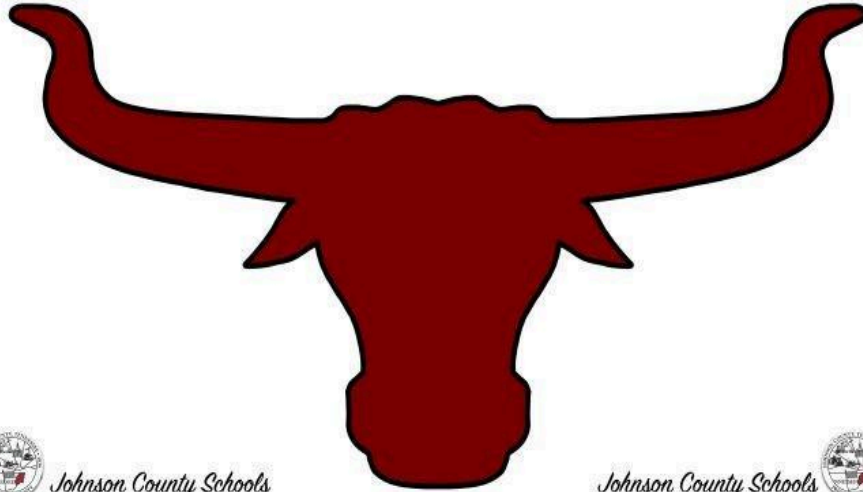


Johnson County Middle School
2024-2025
Parent – Student Handbook



278 Fairground Hill
Mountain City, Tennessee 37683
(423)727-2600
(423)727-4141 Fax

Dr. Cheri Long, Principal
Mechelle Arney, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

JCMS Personnel and Contact Information

Administration, teachers, and staff may be reached at 423.727.2600

Dr. Cheri Long, Principal	clong@jocoed.net
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Mission Statement for Johnson County Middle School

The mission of Johnson County Middle School is to provide a safe, non-threatening, enriching environment in which students achieve successful transitions between elementary and high school, as they meet and exceed academic standards for the middle grades.

Vision Statements

At Johnson County Middle School, we are dedicated to the highest level of teaching and learning, where:

Students:

- Take ownership of their own learning and education;
- Are personally involved in creating and tracking their own academic and behavior goals throughout the year;
- Are recognized and celebrated for growth and achievement in all academic and social areas of learning;
- Are seen leading instruction in the classroom.

Teachers:

- Participate in high quality ongoing professional development in order to increase student growth and learning;
- Are committed to using a variety of research based instructional practices and strategies to reach all students;
- Use professional learning community time to focus not only on data but also best practices and collaborative planning;
- Differentiate their instruction, grouping, and assessments to determine student growth.
- Are committed to and held accountable for student learning and growth

School:

- Structures and guarantees common planning times with norms for effective collaboration;
- Develops and implements a strategic, easily understood structure for sharing leadership and soliciting input from all stakeholders;
- Protects instructional and planning time so teachers and students are held accountable for effective teaching and learning in order to increase student growth;
- Procedures and discipline policies will be followed by all stakeholders in order to ensure a safe learning environment.

Parents and Community:

- Positively supports student progress and growth by supporting both academic and behavior achievement;
- Form instructional positive partnerships of communication so they are aware of progress that is being made, goals for growth, and are confident in ways to support students;
- Can describe the individual progress of their children.

Belief Statements

- We believe that all students can learn!
- We believe that students learn in different ways and need to be provided with a variety of instructional approaches and assessments to support their learning.
- We believe that students deserve a welcoming learning environment that is safe and secure.
- We believe that education is the responsibility of educators, students, and their families, - the entire school community.
- We believe that each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional, and academic needs.
- We believe that the commitment to continuous academic improvement is necessary if our school is going to lead students toward a lifetime of learning.
- We believe that a student's self esteem is enhanced by positive relationships and mutual respect among students, staff, and parents.
- We believe that students need to be provided the opportunity to apply their learning in everyday situations.

Grading Scale

TN Ready scores shall be included in students' final grade as 25% in grades 3-12. Any student that fails an academic subject will be required to attend summer school which is tentatively planned to begin the day following the last half day of school.

93 – 100 = A

85 – 92 = B

75 – 84 = C

70 – 74 = D

Below 70 = F

BELL SCHEDULE

ARRIVAL First Bell 8:00 Doors Open	1st Period	Home- room	2nd Period	3rd Period	4th Period	5th Period	6th Period
Eighth Grade	8:00 – 9:07	9:07- 9:12	9:15- 10:22	10:25- 11:27	11:30- 12:42	12:45- 1:52	1:55- 3:10
Seventh Grade	8:03 – 9:07	9:07- 9:15	9:18- 10:25	10:28- 11:31	11:34- 12:45	12:48- 1:55	1:58- 3:10

LUNCH SCHEDULE

8th grade LUNCH 11:30-12:00	7th grade LUNCH 12:15-12:45
Mahala	Edwards
	Jacobs
Taylor	McClain
Laws	Crews
Dunbar	Guy
Williams	
Guthrie	

POLICIES

Arrival, Dismissal and Pick-Up Policy

Morning Drop-off Instructions:

Our building will open at 7:30AM to students. Students will not be allowed to enter the building before 7:30 unless they are enrolled in academic tutoring with a specific teacher.

Bus Riders: Buses will unload at the front of the high school. Middle school students should walk to the middle school using the sidewalk and enter at the front doors.

Car Riders: Car riders should be dropped off at the gym doors and exit from the back of the building. **Do not drop off students at the front entrance of the middle school (unless it is after 8:00 am).** Students riding with older siblings or family members attending the high school may enter through the front entrance at 7:30.

Students who plan to eat breakfast will report to the cafeteria and all other students will report to the gym.

Students are not allowed to come through the high school to enter the middle school.

Pick-Up Instructions:

The bell rings for dismissal at 3:05. Supervision is provided for pick-ups until 3:30 p.m.

Bus Riders: The bell for bus riders will be 3:10pm

- All students should leave the building unless participating in athletics or other scheduled events.
- Students riding the bus will exit from the front entrance and will report directly to his/her assigned bus. Once the students are on the bus, they will remain until departure. **Students are not allowed to get off the bus once they have boarded. Students are not allowed to walk to the high school to board the bus.**
- **Students who get off or on at the high school without administrative permission will receive a consequence.**

Car Riders: The bell for car riders will be 3:00pm

- Students being picked up will need to report directly to the gym awning. Parents will pick up students in the back at the gym awning, then parents will continue to drive around the back of the building to exit. We must keep traffic flowing around the building.
- **Students are not allowed to wait on cars in front of the building.**

Walkers and Students who ride home with someone attending high school:

The bell for this dismissal is 3:10pm

- If your student NEEDS to be a walker, you must sign a form that can be picked up in the front office. You only need to fill this out at the beginning of the school year or if your student becomes a walker.

- Students who walk home should immediately leave the building by the front exit, cross the street, and walk down the terraced parking lots and exit onto Fairview Street.
- Students who ride home with a JCHS student must report directly to that car.
- **No loitering in front of the high school, middle school or parking lot!**

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be at school. The Johnson County School System values the educational experience provided for all students. For a student to derive maximum benefit from these experiences, it is essential that each student be present each day school is in session. Research indicates that there is a direct correlation between school attendance and success in school.

The attendance clerk, Wilma Conner coordinates attendance at JCMS, implementing attendance laws enacted by the Tennessee legislature and Johnson County School Board policy 6.200.

Absences will be classified as either excused or unexcused. **Students can not accumulate more than 5 unexcused absences in a school year.** All absences will be considered unexcused except:

1. Personal or immediate family illness as documented by a medical/professional excuse;
2. Religious observances as outlined in the school board policy;
3. School-endorsed activities;
4. Pregnancy;
5. Circumstances over which, in the judgment of the principal, the student has no control;
6. Death in the family; or
7. Required court appearance (A written verification from appropriate authorities must be provided).

Students accumulating over 5 unexcused absences will receive a letter from the Attendance Clerk.

Parent notes cannot be used to excuse a student's absence.

Johnson County School System will use a Truancy Review Board for those students who are becoming a truancy problem. Parents will be required to attend this meeting with their child.

Submitting Excuses for Absences: Students who have been absent and have a doctor's excuse to turn in should take that excuse to the office and give it to the secretary before school begins for the day.

Make-up Work Policy: Students missing school will need to request missed work from their teacher the day they return to school. Students have a maximum of five (5) days to make up work missed due to absence(s). However, the period of time allotted to make up work may be extended at the discretion of the teacher. Please note, that students may be expected to do more paperwork than those in attendance because it is necessary to make-up work for classroom experiences missed. **It is the student's responsibility to ask for any missed work and then turn it in on time.**

Please refer to the Johnson County School Board Policy 6.200 on the www.jocoed.net website for detailed information regarding truancy and attendance hearings for unexcused absences.

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy

Compliant with Johnson County School Board Policy 6.312

Cell phones, I-watches, Air Pods, Nintendo Switches, or other items which may interfere with instruction should remain in backpacks throughout the school day. We understand that many students have a cell phone for emergencies and after school activities.

The expectation is that these devices will remain in the student's backpack (not in hoodie, shirt or pants pockets, or jackets). If the student doesn't carry a backpack, they must turn the device in at the front office to be picked up at the end of the school day. Students without a backpack will not be allowed to carry these devices.

If a student is seen with their cell phone out and does not have administration's permission, the phone will be confiscated.

Students who share inappropriate photos or videos, derogatory messages, threats against students or staff will be subject to investigation and the loss of cell phone privileges. Cell phones confiscated for these reasons will be handed over to the proper authorities for further investigation. Cell phones will be subject to search and seizure while on school property.

Confiscation Procedures:

- 1st offense: Documented Warning-Teacher will return phone to student at the end of the class period
- 2nd offense: Phone will be stored in the office and the student may pick up at the end of the day
- 3rd offense: Parent will be called to pick up phone
- 4th offense: Parent will be called to pick up phone and the student forfeits the privilege of having a phone at school for the remainder the semester

JCMS is not responsible for any broken, lost or stolen cell phones, or other electronic devices.

Dress Code Policy

Student dress should exemplify an atmosphere of learning (refer to the school board policy for dress code- No. 6.310). The main purpose of the dress code policy is to prepare students to participate in the community and the workplace and to teach students appropriate standards of dress. Every possible situation cannot be addressed in this policy; therefore, the administration reserves the right to make amendments deemed necessary for the welfare of the school.

Consequences for violating the dress code:

- Students will be requested to change/revise the apparel that was deemed to violate the dress code.
- Parent will be notified to bring appropriate clothing
- If clothes cannot be sent, the student will remain in ISS until appropriate clothing can be obtained.

All violations will be documented as they happen. Multiple violations may incur the following consequences:

- Lunch Detention
- ISS
- ESC

Expectations for student dress are listed below:

1. **ALL** clothing will be securely fastened, and must be opaque. Shirts/dresses must be from underarm (armpit-to-armpit) with shoulder straps. Pants/shorts/skirts must be to mid-thigh (at least a 5 inch inseam).
2. Tights, yoga-pants, form fitting pants, leggings and other compression-style garments may be worn as long as the opaque top garment covers the private body parts.
3. See-through, revealing, or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meets the minimum requirements of this dress code.
4. Gang paraphernalia, garments and/or jewelry, tattoos, or other insignias, which display or suggest sexual, vulgar, drug, alcohol, or tobacco-related wording/graphics or may tend to provoke violence or disruption in school shall not be worn.
5. Clothing must not state, imply, or depict hate speech or imagery targeting ANY groups.
6. Articles of clothing or accessories which can be weaponized are prohibited.
7. Costume wear and accessories can be worn on designated days only (i.e.; homecoming week, dress up days), but must still abide by the dress code.
8. Sleepwear, houseshoes/slippers (anything without an appropriate sole, see #9), blankets, pillows, and oversized sleep hoodies are prohibited.
9. Footwear should be safe and appropriate for school and must have a non-slip sole.
10. Head wear, with the exception of hoods, is permissible as long as it does not cover ears. Garments with hoods may be worn, but the hood must remain off.

Early Dismissal Policy

- An early dismissal is when a student leaves prior to the 3:00 pm dismissal.
- A parent/ guardian must come to the front office and sign the student out in order to pick the student up.
- In the event that school should have to be let out early, please make sure that you and your child have a plan in place that will go into effect each time we have an early dismissal.
- School schedule changes will be announced on the following local radio and television stations, as well as by our automated callout system.

Television Stations: WCYB, WJHL, and Fox

Radio Stations: WQUT, WXBQ, WMCT, and WETB

Enrollment and Withdrawal Policy/Procedures

Transfer Students: New students wishing to enroll in JCMS will need to schedule an appointment with the counselor, Julianna Cole. She will gain all the required forms and paperwork from the parent/guardian. No student will be allowed to attend at JCMS until all the required forms are turned into the counselor. When a student is officially registered, we will make every effort to help in the new environment. However, if a student leaves the previous school in less than good standing or has been adjudicated-parents must inform JCMS and he/she may not be permitted to enroll at JCMS.

Withdrawing a Student: Students who will be leaving JCMS during the school year will need to do a formal withdrawal from the school. Parents will need to bring the student to school and talk with the counselor regarding moving their child to a new school. Teachers will collect all books and necessary materials from the student before they may leave. All fines, dues, and debts must be paid before the student can officially be withdrawn from our school. Should your student owe money, no records will be sent to their new school until their debt has been paid.

Homework Policy

JCMS does not recommend sending homework except for the following reasons:

- A parent/student requests that homework be sent in a specific subject
- Students do not finish class work in a timely manner
- Students have missed school due to absences
- A student is failing and requires the extra practice at home

Search and Seizure Policy

In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, JCMS enforces Policy 6.303.

- **BACKPACKS**

- Backpacks are recommended for students at Johnson County Middle School. If a student is unable to purchase a backpack – one will be provided by the school.
- No backpacks with wheels are allowed.
- ***Cell phones*** must be kept in your backpack during the school day (SEE CELL PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY)

- **LOCKERS**

- At the beginning of the school year students will be assigned a locker in order to have a safe place to keep supplies and personal items.
- Students will be allowed to visit lockers between classes, before lunch and at the end of the school day. Students will not be allowed to be at lockers at other times without written permission from teachers.
- Personal locks may not be used on lockers. It is your responsibility to keep your locker in good order and locked. Periodic locker checks will be made.
- Please do not share your locker combination or your locker with anyone.
- You will be responsible for all items in your assigned locker.
- Do not leave food or drinks inside your locker overnight.
- **JCMS is not responsible for lost or stolen articles.**
- **Lockers are school property and may be searched by school authorities at any time. The police and canine unit may periodically check lockers.**

Tardy Policy

- It is important for students to be on time for school and classes.
- When a student arrives after 8:00 am, they should report to the office, sign in and obtain a tardy slip from the school secretary.
- If a student is tardy to class during the school day, the teacher will document the reason and report it in the student incident form. The accumulation of tardy consequences are listed below.

The following discipline consequences will be strictly enforced for students who report to any class with an unexcused tardy:

1st unexcused tardy = Verbal Warning

2nd unexcused tardy = Written Warning Home

3rd unexcused tardy = 1 day of Lunch detention/conference with Homeroom teacher

4th unexcused tardy = 1 day of Lunch detention/Parent call from Homeroom teacher

5th unexcused tardy = 2 days of Lunch detention/Conference with Attendance Clerk

**6th unexcused tardy = 3 days of Lunch Detention/Conference with Principal or Assistant
Principal**

7th or more unexcused tardies = Referral to Attendance Officer located at Central Office.

T4T is Time for Time and may be used for excessive tardies to class.

Visitor/Volunteer Policy

Visitor Code of Conduct

Parents, community members, and any other visitors to school property or during school programs/activities **MUST NOT**:

1. Act in a threatening manner toward another or others.
2. Injure or threaten another or others.
3. Damage school property, or the personal property of another or others.
4. Disrupt classes, school programs or other school activities in any way.
5. Communicate with another or others in an abusive, harassing, or threatening manner.
6. Audio or video record where there is an expectation of privacy (*i.e.*, classroom instruction, locker rooms, etc.)
7. Disrupt school transportation or confront transportation staff on a bus/vehicle, a road, a neighborhood, etc.
8. Distribute or wear materials which are vulgar, obscene, advocate illegal action, promote drugs, or are disruptive.
9. Harass or discriminate against another or others based on protected class status (*e.g.*, race, color, religion, etc.)
10. Enter school property, or certain areas of school property, when otherwise restricted from entering the same.
11. Fail to promptly leave school property upon being directed to do so by school administration or law enforcement.
12. Possess, consume, sell, distribute, or exchange alcoholic beverages, tobacco, vaping products, or illegal drugs.
13. Possess, or use firearms or dangerous weapons, except in the case of law enforcement officers.
14. Gamble or encourage another or others to gamble.
15. Violate any applicable federal or state statute, local ordinance, or board policy.

If you have questions about this Code of Conduct, please refer to the school system's online Policy Manual located at www.jocoed.net (Policy No. 1.501), and/or contact central office using the following telephone number: 423-727-2640.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

One of our goals at Johnson County Middle School is to assist students in developing an effective sense of self, through self-responsibility, social sensitivity and emotional maturity. In order for our students to receive maximum benefit from the opportunities offered, appropriate order and discipline must be maintained. Failure of students to maintain a positive, safe learning environment will result in quick and firm disciplinary action. In the event that new rules are implemented, students and parents will be informed.

*Suspensions may be carried out at home, or at the alternative school based on administrative decisions. All work missed during suspensions should be turned into teachers on the 1st day back from the suspension.

*The Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA) is a branch of the Johnson County Board of Education and consists of educators.

*Any student involved in any extracurricular activity that is assigned ASI or ISS will not be allowed to participate in practice or events during the detention period. Coaches and sponsors will be notified.

*Any student involved in any extracurricular activity that is remanded to ESC for any length of time will automatically be suspended from the extracurricular activity that he/she participated in for the rest of the school year.

All faculty and staff members have the right and responsibility to correct any student anywhere on campus or school sponsored event and to expect a proper response when doing so.

MISBEHAVIORS: LEVEL I

This level includes minor misbehavior on the part of the student which impedes orderly classroom guidelines or interferes with the orderly operation of the school but which can usually be handled by an individual staff member.

Examples (not an exclusive listing)

- Classroom disturbances
- Classroom tardiness
- Cheating and lying
- Abusive language
- Failure to do assignments or carry out directions
- Wearing, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent manner that disrupts the learning environment
- Victimization of any student (harassment (sexual, racial, ethnic, religious), bullying, cyber-bullying, and/or hazing)

The following are possible consequences for Level I misbehaviors:

- Lunch Detention
- In-School Suspension
- After-School Detention
- Suspension from riding the bus
- Restitution for damages
- Out-of-school suspension
- Alternative School Placement (ESC)

MISBEHAVIORS: LEVEL II

This level includes misbehavior whose frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school. These misbehaviors do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but have educational consequences serious enough to require corrective action on the part of administrative personnel.

Examples (not an exclusive listing)

- Continuation of unmodified Level I misbehaviors
- Using forged notes or excuses
- Disruptive classroom behavior

The following are possible consequences for Level II misbehaviors:

- Lunch Detention
- In-School Suspension
- After-School Detention
- Suspension from riding the bus
- Restitution for damages
- Out-of-school suspension
- Alternative School Placement (ESC)

MISBEHAVIORS: LEVEL III

This level includes acts directly against persons or property but whose consequences do not seriously endanger the health or safety of others in the school.

Examples (not an exclusive listing)

- Continuation of unmodified Level I and II misbehaviors
- Fighting
- Vandalism (minor)
- Use, possession, sale, distribution, and/or being under the influence of tobacco or alcohol
- Use, possession, sale, or distribution of drug paraphernalia
- Use, sale, distribution, and/or being under the influence of drugs
- Stealing
- Threats to others
- Victimization of any student (harassment (sexual, racial, ethnic, religious), bullying, cyber-bullying, and/or hazing)

The following are possible consequences for Level III misbehaviors:

- In-School Suspension
- After-School Detention
- Suspension from riding the bus
- Restitution for damages
- Out-of-school suspension
- Alternative School Placement (ESC)

MISBEHAVIORS: LEVEL IV

This level of misbehavior includes acts which result in violence to another's person or property or which pose a threat to the safety of others in the school. These acts are so serious that they usually require administrative actions which result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the Board.

If a student's action poses a threat to the safety of others in the school, a teacher, principal, school employee, or school bus driver may use reasonable force when necessary to prevent bodily harm or death to another person.

Examples (not an exclusive listing)

- Continuation of unmodified Level I, II, III misbehaviors
- Death threat
- Extortion
- Bomb threat
- Possession, use, and/or transfer of dangerous weapons
- Assault that results in bodily injury upon any teacher, principal, administrator, and any other employee of the school, or a school resource officer
- Aggravated assault
- Vandalism
- Theft, possession, and/or sale of stolen property
- Arson
- Possession of unauthorized substances (e.g. any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug)
- Use or transfer of unauthorized substances
- Victimization of any student (harassment (sexual, racial, ethnic, religious), bullying cyber-bullying, and/or hazing)
- Electronic threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee

The following are possible consequences for Level IV misbehaviors:

- Suspension from riding the bus
- Restitution for damages
- Out-of-school suspension
- Alternative School Placement (ESC)
- Virtual ESC

Disciplinary procedures will be followed by the administration as outlined in Johnson County School Board Policy 6.300. Disciplinary options, as outlined in Policy 6.300, will be considered for disciplinary actions based on the level of misbehavior.

Additionally, School Board Policy 6.302, regarding Procedural Due Process, will be used before school authorities administer disciplinary measures.

Bus Safety and Conduct

Student transportation is a privilege extended to students. Students who do not obey the state and local regulations governing student transportation may have their transportation privileges revoked by the school district. This may be done in order to provide a safe environment for other students on the bus. Drivers must demand that their full attention be given to driving the bus (refer to Johnson County Board of Education Policy 6.308).

Acts of misbehavior on a school bus can result in the following possible consequences:

- Lunch Detention
- In-School Suspension
- After-School Detention
- Suspension from riding the bus
- Restitution for damages
- Out-of-school suspension
- Alternative School Placement (ESC)

Examples of misbehavior (not an exclusive listing)

- Possession of any dangerous items that could be used as weapons
- Repeatedly being out of seat, laying in the floor, blocking the aisle and/or not practicing safe riding
- Use of profane language or obscene gestures to other bus riders or to others who are not riding the bus
- Throwing objects or spitting in or out of the bus
- Fighting, pushing, tripping others on the bus or at the bus stop
- Deliberate damage to the bus
- Any other behavior that is deemed unsafe by the bus driver, bus supervisor and principal/assistant principal

Any student wishing to ride a bus other than his/her regular bus must bring a note stating his/her destination signed by the parents, with a phone number verification, to the office **before reporting to 1st period.**

If a student is going home with another student – we must have written permission from parents/guardians of both students. For example: if Jack is going home with Bill – then we must have permission from Jack’s parents saying it is okay for Jack to go and we must have written permission from Bill’s parents saying it is okay for Jack to come home with Bill.

Chromebook/Textbooks

Students are fully responsible for textbooks and electronic devices issued to them. Books and electronic devices should reflect normal use at the end of the school year. Students will be charged for damaged or lost textbooks and or electronic devices. Any student who solicits inappropriate sites or uses the device in a derogatory sense will forfeit their privilege to use a chromebook.

Discrimination, Harassment, Bullying, Cyber-bullying, and Intimidation

“Bullying/Intimidation/Harassment” is an act that substantially interferes with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, and the act has the effect of:

1. Physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property;
2. Knowingly placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student’s property;
3. Causing emotional distress to a student; or
4. Creating a hostile educational environment.

Bullying, intimidation, or harassment may also be unwelcome conduct based on a protected class (race, nationality, origin, color, sex, age, disability, religion) that is severe, pervasive, or persistent and creates a hostile environment.

“Cyber-bullying” is a form of bullying undertaken through the use of electronic devices. Electronic devices include, but are not limited to, telephones, cellular phones or other wireless telecommunication devices, text messaging, emails, social networking sites, instant messaging, videos, web sites, or fake profiles.

“Hazing” is an intentional or reckless act by a student or group of students that is directed against any other student(s) that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of the student(s) or that induces or coerces a student to endanger his/her mental or physical health or safety. Coaches and other employees of the school district shall not encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate hazing activities.

Hazing does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization.

Please refer to the Johnson County School Board Policy 6.304 for procedures regarding filing a complaint and the procedure for investigations of those complaints.

Possible consequences for student discrimination, harassment, bullying, cyber-bullying, and intimidation after a full investigation are as follows:

- In-School Suspension
- After-School Detention
- Teacher/schedule Change
- Out-of-school suspension
- Alternative School Placement (ESC)

Extended School Center (ESC)

An alternative education program for middle school students with chronic behavior problems, endangering behaviors, or zero tolerance offenses is an additional service option offered by the Johnson County School System. This program is housed at the bottom of the hill on Fairground Lane. Students are not allowed to attend any school function (including ball games and dances) or be on the school premises at all while assigned to ESC.

Fighting

Fighting – A fight is defined as an individual who takes part in a violent, argumentative, or antagonistic struggle involving the exchange of physical contact or the use of weapons. Fighting is a Level III misbehavior and will result in immediate placement in ESC. Fighting can also result in suspension from school. A court referral for disorderly conduct or assault can also be issued to students who fight. The School Resource Officer has the right to take students who engage in fighting to the Johnson County Sheriff's Department, where the parents will need to pick them up. Fighting is not an acceptable behavior at school or any school function and **will not be tolerated**.

Consequences for fighting are as follows:

- First offense- Parent notified, charges filed, and **three** day placement in ESC.
- Second offense- Parent notified, charges filed, and **five** day placement in ESC.
- Third offense-Parent notified, charges filed, placement at ESC for the remainder of the school year.

Horseplaying/Disrespect/or other Disruptive Behavior in Class/Hallway

Horseplay is play that is physically rough or rowdy, and can lead to someone being physically hurt.

To **disrespect** someone is to act in an insulting way toward them. When you disrespect people, you think very little of them. Disrespect is all about acting rude, impolite, and offensive.

Consequences for horseplay, disrespect/disruptive behaviors are as follows:

- a. First offense- 1 period ISS
- b. Second offense- 2 periods ISS and parent notified
- c. Third offense- ISS (up to 3 days) and parents notified
- d. Fourth or multiple offenses- Parent conference and 3 days ESC

In School Suspension (ISS)

In school suspension is used as a consequence when students need to be removed from the classroom environment due to misbehavior. ISS is located in the middle school. Students will receive their class work, assistance with assignments, and any other services needed per an IEP (individualized education plan). Students will NOT eat with their peers for lunch or breakfast or attend any school related activities or events while in ISS. ISS is meant to be a temporary consequence for Level I and II misbehaviors but can be used for Level III and IV misbehaviors, as well.

Public Displays of Affection (PDA)

Public displays of affection in a school setting can refer to any physical contact between two students, usually in a relationship, that is considered intimate or lewd. This can include: kissing, cuddling, holding hands, fondling, sitting closely, romantic touching, prolonged touching, and playing footsies.

- 1st offense- the couple is warned
- 2nd offense- lunch detention for both students on different days
- 3rd offense- call home and multiple days of lunch detention for both students on different days
- Repeated offenses- Parent conference with both sets of parents/guardians

Vaping/Tobacco/Alcohol Possession/Distribution

Tobacco and/or Vaping - This is considered a Level III or IV misbehavior. Students found to be in possession of or using tobacco or vaping paraphernalia of any kind while on school grounds will be subject to the following discipline.

1st Offense – Parents will be called and the student will be placed in ISS for three full days. Vaping devices will be taken and will not be returned. Two hours of tobacco cessation classes will be assigned after school.

A Civil Citation will be issued.

2nd Offense – Parents will be called and the student will be placed in ISS for five full days. Vaping devices will be taken and will not be returned. Three hours of after school detention will be assigned.

A Civil Citation will be issued.

3rd Offense – Parents will be called and the student will be placed in ESC for five full days. Five hours of after school detention will be assigned.

A Civil Citation will be issued.

4th Offense-Parents will be notified and the student will be referred to the Disciplinary Hearing Authority. A civil citation will be issued.

Zero Tolerance Offenses

When a student is sent to ISS for the fifth time he or she may be sent to ESC for an extended placement. - Upon returning, if he/she is sent to ISS again, he/she may be placed at ESC for the remainder of the school year. *Note: one infraction resulting in multiple days of ISS only counts as one time in ISS.*

Students removed from the classroom –

First time removed from class will result in the remainder of that day and the next in ISS, and the parent will be contacted

2nd offense – 3 days in ISS and contact parent

3rd offense – 5 days in ISS and conference with parent

4th offense – 5 days at ESC and conference with parent

5th offense – extended placement at ESC

In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, the following offenses will not be tolerated. From School Board Policy:

“In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, the following offenses shall not be tolerated:

1. Bringing to school or being in unauthorized possession of a firearm on school property;

2. Unlawful possession of any drug, including any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug on school grounds or at a school-sponsored events
3. Use, possession, sale, or distribution of drug paraphernalia, including, but not limited to, vape pens/products used with or associated with evidence of THC and/or CBD products; and
4. Aggravated assault or assault that results in bodily injury upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of the school, or school resource officer.
5. Threats of mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity.

Committing any of these offenses shall result in a student being expelled from the regular school program for at least one (1) calendar year unless modified by the Director of Schools. Modification of the length of time shall be granted on a case-by-case basis. Students that commit zero tolerance offenses may be assigned to an alternative school or program at the discretion of the Director of Schools.

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal shall notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.”

Information

After School Activities

Students needing to remain after school for clubs, athletic activities, or other events, must have permission from their parents and school personnel. Students should report to the adult who will be supervising the event once the last bell rings for the school day. Students are not permitted to wander around the inside or outside of the school or visit the high school. If students do not follow the procedures and plan made by their supervising teacher, they will be asked to call home and be picked up.

Cafeteria/Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast and lunch are free to all JCMS students. However, if your student wants extras, he/she must purchase those. Each student is issued a personal identification number for our computer system. Students may deposit money in their account at any time. Checks should be made to JCMS Food Service. Include the name and account number of the student on the check. *Extras may not be charged.*

Prices for the year are:

Extra Milk:	.75
Ice Cream:	.75

Visitors Meal Prices:

Breakfast:	\$2.00
Lunch:	\$3.75
Lunch Entree:	\$2.00

Due to the new Wellness and Nutrition Regulations students are not allowed to have or purchase soft drinks during lunch hours (*they can not even bring them from home*). Students are not allowed to have lunch from any restaurant brought to them for lunch.

Students are to behave appropriately while in the cafeteria and use proper table manners.

Clinic/Medications

The school nurse is available to students during school hours. When a student needs to go to the clinic the teacher will notify the nurse/office.

Medicines: The medication administration policy of the Johnson County School System states: medications shall be administered only when the student's health requires that they be given during school hours. All medication must be brought by the parent/guardian to the principal's office/school nurse in the original medication bottle. All medication must have the following: child's name, name of physician, time to be self-administered, dosage, and directions for self-administering the medication. Most prescriptions when filled by the pharmacy have an education sheet included; this will have the side effects listed on it. A medical information sheet must be completed by the parent in order for the medication to be administered to the student. ***Students are not allowed to transport medication.*** The parent must pick up unused medication. Students who have asthma may keep their inhalers with them, but the parent must complete the medical information sheet and the inhaler sheet.

All medication will be kept in the medical clinic in a locked vault. ***Students cannot carry any over the counter medications such as Tylenol, Motrin, etc. at any time.***

Counseling

A school counselor can provide many services and information to help students and parents. When students or parents have problems or concerns please feel free to seek out our counselor.

Lost and Found

Individuals who have lost items are advised to check with Ms. Atwood in the front office during a non-instructional time. Any items found and not claimed, please bring to Ms. Atwood in the front office.

Postings and Flyers

Nothing will be posted at school or on school grounds without prior approval of the principal. All unapproved postings will be removed, and disciplinary action may be taken as necessary.

Organized Activities

Only school-sponsored and principal approved activities will be permitted at school, on school grounds, and at school-sponsored activities. The teacher-sponsor of the group requesting an activity must seek prior approval from the principal before any plans are made for the activity. To prevent disruption to the school day, any unapproved activity or celebration will be stopped, and disciplinary action may be taken as necessary.

Reporting Child Abuse

Julianna Cole is designated as the Child Abuse Coordinator. Mrs. Keesha Rhudy will serve as the Alternate Child Abuse Coordinator.

Use of Office Telephone

The school telephone is for emergency use only. Students must have written permission from their teacher in order to use the school telephone during the school day. The school telephone **will not** be used to arrange social outings between students and their parents. These arrangements (accompanied by written parental/guardian consent) must be made prior to coming to school.

Water Bottles

Students are permitted to bring a water bottle to school. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen water bottles. Students are encouraged to put their name on their water bottles. Water bottles can be filled with water only and can be refilled at our many refilling stations located in the school. Students should NOT share their water bottles with other students at any time. If students use their water bottles in an inappropriate manner, they will forgo their privilege of using a water bottle during the school day.

Parent/Student/Teacher Agreement Form 2024-2025

A copy of the Johnson County Middle School Handbook has been placed on the JCMS school page of the Johnson County School's Website.

If you need a paper copy of this document, please check below or contact Ms. Atwood at JCMS. 423.727.2600

_____ Please send me a paper copy of the student handbook.

Please read, sign, and return to your child's homeroom teacher.

I agree that I have had the rules and regulations in this handbook explained to me, and that I have asked and received answers to any questions I may have. I agree that my success as a student at JCMS depends upon my abiding by these rules and regulations; therefore, I will do my best to abide by these rules and regulations and approach my time at JCMS as a valuable learning experience. I understand the consequences of any rule violation, and I also realize that any rule or regulation in this handbook may be subject to administrative decisions, which are made in the best interest of all students at Johnson County Middle School.

Student Signature

Date

As the parent or legal guardian of the above student, I agree that I have read this document either online or I have requested a paper copy. I understand the rules and regulations in place at the Johnson County Middle School. I understand these rules are in accordance with state and local policies regarding student actions and behavior.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

The rules, regulations, and consequences contained in this handbook were explained to the student named above.

Homeroom Teacher Signature

Date