#### JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

JCHS will provide a positive, safe learning environment to help students acquire knowledge and useful skills necessary to further their education post high school or to become productive citizens upon graduation.

Shared Vision: Every student and staff member at JCHS will come to school each day, respect one another, perform to their highest potential and improve daily.

JCHS Families,

On behalf of the JCHS Faculty and Staff, welcome to the 2024-25 school year! We are excited to have the opportunity to work with you to provide the best educational opportunities for your child. We care deeply about this community and the students who are entrusted to us. For this reason, we strive to offer as many educational opportunities as possible via various courses and programs. We believe that each of our students is capable of learning and achieving their goals, and our goal is to foster the best possible environment in which to do that. We welcome this opportunity and the inherent challenges that come with it! As such, we look forward to working together with you and your student(s) so that they have every opportunity to excel.

I encourage you to read and go over this handbook with your student(s). It is full of important information that will help them to have the best experience possible. I also encourage you to please communicate with us if you have questions or concerns. You know your child better than anyone, and we welcome your input!

If we work together, I have every confidence that this will be a successful school year!

Sincerely, Stephen Long, Principal slong@jocoed.net

## **JCHS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS**

- JCHS will meet or exceed the state average score for End of Course Exams (EOC) in the areas of Math, English, History, and Science.
- The average ACT composite score will improve from the previous year as well as other subject areas.
- The majority of graduates from the Class of 2025 will pursue a postsecondary certificate, diploma, or degree and maintain an excellent CGR (College Going Rate).

The information provided here is a summary of the policies and programs of Johnson County High School. It is designed to help both students and parents. If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact the school. Have a great year!

#### **General School Information**

The school colors are maroon and white. The school mascot is the Longhorn. The yearbook is the Arcadian.

#### **Classification**

Students are expected to carry four units of work each semester, plus one during the skinny period; nine units per year. Classification will be determined by the number of units successfully completed. *Freshman: 0-5 credits, Sophomore: 6-11 credits. Junior: 12-19 credits, Senior: 20 or more credits* 

#### Records

The school maintains a complete set of records to assist in pupil guidance. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 guarantees eligible students' certain rights regarding the release of student records. Copies of school related materials are .20 per copy and must be paid for in advance.

#### **Grades and Credits**

Schools will send progress reports home to parents every 4.5 weeks with grade cards being issued every nine weeks. Report cards are issued one week after the end of the nine weeks grading period. Grades are issued on the following scale.

Basic GPA Scale					
A	90-100	4 Quality Points			
		•			
В	80-89	3 Quality Points			
С	70-79	2 Quality Points			
D	60-69	1 Quality Points			
F	0-59	0 Quality Points			

Determination of grade point averages for the purpose of class rank will be made by calculating student GPAs on the quality point system. This will provide school officials with cumulative averages on a 4.0 scale. The graduating senior who has a 4.0 GPA and the highest ACT score will be named Valedictorian of JCHS.

In addition to the uniform grading system, additional quality points shall be assigned for the completion of honors, statewide dual credit, Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge, International Baccalaureate (IB), local dual enrollment, and dual enrollment courses as follows:

- a. One-quarter quality point (0.25) shall be added to the numerical quality point value corresponding to the letter grade received in the course for a college prep course. For example, a final percentage grade corresponding to a 3.5 shall convert to a 3.75;
- b. One-half quality point (0.5) shall be added to the numerical quality point value corresponding to the letter grade received in the course for an honors course. For example, a final percentage grade corresponding to 3.5 shall convert to a 4.0;
- c. Three-fourths point (0.75) shall be added to the numerical quality point value corresponding to the letter grade received in the course for a statewide dual credit course. For example, a final percentage grade corresponding to 3.5 shall convert to 4.25;
- d. One quality point (1.0) shall be added to the numerical quality point value corresponding to the letter grade received in the course for an AP, Cambridge, IB, local dual credit, or dual enrollment course. For example, a final percentage grade corresponding to 3.5 shall convert to 4.5.

These changes shall become retroactive for students enrolled during the 2021-2022 school year. Weighted grades earned prior to the 2022 spring semester shall not be used to determine class rankings for the class of 2022 or 2023. Beginning with the class of 2024, the uniform grade scale shall be used for class rankings.

#### **Incomplete Grades**

All incomplete grades must be made up no later than three weeks after the grade is given. Failure of a student to make up work in this time will result in a failing grade. If a student is missing assignments, it is the students' responsibility to get assignments from the teacher.

#### **Transcripts**

Every student who graduates is entitled to three free transcripts. Students who are not 18 years old will have to submit to the office a transcript release form signed by a parent. Under no circumstances will a transcript be released unless a signed release is on file in the office. Students will be charged \$1.00 for additional transcripts.

#### **Directory Information**

Johnson County High School Main Office 727-2620 Johnson County Vocational School 727-1860 Johnson County Greenhouse 727-2670

Johnson County Board of Education Policy Section 6.309

Zero Tolerance Offenses

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

#### **WEAPONS & DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS**

Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use or attempt to use any dangerous weapon in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or buses or off the school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function or event.<sup>1</sup>

Dangerous weapons for the purposes of this policy shall include, but are not limited to a firearm or anything manifestly designed, made or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or serious bodily injury or anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.<sup>2</sup>

Violators of this section shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.

#### Firearms (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921)<sup>3</sup>

In accordance with state law, any student who brings or possess a firearm on school property shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.<sup>4</sup>

#### **DRUGS**

In accordance with state law, any student who unlawfully possesses any drug including any controlled substance or legend drug shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. Students will have to be drug tested at the student/parents cost to be admitted back in school, also students under suspicion will be subjected to drug testing.

#### **ASSAULT**

In accordance with state law, any student who commits aggravated assault as defined in § 39-13-102 upon any teacher, principal administrator, any other employee of the school or school resource officer shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

State law (TCA 49-6-6401) requires that any student who commits assault against a school employee must, in addition to any other consequences prescribed by school policy, be banned from all after school activities for one calendar year. This includes any after school activity, both as participant and/or member (such as being on a team), and it also includes prom and graduation activities.

#### **ELECTRONIC THREATS**

In accordance with state law, any student who transmits by an electronic device any communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee and the transmission of such threat creates actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative intervention shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case

basis.6

In accordance with Tennessee State Law, any student that is found to make threats of mass violence will be expelled for a period of one year.

#### **NOTIFICATION**

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal of the school shall notify the student's parent or guardian and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.<sup>7</sup>

Zero Tolerance Offenses can be found on the Johnson County Board of Education's website under Board Policy Manual, Policy 6.309.

#### **ZERO TOLERANCE (Johnson County Board of Education Board Policy 6.309)**

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.

\*(5) If a student threatens mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to § 39-16-517, then the director of schools or the head of the public charter school, as applicable, shall require the student to submit to a threat assessment to determine whether the threat of mass violence made by the student was a valid threat. The student may be suspended from attendance at the school and from school-sponsored activities until the threat assessment is complete. If the director of schools or the head of the public charter school determines, based on the results of the threat assessment required in this subdivision (g)(5), that the threat of mass violence made by the student was not a valid

threat, then the student shall not be expelled for committing a zero tolerance offense, but may be suspended in accordance with this section.

## Johnson County Board of Education Student Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline

#### IX. Search Procedures

#### **Interrogations and Searches (6.303)**

Students may be questioned by teachers or principals about any matter pertaining to the operation of a school and/or the enforcement of its rules. Questioning must be conducted discreetly and under circumstances which will avoid unnecessary embarrassment to the student being questioned. Any student answering falsely, evasively, or refusing to answer a proper question may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension.

If a student is suspected or accused of misconduct or infraction of the student code of conduct, the principal may interrogate the student, without the presence of parent(s)/guardian(s) or legal custodians and without giving the student constitutional warnings.

#### INTERROGATION BY POLICE (AT ADMINISTRATOR'S REQUEST)

If the principal has requested assistance from the police department to investigate a crime involving his/her school, the police shall have permission to interrogate a student suspect in school during school hours. The principal shall first attempt to notify the parent(s)guardian(s) or legal custodians of the student of the intended interrogation, but the interrogation may proceed without attendance of the parent(s)/guardian(s) or legal custodians. The principal or his/her designee shall be present during the interrogation.

#### POLICE-INITIATED INTERROGATIONS

If the police deem circumstances of sufficient urgency to interrogate students at school for unrelated crimes committed outside of school hours, the police department shall first contact the principal regarding the planned interrogation, and inform him/her of the probable cause to investigate within the school. The principal shall make a reasonable effort to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) or legal custodians. The principal or his/her designee shall be present during the interrogation.

#### SEARCHES BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Any principal, or his/her designee, having reasonable suspicion may search any student, place or thing on school property or in the actual or constructive possession of any student during any organized school activity off campus, including buses, and vehicles of students or visitors (Notice shall be posted in the school parking lot that vehicles parked on school property by students or visitors are subject to search for drugs, drug paraphernalia or dangerous weapons), and containers or packages if he/she receives information which would cause a reasonable belief that the search will lead to the discovery of:

- 1. Evidence of any violation of the law;
- 2. Evidence of any violation of school rules or regulations or proper standards of student or faculty conduct:
- 3. Any object of substance which because of its presence, presents an immediate danger of harm or illness to any person.

## Johnson County Board of Education Student Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline

A student using a locker that is the property of the school system does not have the rights of privacy in that locker or its content. All lockers or other storage areas provided for student use on school premises remain the property of the school system and are provided for the use of students and are subject to inspection, access for maintenance, and search. Notice shall be posted in each school that lockers and other storage areas are school property and are subject to search.

A student may be subject to physical search or a student's pocket, purse, or other container may be required to be emptied because of the results of a locker search or because of information received from a teacher, a staff member, or other student if such action is reasonable to the principal. All of the following standards of reasonableness shall be met:

- 1. A particular student has violated policy;
- 2. The search could be expected to yield evidence of the violation of school policy or disclosure of a dangerous weapon or drug;
- 3. The search is in pursuit of legitimate interests of the school in maintaining order, discipline, safety, supervision, and education of students.
- 4. The primary purpose of the search is not to collect evidence for a criminal prosecution; and
- 5. The search shall be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student, as well as the nature of the infraction alleged to have been committed.

#### **USE OF METAL DETECTORS**

In view of the escalating presence of weapons in the schools, the Board of Education authorizes the use of hand-held or walk-through metal detectors to check a student's person or personal effects as follows:

School officials or law enforcement officers may conduct metal detector checks of groups of individuals if the checks are done in a minimally-intrusive, nondiscriminatory manner (e.g., on all students in a randomly selected class; or every third individual entering an athletic event). Metal detector checks of groups or individuals may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals.

#### POSTING FLYERS, SIGNS OR OTHER INFORMATION AT SCHOOL

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

#### **ORGANIZED ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL**

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. Any unapproved activity will be stopped, and disciplinary action will be taken as necessary.

#### **UNSAFE SCHOOL CHOICE POLICY**

Under the Tennessee State Board of Education's Unsafe School Choice Policy, any public school student who is the victim of a violent crime as defined under Tennessee Code Annotated 40-38-111(g), or the attempt to commit one of these offenses as defined under Tennessee Code Annotated 30-12-101, shall be provided an opportunity to transfer to another grade-level appropriate school within the district. Additional information regarding this option may be obtained by contacting Dr. Mischelle

Simcox at 423-727-2640.

\_\_\_\_\_

One of the primary goals of Johnson County High School is to help students understand how to satisfy their needs in society, to play acceptable roles and to receive the rewards offered by society to those who contribute to its welfare. Framed in this positive manner, reasons for acceptable behavior can be more readily seen by students, and they are more likely to help maintain a positive learning environment by being courteous and exhibiting acceptable conduct toward each other and school personnel. Failure of students to maintain a positive, safe, learning environment will result in quick and firm disciplinary action. Any violation of laws will result in immediate involvement of law enforcement authorities and prosecution. Anything not listed here is subject to administrative decision. In the event that new rules are implemented, the students will be informed.

## ADMINISTRATORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE EXECUTIVE DECISIONS WHEN THEY DEEM NECESSARY IN REGARD TO THE RULES.

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

\*Suspensions may be carried out at home, in school, or at an alternative school based on administrative decisions.

\***Detentions** must be served before a student is allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity. Coaches, sponsors, and co-op supervisor will be notified.

**The Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA)** is a branch of the Johnson County Board of Education, is composed of educators, and is used for appeals.

**Alternative School Placement (ESC)-** Any student that is at ESC cannot attend any school activities during their time at ESC. Also, students that are sent to ESC may be restricted from attending other school functions such as Prom, dances, or other activities throughout the school year even if they are not currently at ESC.

.....

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:** In plain and simple terms, Academic Dishonesty is cheating. Cheating, including plagiarism, is the act of gaining an unfair advantage, or misrepresenting one's knowledge. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

- 1. Wrongfully using or taking the ideas or work of another; for example, a. giving or receiving unauthorized aid from another person on assignments, papers, guizzes, tests, or examinations,
- b. plagiarizing, and c. getting advance information about quizzes, tests, or examinations.
- 2. Using or consulting unauthorized materials or using unauthorized devices on papers, quizzes, tests or examinations.
- 3. Using any portion of a paper or project to fulfill the requirements of more than one course, unless the student has received prior permission to do so.
- 4. Intentionally misrepresenting the need for extra time on any assignments, papers, quizzes, tests or examinations, in order to gain more information.
- 5. Choosing to be absent on the due date of a paper, project, quiz or test with the purpose of gaining more information.
- 6. Lying about any of the above.
- 7. Utilizing artificial intelligence programs to generate work in a manner that is inconsistent with the Johnson County School guidelines, teacher directions, or that misrepresents the submitted assignment as unique student-generated work.

Violations will result in a grade of zero for the work in question, with no chance for make-up, and with a referral for disciplinary action. The incident will be reported to the school counselor, the appropriate school administrator, and the Johnson County High School Scholarship Committee. Violations of

Academic Integrity or if a teacher has questions/concerns that a student committed an Academic Integrity Violation may keep a student from being selected for clubs, organizations, academic societies, attending field trips or revoking certain privileges deemed necessary by administration.

**BULLYING/HARASSMENT:** "Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time."

Please see Johnson County Board of Education, policy 6.304. This can be found at the following website:

http://images.pcmac.org/Uploads/TennesseeSBA/TennesseeSBA/Departments/DocumentsCategories/Documents/6304 46.pdf

**BUS PASSES:** Students wishing to ride a bus home that is not their normal bus must bring a parent note to the office before school starts in the morning. The school secretary will confirm the permission and issue the student a bus pass. The bus pass is required for a student to ride a bus they do not normally ride. The bus driver reserves the right to refuse to allow a student to board the bus without the proper bus pass.

#### **CELL PHONES:**

Johnson County Board of Education			
Monitoring:	Descriptor Term:	escriptor Code:	ssued Date:
Review: Annually, in	<b>Use of Personal Communication</b>	6.312	07/11/24
Devices and Electronic Devices	6.312	ssued: 09/11/14	

#### **DEFINITION**

Personal communication devices include, but are not limited to, wearable technology such as eyeglasses, rings, or watches that have the capability to record, live stream, or interact with wireless technology; cell phones; laptops; tablets; earbuds; and MP3 players.

#### **MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS**

Students who have a medical device that necessitates cell phone access during the school day, may receive an exemption from this policy upon the development of an individual Healthcare Plan consistent with a physician's orders. Such exceptions apply to medical needs only and does not allow cell phone use for other purposes. Applications for medical exemptions shall be made to the school administration, and individual Healthcare Plans and any exceptions from this policy must be approved by school administration.

#### **RECORDING DEVICES**

Whether on school buses, on school property or at a school sponsored event, students are not permitted to use recording devices (photograph, audio, or video) without administrative approval. A

student in violation of this policy is subject to the appropriate grade-level disciplinary action as outlined below.

#### **SCHOOL BUSES**

K-12 students in transit may use personal communication devices if the device is in silent mode or if earbuds are utilized. A student in violation of this policy is subject to the appropriate grade-level disciplinary action as outlined below.

#### **ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT**

Alternative school students and/or students in alternative placements such as ISS, lunch detention, before/after school detention, and Saturday School may not possess personal communication devices. A student in violation of this policy is subject to the appropriate grade-level disciplinary action as outlined below.

#### **GRADES 9-12**

With the exception of alternative school, students in Grades 9-12 may possess personal communication devices while on school property; however, the device must be in the off mode and must be kept in the provided pocket chart found in each classroom and may not be used during instructional time. If a student gets caught with another phone while their phone is in the provided pocket chart then it is an automatic Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA) meeting. Students are not permitted to use the devices during class time unless the teacher has given permission for instructional purposes. A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action as outlined below.

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.

#### **First Offense:**

- · Verbal warning.
- Parent/guardian will receive a phone call from administration.

#### Second Offense:

- · Written Warning. The **s**tudent will receive disciplinary referral.
- · Parent/guardian will receive a phone call from administration.
- · The device can be picked up from the school office at the end of the day.

#### Third Offense:

- · Written Warning. The **s**tudent will receive disciplinary referral.
- · Student will be placed in either lunch detention or before/after school detention for three (3) school days.
- · Parent/guardian will receive a phone call from administration.
- · Parent/guardian may pick up the device from the school OR the student can pick it up from the office on the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) school day after the offense. The phone will not be allowed in the students' possession for five (5) school days after the offense.

#### **Fourth Offense:**

- · Written Warning. The **s**tudent will receive disciplinary referral.
- · Student will be placed in either lunch detention or before/after school detention for five (5) school days.
- · Parent/guardian will receive phone call from administration.
- · Parent/guardian may pick up the device from the school OR the student can pick it up from the office on the thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) school day after the offense. The phone will not be allowed in the students' possession for thirty (30) school days after the offense.

#### Fifth Offense:

- · The **s**tudent will receive disciplinary referral.
- · Student and parents/guardians will be required to attend a Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA) to determine student placement.
- · The Device will not be allowed on school property pending the outcome of the DHA

JCHS is not responsible for any damaged, lost or stolen cell phones, or other electronic devices.

CUTTING CLASS OR SCHOOL ACTIVITY: JCHS is responsible and accountable for all students while they are in school. Students must be in their assigned locations at all times. Students who do not attend class while on campus or who leave campus without permission are considered to be skipping class. Consequences for cutting or skipping classes may include ISS and assignment to alternative school. Students must have the proper hall pass if they are out of class.

<u>DAMAGING SCHOOL OR OTHER PROPERTY:</u> Any student who purposely damages school property will be expected to make restitution and will be subject to disciplinary consequences, which may include suspension, assignment to alternative school, and/or prosecution.

<u>**DETENTIONS:**</u> All detentions should be served immediately after they are assigned. Failure to serve detention in a timely manner will result in additional detention or other elevated consequences. Absences from school will not excuse a detention from being served, the detention will be made up when the student returns to school.

**DISRESPECT:** JCHS students are expected to display respect to their peers and adults, at all times. Students who are disrespectful may be assigned detention, suspension, or time at the alternative school. Faculty/Staff may correct students at any time on school property or at a school related function.

**DOORS/SAFETY:** In accordance with government regulations and new legislation regarding school safety, there may be only one primary entrance door for schools. The entrance doors will be unlocked beginning at 7:30am and remain unlocked until the tardy bell rings at 8:10am. They will also be unlocked for the five minutes of class change for each period. After these time periods and the doors lock, students will have to enter through the Main Office or CTE Front Office. Students are not allowed to let other students in these doors or prop doors open when they are locked and will receive a disciplinary infraction if caught doing so. Students are not allowed to enter a classroom through the exterior classroom door. Teachers are instructed to not let students in their exterior classroom doors.

**DRESS CODE:** 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 DISMISSALS:** All students MUST sign out in the office before leaving the school even with parent permission. Students wishing to check out of school early without a parent coming to the school must present a note to the office stating the reason for dismissal and a phone number for verification. Phone requests will only be accepted in cases of emergency. Students will not be allowed to check out without parent/guardian permission. All requests for early dismissal will be verified by the main office.

<u>FIELD TRIPS:</u> Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately on all school trips. Participation in a school related trip is not considered an absence. Students are responsible for making up any missed work within three days of the field trip. Students will abide by all school policies while on a field trip.

**FIGHTING:** Students who engage in a fight during school, on a bus, or during a school activity will be cited to court and assigned to the alternative school for at least three days. Students fighting during the school day or at school events may be transported to the Johnson County Sheriff's Department.

**FIREWORKS:** Possession of fireworks on school property is a felony in Tennessee. The SRO will file charges against anyone caught with fireworks on the campus.

**FIRE ALARMS:** Pulling a fire alarm at any time other than an emergency situation is a felony. Security will file charges against anyone caught pulling a fire alarm purposefully when there is no emergency.

**FOOD AND DRINKS IN THE CLASSROOM:** Classroom teachers are responsible for setting rules for food and drink in their classrooms. Students are expected to follow each teacher's expectations when in the classrooms.

<u>GUNS/KNIVES/WEAPONS:</u> Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use or attempt to use any dangerous weapon in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or buses or off the school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function or event.<sup>1</sup> (See School Board Policy) Students found in possession of weapons are subject to appearance before the DHA, suspension, or expulsion for no less than one calendar year and confiscation of weapon. Legal authorities will be notified and charges filed.

**HORSEPLAY:** Horseplay can lead to injuries and escalated situations. Students engaging in horseplay are subject to disciplinary consequences which may include detention, suspension, corporal punishment, or assignment to the alternative school.

IMMORAL/DISREPUTABLE/RACIST OR PROFANE LANGUAGE OR CONDUCT: Immoral, disreputable, racist, and/or profane language or conduct will not be tolerated. Students exhibiting these behaviors are subject to disciplinary consequences which may include detention, suspension, corporal punishment, or assignment to the alternative school. Some behaviors may warrant filing charges.

**TUTORING AND FAILING GRADES:** If a student fails a course with the grade 50-59 they will be eligible for Credit Recovery or Summer School. Students that fail with a course grade below 50 will have to re-sit for the course. Senior students may also not graduate if they fail a required course. Tutoring opportunities will be available to students through the school's Academic Team, and all students are encouraged to ask their teachers for additional help when needed.

<u>LUNCH:</u> No outside food can be delivered during lunches. Students are not allowed to eat lunch in the CTE Building, in vehicles, in the gym, classrooms or in the library. Students are only allowed to eat lunch in the Commons Area. There may be some instances where students will be permitted to eat in the classrooms such as early dismissal for inclement weather, half day schedule or other occurrences deemed necessary by administration.

<u>OFF-LIMITS AREAS:</u> Before school, all students must report to the Commons Area, Gym (not tunnels), or Library. Students may not sit in cars, remain in the parking lot or other off-limits areas. During lunch, students may be in the Commons Area, Gym (not tunnels), Library, or Gazebo area. At no time may students sit in cars, remain in the parking lot or be in other off-limits areas. Students cannot go to their vehicles without permission from the office at any time during the school day. Students found in off-limits areas will be subject to disciplinary consequences which may include detention, suspension, corporal punishment, or assignment to the alternative school.

<u>PERSISTENT VIOLATION OF RULES:</u> A student who consistently breaks the rules and is uncooperative may be considered a habitual rule violator (5 or more incidents). Alternative forms of education are available for those students who cannot abide by school rules. Administrative review is required. Copies of disciplinary infractions (Pink Slips) will be mailed home to the parents/guardians and will serve as a notification of a disciplinary infraction. Phone calls may also be used, if necessary.

<u>TARDY TO CLASS</u>: Teachers will assign consequences for being tardy to class. Possible consequences may include in school or after school detention, suspension, corporal punishment, or assignment to the alternative school.

TARDY TO SCHOOL/EARLY CHECKOUT: Students are expected to arrive at school on time every day and stay until the end of the school day. Late arrivals and early checkouts are marked as unexcused unless a student brings in an approved excuse. Consequences are assigned when students accumulate more than two late arrivals/early checkouts. Consequences may include detention, suspension, assignment to the alternative school, loss of parking privileges, or filing a truancy petition. Administration will deem and tardy or check out excused/unexcused in accordance with board policy. Information regarding attendance can be found under Board Policy 6.200.

TOBACCO/ E-CIGARETTES/VAPES: Electronic cigarettes and Tobacco are not allowed on school grounds, will be confiscated and WILL NOT BE RETURNED. Students found in possession of e-cigs or tobacco will be disciplined, have their parking privileges revoked, and may be cited to juvenile court (TCA 39-17-1505). Students will also have to attend an after school Tobacco/Vape Intervention Course. Students over 18 in possession of e-cigs or tobacco may be assigned detention, suspension, time at the alternative school, and may be cited as well (TCA 39-17-1604). Some e-cigs may be treated as drug paraphernalia. Any student that drives will also have their parking permit pulled for a period of time. All other tobacco related offenses may be treated in this manner as well. Possession and use of any form of tobacco or paraphernalia (including lighters and matches) is illegal in public buildings, on school grounds, buses, or in or on private vehicles on school property. Underage students found in possession of tobacco or paraphernalia will be cited to juvenile court.

**TRANSFER STUDENTS:** When a student is officially registered, JCHS makes every effort to help students succeed in the new environment. If a student leaves the previous school in LESS THAN GOOD STANDING, the student MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENROLL. Enrollment and/or placement may be dependent on records and information received from the previous school attended.

<u>UNAUTHORIZED DEPARTURE FROM SCHOOL:</u> Students may not leave school without parental and administrative approval. Students are required to sign-out in the office before leaving campus. Consequences for unauthorized departure from school may include ISS, assignment to alternative school or have their parking permit revoked

<u>UNDUE FAMILIARITY/ PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION:</u> All schools in Johnson County have a no-touch policy. Students engaging in inappropriate displays of affection may be subject to disciplinary action, including detention, suspension, corporal punishment, or assignment to the alternative school.

<u>VIOLENCE/THREATENED VIOLENCE:</u> JCHS will not tolerate violent acts threatened or committed against another person. Threats and acts of violence are subject to zero tolerance policies (see School Board Policy 6.309). A student who commits battery against any school system employee will be suspended or expelled for not less than one calendar year. Students threatening mass violence will be expelled for a period of one year.

<u>VISITORS:</u> All visitors to JCHS are required to report in at the Main Gate and then check in through the Main or CTE office.

**INSURANCE:** Students have the option to purchase group insurance each year. Details are given to students in their homeroom. All athletes, cheerleaders, and students in shop classes are advised to participate. All athletes are required to furnish proof of insurance coverage and a current physical before they can practice or participate in any sport.

LIBRARY: Computers are available in the library for student use (please ask before using). Students are financially responsible for loss of or damage to library materials. A per-day fine of ten cents is charged for overdue books. If you do not return or renew your book after 30 days, the book will be marked as lost and your account will be charged the cost of the book. Books may be checked out for two weeks with an option to renew. Calculators are available for check-out also on a weekly basis. A \$5.00 fine will be charged if you do not turn the device in within 3 days of its due date. A \$45.00 fine will automatically be charged if you lose or damage the calculator. Chromebooks are available on a limited basis if needed for school work. They are checked out on a weekly basis with a \$5.00 fine that is accrued each day after. If the Chromebook is not returned within 3 weeks of its checkout a report will be filed with the security administration and charges will be filed for the full amount of replacement of the laptop. The library is open from 7:30am-3:15pm. If you need to stay after please let the librarian know in order to make arrangements to have the library open.

**LOCKERS:** Lockers are assigned at the beginning of the year upon request. Students may use ONLY the locker assigned to them, and it is the student's responsibility to keep the locker secure at all times. Valuable personal items should NEVER be left in a locker. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. The courts have determined that school officials have the right to conduct searches of individuals, their personal possessions, and lockers when reasonable grounds exist. Lockers must be completely cleaned out at the end of the school year. No items may be left in lockers during the summer.

LOST AND FOUND: Individuals who have lost items are advised to check regularly at the office.

**SCHOOL CLINIC:** Should a student become ill while at school, he/she will be given permission by a teacher or administrator to report to the school nurse; a Nurse Pass will be used. Students will not be allowed to call home as sick without verification from the school nurse. If the nurse sends the student home or determines they do not need to attend school for a period of time due to illness those absences will be excused. If a student leaves school claiming to be sick and does not see the nurse the check out will be deemed unexcused.

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 (including over the counter 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-administration, possible side effects and termination date for administering the medication. Most prescriptions when filled by the pharmacy have an education sheet with them; this will have the side effects listed on it. 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.

#### **SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES:**

A school counselor can provide many services and information to help acquaint the student with

resources at Johnson County High School. The student and his/her parents should become acquainted with the school counselors, and together they should use the resources available through the guidance department. Services provided include the following:

Our counselors at JCHS are Amanda Mullins and Joshua Miller. Brittany Evans will also be available to assist students with career counseling and college related questions. Students are permitted to see a counselor at any time. Parents may arrange appointments by calling the school office at 727-2620.

**SCHOOL MONEY:** Students who collect or otherwise handle school money will deliver such money to their sponsors as soon as possible. Sponsors will in turn deliver these funds to the bookkeeper for deposit.

#### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Required Courses	Credits	
MATH:	4	Including Algebra I, II, Geometry and a fourth higher level math course
SCIENCE:	3	Including Earth & Space Science or Ag Science, Biology, and Chemistry and/or Physics
ENGLISH:	4	Honors and Dual enrollment are available to students who qualify
SOCIAL STUDIES:	3	World History <u>or</u> World Geography, US History, Economics/Government
WELLNESS:	1	Taken during 9 <sup>th</sup> grade
PHYSICAL EDUCATION:	.5	Taken during 10 <sup>th</sup> grade
PERSONAL FINANCE:	.5	Taken during 10 <sup>th</sup> grade
Focused Program of Study	3	Take at least three courses in <u>one</u> of the following programs:  Math and Science <u>or</u> Career and Technical Education <u>or</u> Fine Arts <u>or</u> Humanities <u>or</u> Advanced Placement Classes
Other Electives	5	Courses chosen based on future goals and interests
		College Entrance Requirements

FOREIGN LANGUAGE:	2	May be waived for students not going to a University
FINE ARTS:	1	May be waived for students not going to a University

Several different types of standardized tests are administered to students of Johnson County High School in order to determine their academic strengths, areas of need, aptitudes and abilities, and learning environment.

The Tennessee Department of Education requires End of Course Exams in English I, and II, as well as Biology, US History, Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry.

#### **TEST PREPARATION**

Recommendations for all testing days:

- \*Get a good night's sleep.
- \*Eat a well-balanced breakfast.
- \*Dress comfortably considering the school environment and current season.

TEST	STUDENTS TESTED
PSAT	Interested 10 <sup>th</sup> graders
ACT	ALL 11 <sup>th</sup> graders Interested 12th graders
EOC/TNReady	State designated classes
ASVAB	Interested 10 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> graders
SAT	Interested 11 <sup>th</sup> graders
Work Keys	Interested 12 <sup>th</sup> grade CTE Concentrator students
Industry Certifications	Interested 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade CTE Students

#### NCAA INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY CLEARINGHOUSE—GENERAL INFORMATION

Students who want to participate in NCAA Division I or II athletics should start the certification process by the end of their junior year or early in their senior year.

To be certified by the Clearinghouse, students must:

 Graduate from high school. (Preliminary certification will be issued for students not yet graduated. Final certification will be issued only after final transcript receipt, including proof of

graduation.)

- 2. Earn a grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale in at least 14 academic core courses.
- 3. Minimum score for ACT or SAT is dependent on GPA in core courses.
- 4. See the NCAA clearinghouse.net website for more information.

Questions? Call the guidance office at 423-727-2620.

#### **CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUS**

A pupil will become ineligible for pupil transportation when he/she disobeys state and local rules and regulations pertaining to pupil transportation.

Following is a list of specific rules and regulations:

- 1. Pupils are under the supervision and authority of the bus driver from the time they leave home until they reach school in the morning, and from the time they leave school until they reach home in the afternoon.
- 2. Pupils will not be permitted to have any dangerous items on the bus.
- 3. Pupils will be let off a bus only at their designated stop unless written permission from their parents gives authority for the driver to do so.
- 4. Pupils will pay for any damage done deliberately to buses.
- 5. If a pupil misbehaves on the way to school or to his home and refuses to obey, the driver will notify the transportation supervisor who will contact administration, and the student may be suspended from riding the bus. The administration or bus garage will notify the parents by letter or by telephone. The parent must contact the bus garage as to when the child can ride the bus. For the first offense, the pupil can be suspended from riding the bus for five days. The second time could be for ten days and the third time, he and his parents must go before the Board of Education. The Transportation Department will determine bus suspension length. Students are subject to school based disciplinary consequences due to infractions on the school bus.

#### **DRIVING ON CAMPUS**

Students in good standing who hold a valid driver's license will have the privilege of parking on school grounds, providing they follow these rules:

- 1. Permits must be displayed and visible on the rear view mirror of the vehicle. Any time a student drives a vehicle other than the one registered with the school, the permit must be moved to and displayed in the vehicle which is on campus.
- 2. STUDENTS MUST NOT WRITE ON OR DEFACE PERMITS.
- 3. Permits are valid ONLY for the student to whom they are registered. They may not be traded, sold, or used in any manner to allow a different student to park on campus.
- 4. Students must have permission from the school office to go to any vehicles in the parking lots during the school day. Students may not go to any vehicles during class change.
- 5. Students are responsible for securing their cars in the parking lots.
- 6. All vehicles parked on campus are subject to search with reasonable suspicion.
- 7. Students are not allowed to drive their vehicles on the hill during the school day or to leave the hill without permission from the main office. This could result in disciplinary action or revocation of parking privileges.
- 8. Parking permits allow students to park in an individually designated spot, ONLY. Students may not park in another spot for any reason unless approved by the administration or security.

- 9. Reckless driving or speeding on the hill will not be tolerated. It will result in a suspension of parking privileges.
- 10. Excessive unexcused tardiness or absences during any semester may result in termination of parking privileges.
- 11. The School or school system is not liable for damages to vehicles parked at school.
- 12. Upon arrival at school, students must exit their vehicle and enter the building. Students are not permitted to sit in their cars before the school day begins.
- 13. Students that are driving on campus without a proper driver's license will be reported to the SRO.
- 14. If a student's parking permit is revoked for any period of time they will not be allowed to park on campus until the parking permit is returned by security.
- 15. No Flags are allowed to be displayed on campus.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is a key factor in student achievement. Students are expected to be present all day each day school is in session. The Attendance Guidelines can be found on the Johnson County Board of Education website. **The Board Policy regarding student attendance is Board Policy 6.200.** 

The attendance supervisor shall oversee the entire attendance program which shall include.

- 1. All accounting and reporting for attendance;
- 2. Alternative program options for students who fail to meet minimum attendance requirements;
- 3. Ensuring all school age children attend school;
- 4. Providing documentation of enrollment status upon request for students applying for new or reinstatement of driver's permit or license; and
- 5. Notifying the Department of Safety when a student with a driver's permit or license drops out of school or fails to make satisfactory progress.

Absences shall be classified as either excused or unexcused as determined by the principal or his/her designee. Excused absences shall include:

- 1. Personal illness/injury;
- 2. Illness of immediate family member;
- 3. Death in the family;
- 4. Extreme weather conditions:
- 5. Religious observances (This does not include religious cruises and revivals during school hours.);5
- 6. Pregnancy;
- 7. School-endorsed activities;
- 8. Summons, subpoena, or court order; or

9. Circumstances which in the judgment of the principal create emergencies over which the student has no control.

An unexcused absence is any absence that is not excused. Unexcused absences shall include:

- 1. Parent notes:
- 2. Absences due to extracurricular sports/activities that are not school related;
- 3. Religious cruises;
- 4. Religious revivals during school hours.

The principal shall be responsible for ensuring that:

- 1. Attendance is checked and reported daily for each class;
- 2. Daily attendance reports contain sign-in/sign-out sheets and indicate students present or absent for the majority of the day:
- 3. All students' absences are verified;
- 4. Written excuses are submitted for absences and tardiness; and
- 5. System-wide procedures for accounting and reporting are followed.

Truancy is defined as an absence for an entire school day, a major portion of the school day or the major portion of any class, study hall, or activity during the school day for which the student is scheduled. Parents will be notified by letter at three, five, seven, and ten unexcused absences.

Students participating in school-sponsored activities, whether on or off campus, shall not be counted absent. In order to qualify as "school sponsored", the activity must be school-planned, school-directed, and teacher-supervised. Mass exodus or early dismissal or late arrival of all students or any segment of students shall not be permitted for any reason except for emergencies such as inclement weather or other unavoidable situations, unless instruction time is made up in full.

All missed class work or tests (whether from excused or unexcused absences) may be made up if the student makes the request the day he/she returns to school and if class time is not taken from other students. The length of time for a student to return their make-up work will be one day per absence. For example, if a student misses three (3) days they will have three (3) days to return missing work upon returning to school. Teachers may lengthen this at their discretion. Students that are taking dual enrollment, dual college, A.P. or Honors classes may have stricter guidelines as it pertains to returning make-up work.

#### **Progressive Truancy Interventions**

#### TIER I

Tier I of the progressive truancy plan shall apply to all students within the district and include schoolwide prevention-oriented supports to assist with satisfactory attendance. These supports shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Monitor attendance date
- Clarify attendance expectations and goals
- Establish a positive and engaging school culture
- Educate and engage students and families
- Recognize good and improved attendance

#### TIER II

Tier II of the progressive truancy plan shall be implemented after the student accumulates five (5) unexcused absences, but before referral to juvenile court, and includes the following:

- 1. A conference with the student and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
- 2. An attendance contract, based on the conference, signed by the student, the parent(s)/guardian(s), and the Attendance Supervisor/designee. The contract shall include:
- a. A specific description of the school's attendance expectations for the student;
- b. The attendance contract if effective from the date signed until the end of the student's career with the Johnson County School System; and
- c. Penalties for additional absences and alleged school offenses, including additional disciplinary action and potential referral to juvenile court.
- 3. Regularly scheduled follow-up meetings to discuss the student's progress; and
- 4. A school employee shall conduct an individualized assessment detailing the reasons a student has been absent from school. The employee may refer the student to counseling, community-based services, or other services to address the student's attendance problems.

#### **TIER III**

Tier III shall be implemented if the truancy interventions under Tier II are unsuccessful. Tier III shall consist of the following interventions:

- Truancy Review Board
- Saturday School (if applicable)
- · After-school classes
- Case assigned to school social worker
- Referral for services (DCS, FCIP)

#### **JCHS Attendance Requirement for Course Credit**

JCHS must maintain a 95% attendance rate, so each JCHS student must maintain a 95% attendance rate. A 95% attendance rate can be maintained by missing no more than four days in a course. Any student at JCHS who has accumulated more than four (4) total absences (excused and/or unexcused) in any course during a semester shall receive no credit for the course unless the time is made up. Parents may appeal the loss of credit for days of a student's hospitalization.

JCHS students who have four or more absences in a course can make up their seat time by attending Before-School Enrichment, After-School Enrichment, Saturday School, or at their teacher's discretion prior to the final exam for the course. Exceptions may be made for students participating in school sponsored activities or athletic contests.

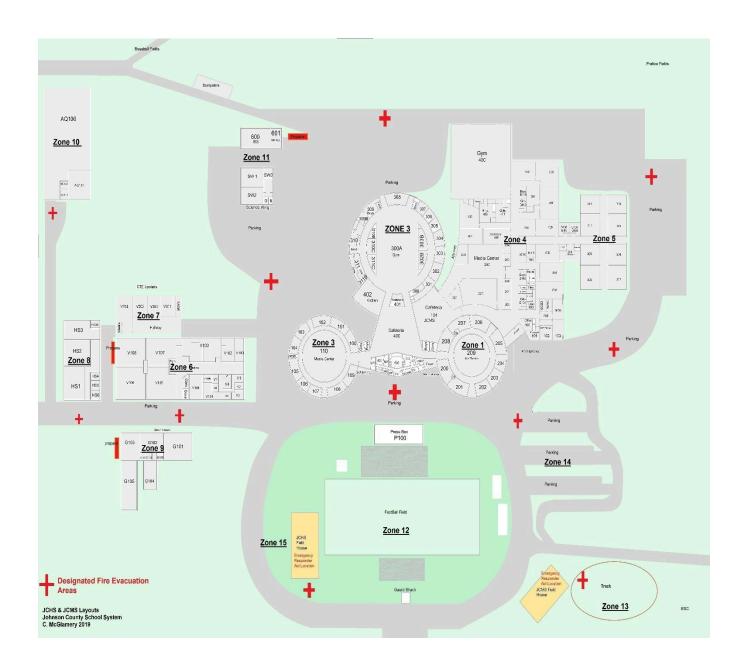
Any administrative decision regarding attendance may be appealed initially to the Director of Schools and ultimately to the Board. The appeal shall be made in writing to the Director of Schools within five (5) days following the action or the report of action, whichever is later.

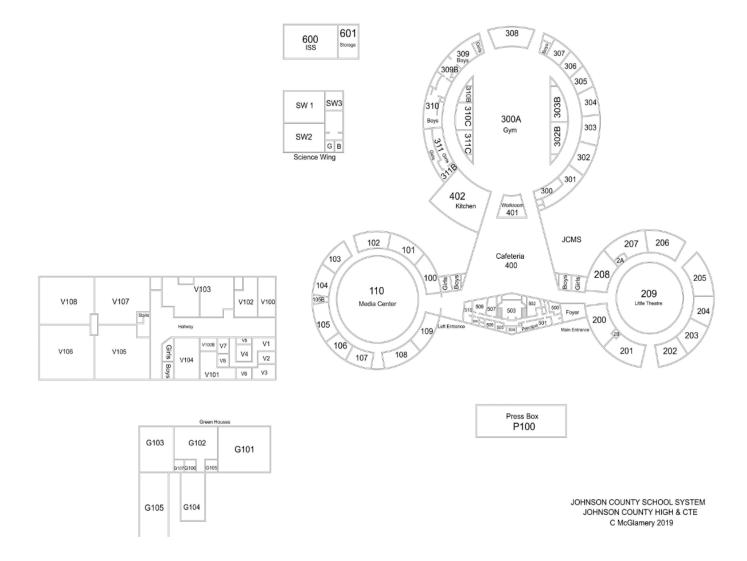
Student attendance records shall be given the same level of confidentiality as other student records. Only authorized school officials with legitimate educational purposes may have access to student information without the consent of the student or parent/guardian.

Requests for students to attend school in counties in adjoining states shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.

#### Tardy to School/Early Checkout Policy

1st unexcused tardy/checkout—warning
2nd unexcused tardy/checkout—automated call home
3rd or more unexcused tardies/checkouts—Lunch Detention
Excessive tardiness/checkouts— ISS, ESC, ASD, and/or parking permit pulled





No statements contained in this handbook should be construed as creating any type of contract, either expressed or implied. The information contained in this handbook represents guidelines only.

Johnson County High School reserves the right to modify, amend, or eliminate the information contained herein at any time.



Johnson County High School 290 Fairground Hill Mountain City, TN 37683 Phone 423-727-2620 Fax: 423-727-2677

### **Student and Parent Agreement**

I acknowledge that I have been directed to read and show to my parents/guardians the *student handbook* for the 2024-2025 school year for Johnson County High School.

As a parent/guardian/student, I acknowledge that I have read the above agreement and shall agree to abide by the rules of the Johnson County High School handbook. I therefore apply my signature below:

Student Name (PRINT CLEARLY)	(Grade)
Student Signature	
Parent or Guardian Name(s) (PRINT CLEARLY)	
Parent or Guardian Signature(s)	
Date	

If a parent/guardian or student refuses to sign, does not sign or return this agreement; it does not excuse the student from the requirement and responsibility of abiding by the rules and guidelines set forth in the Johnson County High School Student Handbook.