. Any article of clothing, jewelry, body decoration, or hair style extreme enough to create a distraction or disturb the normal routine of school shall be deemed inappropriate. The district prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the campus administration's judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations. Examples of inappropriate and unapproved choices of clothing, jewelry, body decorations, and hair-style include:

General:

1. All forms of headgear (hats, caps, bandanas, hoods, etc)
2. Dark glasses (except by written order of a physician)
3. Tattoos deemed inappropriate by administration must be covered (See #8)
4. Any gang-related items
5. Pierced jewelry may be worn only in the ear. Plugs must be worn in gauged holes. 6. Hair **MUST BE** neat, clean, and well-groomed. No dyed hair that attracts undue attention is allowed. Hair shall not cover the eyes; styled in any manner which attracts undue attention, or spiked more than 2 inches.
7. Dog collars with spikes or studs, spiked bracelets, or exposed chains (other than small necklaces) **8.** Obscene language or symbols, provocative pictures, advertising of tobacco, alcohol or narcotics on clothing, jewelry, or exposed body parts. Radically related symbols, emblems, pictures, words or slogans. **Shirts/Blouses/Tops:**

1. Clothing that exposes bare midribs. Midribs must be fully covered when arms are extended above the student's head.
2. Tank tops or clothing that has low necklines or low underarms.
3. See-through, provocative, or excessively tight clothing.
4. Pajama tops
5. Dusters, long coats, or blankets

Shorts/Pants/Bottoms:

1. In grades 3-12, dresses, skirts, split garments, and shorts that are shorter than 5" above the knee. 2. Excessively loose clothing resulting in "sagging"
3. Pajama bottoms
4. Torn clothing, showing skin above the knee
5. Leggings/yoga/form-fitting pants (unless top or dress is no shorter than 5" above the knee)

Shoes:

1. Appropriate shoes/boots are to be worn at all times. **NO** house slippers.

Face Coverings: Due to current health concerns, face coverings will be optional for all students in grades 6-12.

Permissible Face Coverings:

1. Cloth Face Covering.

Student face covering should cover the nose and mouth and extend under the chin according to the CDC.

b. Student face coverings should **NOT** be decorated in any gang-related symbols/emblems, obscene language or symbols, provocative pictures, advertising of tobacco, alcohol or narcotics, or radically related symbols, emblems, pictures, words or slogans.

EXTRACURRICULAR PICKUP

Students must be picked up within 5 minutes of the designated time or be subject to omission from the next scheduled activity. This will be at the discretion of the instructor in charge. This includes scheduled school dances. Dances will be scheduled periodically from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Students must follow all school rules and dress code policies. Attendees must be Kilgore Middle School Students.

FIGHTING

Fighting is prohibited at Kilgore Middle School. Students need to learn other ways to solve problems rather than using physical force. Problems that may lead to a fight shall be reported to an administrator or teacher for conflict resolution. If you are involved in a fight during the school day, parents will be contacted immediately. **Students who are involved in a fight will be suspended from school, and they will be placed in ISS until parents arrive to pick them up.** Subsequent disciplinary action will be determined by the severity of the incident.

FIRE, TORNADO, AND DISASTER DRILLS

There will be a number of fire, tornado and disaster drills scheduled throughout the school year. **Fire Alarm Drill** signal is pulsating rings. When the alarm goes off, leave the building in an orderly manner without rushing, crowding, or talking. An all clear bell, one regular ring will signal the return to class.

Tornado Drill signal is one long continuous ring. Please move to the pre-instructed place of safety in an orderly manner without rushing, crowding, or talking. An all clear bell, one regular ring, will signal the return to class.

Shelter in Place Drill signal is 4 short bells to begin. Please remain in your classroom: the teacher will give any further instructions. An all clear, one long bell will signal the end of the drill.

GRADING

The grading range is from 0-100. The lowest possible passing grade is a 70. Progress reports will be issued once per reporting period. Report cards will be sent home with students every 9 (nine) weeks.

GUM, CANDY, AND OTHER EDIBLE TIDBITS

Drinks/Candy/food will not be taken from the cafeteria areas. Outside food deliveries are prohibited. Kilgore Middle School maintains a closed campus. If parents want to bring their children lunch, they will be required to stay with the child for their lunch period. **ONLY bottled water with a screw on cap or pop-up tops will be allowed, outside these areas. Containers must be sealed. Containers with straws are not allowed.** Students may not walk the hallways or on the sidewalks with open drinks. **Teacher sponsored awards and incentives will be allowed, however, these must not leave the classroom.**

HAZING

No form of hazing will be permitted by any student attending Kilgore Middle School. Hazing activities that are out-growths of school connections or class relationships shall be interpreted as under the direct supervision of the school. Disciplinary measures will be taken against the student responsible for engaging in hazing activities. Such activities may cause the student to forfeit his/her right to attend school in the Kilgore Independent School District.

HOMEWORK

The faculty and administration of Kilgore Middle School believe that homework is a valuable learning experience. We believe that skills and concepts are reinforced through assignments completed outside the school. Through homework, you have the opportunity for enrichment, extension, and/or remediation of instructional goals and the opportunity for practice of basic skills. Homework becomes more valuable when there is a strong partnership between home and school. The role of the home is to provide support, encouragement, and a place to complete homework. The role of the school is to assign meaningful homework. Through a strong home-school partnership, homework has the potential to increase learning time, accomplish academic goals, and advance the student's academic skills and achievement.

KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND

Be sure to follow traffic rules.

Walk at a steady pace, **DO NOT** run

Don't disturb classes already in session

Be in your room **BEFORE** the tardy bell.

Take the shortest route to class, and stay on the right side of the hall. Plan your day's work ahead and carry the books you need

Be sure you know what time school starts and be on time. The first bell rings at 8:00 and the tardy bell rings at 8:04. School life is regulated by a clock so remember to give yourself plenty of time in the morning to get to school on time. You have 4 minutes to travel to your next class.

LOST AND FOUND

Any item that you find should be taken and placed on the stage in the cafeteria, except phones, headphones and ear buds, they need to be brought to the front office and turned in. IF you have lost an item, be sure to check on the stage in the cafeteria or check with the front office for devices. Check more than one time. We will keep items no longer than 2 (two) weeks.

LUNCH PERIODS

Please remember to remain quiet during the transition to and from lunch since other classes are in session. No students should be in or around any classroom during their lunch period.

MAKE UP WORK

Make-up assignments or tests shall be made available to students after an excused absence. A student will be allowed 1 day for each day of absence(s) to make up missed classwork or assignments. If you are absent for several days, a parent should call the office on the third day of absence and request assignments for pick-up. **PLEASE allow 24 hours for teachers to get assignments ready.** These assignments can be picked up in the front office. If the absence is one or two days it is the responsibility of the student to secure the assignments from the teacher and make up the work. The student should contact the teacher to make arrangements to obtain the assignments on the day he/she returns to class. The 1 day period will begin at the point the student receives the assignment(s) from the teacher. Any extenuating circumstances or delay in completing the missed work must be approved by the principal.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Scholarship - earned and maintained a 90 in ALL CORE classes.

Service - complete at least 8 - 10 hours of service to the school and/or community. Leadership - being positive and showing leadership qualities.

Citizenship - take part in various clubs and activities.

Character - good behavior

Teacher Recommendation

NO office referrals

Membership fee and tshirt fee

A Ceremony is held each fall to induct new members for the next school year.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Since students are pre-registered during the summer, according to their needs and desires as reflected by their schedules, there will be no schedule changes for the first week of school unless: In the event, an error has been made in the scheduling and or to equalize a teacher's load which could become unbalanced by the arrival of new students.

New schedule changes will be made only after clearing with the principal. Requests to change teachers will not ordinarily be granted except in cases where the change will assist in equalizing another load.

SKATEBOARDS AND SKATES

For safety reasons, skateboards, rollerblades, and skates will not be allowed on KMS campus at any time.

STUDENT ID BADGES

Students are **REQUIRED** to wear school ID's and lanyards. These ID's will be issued at 6th grade orientation and 7th and 8th grade Schedule pick up dates. Students **MUST** wear and ID around their

neck at ALL times while on school grounds during the school day. Students who do not have an ID may be denied to school events. Students MUST present their ID to any school personnel upon request. Students who display their ID during school hours may be eligible for random incentives. Students who repeatedly fail to wear their ID will be subject to more severe school consequences. ID's are required to Improve School Safety. There will be a \$1.00 fee for a temporary replacement (good for 1 (one) day only) and there will be a \$5.00 fee for a lost or damaged ID, and \$1.00 for a new lanyard. Parents, please ensure your child wears their ID every day.

TARDINESS

A student is tardy if he/she is not in their seat when the tardy bell rings.

- A) TARDY TO SCHOOL - If a student is tardy, he/she should report to the front office.
- B) TARDY TO CLASS - Students that are tardy more than 5 times to a class are placed on a "Drifters List" and are not allowed hall passes and are referred to the SST committee. This placement can cause the loss of extra- curricular access.
- C) LEAVING SCHOOL FOR THE DAY - When a student arrives on the school campus, he MAY NOT LEAVE under any circumstances without permission. A student needing to leave school before the end of the day for any reason must have a parent/guardian who is listed on their enrollment form sign them out in the front office and they must have a valid picture ID. If you become ill at school and wish to leave, REPORT TO THE NURSE for evaluation. If the nurse determines you need to leave due to illness, she will contact the parent/guardian to pick the student up.

TARDY POLICY

The district has developed a district-wide tardy policy to be implemented by each campus. It is as follows:

Students will not be suspended out of school because of tardies or truancy issues. The district expectation is that ALL teachers monitor restrooms, gymnasiums, and classrooms during passing periods.

Tardy Consequences

Level 1 - 5 Tardies - placed on Drifters list for 2 weeks, loss of hallway privileges, temporary removal from school activities.

Level 2 - 10 Tardies - Placed on Drifters list for 4 weeks, Letter to parent, Attendance Contract signed (Student and Parent), Assigned KMS Beautification.

Level 3 - 15 Tardies - Administrator contacts parents (Certified Letter), School Attendance Review Committee, Assigned to KMS Beautification & ISS.

Level 4 - 20 or more Tardies - Administrator contacts parent (2nd Certified Letter), Assigned KMS Beautification, Saturday School.

TELEPHONE

Our telephone is a business phone and must be used as one. Students will not be called out of class to answer the telephone with the exception of emergencies. Telephones are available in the Coach's office after ball games.

TEXTBOOKS

Take good care of your books. They are provided for you by the state, but you are responsible for them. Be sure your name is in the front; be sure you inspect your book when issued for torn or missing pages, blots, or ink so you will not be blamed. Report all damage, and keep textbooks covered. If a textbook is lost it is the student/parent's responsibility to pay for the book.

TUTORIALS

Teachers will help you with homework or any type of tutoring. Each teacher will have their tutorial schedule attached to the syllabus issued the first week of school.

VISITORS

All visitors are **required** to report directly to the main office and sign in. You must have a valid picture ID. You will be issued a Raptor visitor badge which must be worn while on campus. Parents are invited to join us for lunch, but we do ask for advance notice so the lunchroom arrangements can be made.

Students from other campuses will NOT be allowed to visit during instructional time. This also includes former students who wish to visit teachers or friends.

WEAPON

A student shall not knowingly possess, handle or transmit on school premises or off school grounds at any school activity, function, or event knives, metal rakes, guns, or other weapons, dangerous objects, fireworks, or any other object that can reasonably be considered a weapon.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

The enrolling parent or guardian must be present to request a student be withdrawn from school. Upon the request the student will be given a Withdrawal Form they will need to take to each of their teachers, and the librarian along with any textbooks, and library books. Once all signatures have been secured the student will return the form to the office who will complete the withdrawal requirements. If you withdraw from school without formally following these procedures you will go to the district records as a dropout.

Reminders

1. When you are absent your parents should call the school.
2. It is your responsibility to check with each teacher for make-up work.
3. Make sure you have all the required supplies/books for each class daily.
4. Textbooks must be covered at all times
5. You are expected to be in your assigned seat when the tardy bell rings for each class.

Parent Signature Date

Student Signature Date