Student Handbook

2024-2025

Lamar School's mission is to educate each individual by providing a challenging and purposeful college preparatory curriculum in a safe, respectful, Christian environment.

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General Information

MISSION

Lamar School's mission is to educate each individual by providing a challenging and purposeful college preparatory curriculum in a safe, respectful, Christian environment.

School Beliefs

Through a collaborative effort among administrators, teachers, and parents, the following eight statements of Lamar School's beliefs were identified:

1. A safe, supportive Christian learning environment promotes student achievement.
2. Education is the key to all worthwhile opportunities.
3. An educational program's goal is to prepare students to become confident, self-directed, lifelong learners, and to realize their potential in society.
4. A school's success depends on the commitment of all staff members to high quality standards, expectations, and performances.
5. All students can learn, but each student has unique needs and skills.
6. Students should develop an understanding of essential knowledge and skills and use this knowledge for reasoning, solving problems, and producing quality work.
7. Mutual communication between school and families is essential to students' education and to the school's success.
8. Teachers, administrators, parents, and the community share responsibility for advancing a school's mission and goals.

History

Lamar School is named in honor of the noted Mississippi statesman L.Q.C. Lamar (1825 – 1893) and was chartered in 1964. Lamar School was founded to provide the greater Meridian area an accredited educational institution for developing sound scholarship, character, responsible citizenship, and Christian principles. In 1996, a new building was constructed on the Lindley Road campus to house Lamar Elementary School, which had previously operated on a separate campus. Lamar School Foundation now functions as a unit school, serving grades Pre-K – 12.

Governance

An elected Board of Trustees governs Lamar School. The Board of Trustees is made up of nine members serving a staggered three year term. The purpose of the Board of Trustees is to set and enforce the governing policies of Lamar School.

Accreditation

The Mid-South Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) and Southern Association of Colleges and Cognia (SACS-CASI) presently accredit Lamar School. Lamar School earned accreditation by the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS) in the spring of 2020.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

Lamar School admits students of any race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. Lamar does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, athletic, or other school-administered programs based on race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin.

Parent/Family Cooperation

Lamar School believes that a positive and constructive working relationship between the school and family member (defined as parent, student, or other person associated with the student) is essential to the fulfillment of Lamar School's educational purpose and responsibilities to its students. If the parent's or other family member's behavior, communications, or interactions on or off campus (including during school-sponsored events) is disruptive, intimidating, overly aggressive, or reflects a loss of confidence or disagreement with the school's policies, methods of instruction, or discipline, or otherwise interferes with the school's safety procedures, responsibilities, or accomplishment of its educational purpose or program, Lamar School reserves the right to dismiss the family or family member from the community. In addition, Lamar School reserves the right to place restrictions on parents' or other family members' involvement or activity at Lamar School, on school property, or at school related events for reasons that Lamar School deems appropriate.

Notice of Facilities Inspection

Lamar School's **High/Middle School buildings and Indoor Training Facility** have undergone an inspection for the presence of asbestos in the buildings. Due to the time period during which these buildings were constructed, there exists a possibility of asbestos in the floor tile material. However, these inspections have revealed no hazards related to these materials.

The **Elementary, Cafetorium, and Gymnasium** buildings were constructed asbestos free.

As required by law, Lamar School Foundation notifies you that there is an asbestos management plan on file in the office. It is available upon request.

Communication

Webpage
Information about the school is listed and updated on the school's website www.lamarschool.com.

FACTS
FACTS is a private and secure parents' portal that will allow parents to view academic information specific to their children, while protecting that information from others. You can see your child's grades, schedule, homework, and other useful information. Parents must provide the school with a valid email address in order to gain access to FACTS. Lesson plans and assignments are subject to change due to unforeseeable circumstances. Students are ultimately responsible for assignments given in class by the teacher.

Parent and Teacher/Administration
Teachers may be contacted via email. Email addresses are listed in the school directory or may be obtained from the school's website.

Any conference request concerning ***classroom work, conduct, athletics, or any other student concerns*** should be handled in the following hierarchical manner:

1. First by contacting the office for an appointment with the appropriate classroom teacher or coach.
2. After meeting with the classroom teacher or coach if further communication is desired, the parent should make an appointment to meet with the appropriate administrator (Elementary Principal, Counselor or Dean) or Athletic Director.
3. The final step in the hierarchy of communicating a situation/concern is to make an appointment to meet with the Head of School.
4. Any individual deviating from the steps described above will be directed back to the appropriate level before any further discussions will take place.
5. Administrators and teachers will not be available for a conference without an appointment.

Note

- Parents are not allowed to go to the classroom to get their child or see the teacher. If this is necessary report to the office and the appropriate arrangements will be made.
- Parents are to refrain from calling teachers/staff outside of school; all contact should be made during school hours.

FINANCIAL POLICY AND INFORMATION

Lamar School operates on a cash flow basis. It is imperative that we collect monthly tuition payments in a timely manner in order to pay our bills, including payroll, on time and maintain our reputation of fiscal responsibility. Failure on the part of our patrons to stay current with tuition payments places the entire school in financial jeopardy. All information and policies addressed below, unless stated specifically for tuition only, are intended for all student monies owed at Lamar School. Monies owed include, but are not limited to, tuition, co-curricular activities and field trips, and extra-curricular expenses.

The educational well-being of each student, both academically and fiscally, is the primary responsibility of Lamar School. Therefore, if payment is received for a non-tuition expense for a student and the student's tuition payments are past due, the funds may be applied to the delinquent tuition account without prior notification to the payor, the student or any person contractually responsible for the tuition. Notification that the redirecting of funds has occurred will be mailed to the contractually responsible party.

2024-2025 Tuition, Registration, and Entrance Testing Fees at Lamar School

Grade	Annual	Monthly	Registration Fee Re-Enrollment (non-refundable)	Application Fee New Enrollment (non-refundable)	Registration Fee New Enrollment (non-refundable)
Pre-K	$5,592.00	$466.00 (June-May)		$130.00	$300.00
K-5	$7,644.00	$637.00 (June-May)	$311.00	$130.00	$300.00
6-12	$8,472.00	$706.00 (June-May)	$311.00	$130.00	$300.00

Application Fee
An application fee shall be paid for each individual applying to Lamar School. This fee is paid through the Online Application and is non-refundable. Applicants for K-12 will be given an entrance screening by Lamar School. Upon a successful screening, a registration link will be emailed to complete registration.

Registration Fee
A registration fee shall be paid for each student upon enrollment/re-enrollment in Lamar School. The Board of Trustees will determine the amount annually. This fee must be paid prior to acceptance of a student in Lamar School. Students whose accounts are past due will not be permitted to register until the accounts have been brought current.

Enrollment During the Year
Any student who enrolls in Lamar School after the beginning of the school term will be required to pay a non-refundable registration fee and tuition for all months attended on a pro rata basis.

Tuition Contract
At the time of enrollment or re-enrollment, a Tuition Contract is signed for the coming year. The individual signing the Tuition Contract shall be considered contractually responsible for the tuition account. *To be considered for release from this contract, a letter must be written to the Board of Trustees stating the reason for release.*

Tuition Payment Options

1. 12 monthly bank drafts, June – May (occurring about the 3rd of each month)
2. 10 monthly bank drafts, August – May (occurring about the 3rd of each month)
3. 2 payments by semester, due June 1 and December 1
4. 1 payment, in full, due by June 1

Tuition Payment Policy

1. Full or semester tuition payments made by check may be mailed or personally delivered to the school office. The school will not be responsible for unaccounted tuition brought in by students. Payments may also be scheduled though FACTS.
2. All monthly tuition payments will be collected by FACTS according to the schedule determined in the registration process.

Returned Checks or Denied Bank Drafts

Any tuition payment that is returned to the school or denied by the bank because of insufficient funds will be assessed a service charge of $20.00. Checks returned or bank drafts denied for insufficient funds may be resubmitted without notifying the drawer.

Should any family have two payments returned unpaid or denied by their bank, the school may opt to no longer accept personal checks or bank drafts for any reason from that family for the remainder of the school year. At that point cash, money orders or cashiers' checks must be used to pay all accounts.

Delinquent Tuition Accounts

A tuition account becomes delinquent after the tenth of the month. Lamar School has developed the procedures and policies for handling delinquent accounts listed below.

The ***Delinquent Tuition Account Procedure*** is as follows:

1. **Upon being classified as a delinquent tuition account,** a reminder invoice will be sent from the school notifying the party that the account is past due and delinquent.
2. When an account **becomes two (2) months delinquent,** with no favorable reply to the office, a follow up letter or email will be sent to the party stating:
   a. The student(s)' continued enrollment at Lamar School is jeopardized.
   b. He/she will be given a specified date to either make the account current or have an approved, written *alternative Payment Plan* (See "Alternative Payment Plan") in full force and effect.
   c. If, after the specified date, a satisfactory resolution to the delinquency has not been effected the student(s) will be dismissed from Lamar School by Board action.

Student Indebtedness at the Conclusion of a School Year

The following action will be taken for any student that is indebted to the school for ***any*** reason, unless an Alternative Payment Plan has been made with the Director of Finance.

1. For students in grades PK-5, final grades will not be given.
2. For students in grades 6-12, the school reserves the right to not administer second semester exams and/or hold final grades.
3. Seniors will not be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies

Student Indebtedness at the Commencement of a School Year

A student will not be allowed to begin classes in August if his/her Tuition Account is delinquent for any month of the current school year or if any money is owed for previous school years; unless an Alternative Payment Plan has been made with the Director of Finance.

Alternative Payment Plan

Lamar School can appreciate the temporary setbacks to families, which can adversely affect family finances from time to time. When these unexpected times occur, Lamar School can assist the family with a written **Alternative Payment Plan** for delinquent tuition, fees, and other costs associated with attending Lamar. This plan is to be presented for full Board consideration. The financially affected families, **if truly in need**, should contact the Director of Finance, in writing or in person, to inquire about stretching out their delinquency over a short period of time; however, the account should never go beyond a school calendar year. When all necessary parties approve an Alternative Payment Plan, the same shall be put in writing and becomes binding.

If the responsible party fails to comply with the terms of the Alternative Payment Plan, the student(s) will be dismissed from Lamar School by Board action.

TUITION ASSISTANCE POLICY

All students in grades 1 – 12 are eligible to apply for tuition assistance.

At the time awards are made, generally in May, a student must have a C or better cumulative average in all academic courses with no failing grades. Only those courses that are included in the school's policy for determining honor roll will be considered academic courses. Grades from summer courses are not taken into consideration.

Please note there is not an income cap to be eligible to apply for tuition assistance. However, aid is awarded to those with the greatest financial need out of all applicants. No student will receive more than 50% of tuition from any combination of tuition assistance or scholarships. Notification of award is usually made in May.

A student does not need to be registered to apply for tuition assistance; however, no spot can be held until the registration process is complete.

Tuition Assistance Procedure

1. Complete an online application through FACTS Grant and Aid link at www.lamarschool.com. Applicants are responsible for the application fee. To ensure full consideration, online applications must be submitted by April 15th. Applications filed after this date will only be considered if funds and space in desired class are available.
2. FACTS Grant and Aid is an independent company used for calculating and ranking families' ability to contribute to educational expenses will assign a rating and notify Lamar School of the applicant's rating.
3. Using the ratings of all applicants, Lamar will award tuition assistance. All applicants will be notified as soon as possible.
4. Any contributions made to the tuition assistance program will increase the amount of aid offered that year.
5. Questions on filling out the application should be made directly to FACTS.

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The Lamar School Foundation provides funding for the Lamar School Foundation Minority Scholarship Trust. Scholarships from the trust are available to students in grades 9 – 12 for the upcoming academic year.

The first sixty-five percent of the trust must be used to provide scholarships for African American students while the remaining thirty-five percent will be available for all minorities. All applicants must meet the criteria listed below.

Scholarships will be awarded on a yearly basis by the Scholarship Trust Committee, which is appointed by the Lamar School Foundation Board of Trustees. To be considered for a scholarship, the following information must be completed and submitted by April 15:

Criteria for Awarding the Scholarships

1. Must have a "B" or better cumulative average in all academic courses for the year preceding the award. Only those courses, which are included in the Lamar School policy for determining honor roll, will be considered academic courses
2. Church and/or civic involvement will be a consideration
3. Involvement in Lamar School (or school from which the applicant is transferring) activities will be a consideration
4. Appropriate decorum for the year preceding the award
5. A total of three letters of recommendation, i.e., a school administrator from the school the student presently attends, a recent teacher, a church, club, or community leader
6. A copy of the applicant's transcript for all grades completed
7. The results from each nationally recognized achievement test that the applicant has taken, if not on the transcript
8. A small snapshot of the applicant
9. A completed scholarship application

ADMISSIONS AND RE-ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Admission Requirements for All New Students

All potential students shall be on the appropriate academic level before being admitted in Lamar School. They shall be aware of the mission of Lamar School. Parents who wish to enroll a student in Lamar School should make an appointment with the administrator or counselor of the school in which their student will be enrolled.

Admission Screening/Testing
All prospective new students (K-12) must be evaluated for admission to Lamar School. There is no admission screening for students entering the Pre-Kindergarten program; however, they must be evaluated before placement in the Kindergarten program for the following year. Upon full payment of the application fee, school staff will schedule an evaluation, the results of which will determine eligibility for admission and grade/course placement. *The application fee is non-refundable.*

All screening/testing materials are the property of Lamar School and will remain the property of Lamar School after the evaluation is completed.

Forms Required for Admission
The school requires a certified copy of the student's birth certificate, an immunization record (Certificate of Compliance). All students are required by Federal Law 2650 ("an act to require certain immunizations as prerequisite for school and related programs") to submit an Certificate of Compliance from the Health Department or a physician's office. These forms must all be on file in the office before the student attends Lamar School.

Age Requirements for Admission
According to House Bill #458, Section 37-15-9 of the Mississippi Code, 1972, no student shall be enrolled in the first grade unless he/she has reached his/her sixth birthday on or before September 1st of that school year. Students entering kindergarten must be five by September 1st of the school year for which application is made and those entering the Pre-Kindergarten program must be four by September 1st of that year.

No student will be admitted to Lamar School during any school year if he/she has attained the age of twenty (20) years before September 1st of that school year.

Other Considerations for Admission
Lamar School will not accept a student who has been suspended, expelled, or asked to withdraw from another school without special review by the Lamar Administration.

Lamar School will not accept a student who has not satisfied all financial obligations to another school without special review by the Lamar Administration.

Lamar School will not accept any student who is pregnant, has given birth to a child, has fathered a child, or is married without special review by the Lamar Administration.

Potty Training
Lamar School will not accept any student who is not potty trained prior to entry. Potty trained children no longer wear diapers or pull-ups, can tell the teacher when they need to go to the bathroom, and can attend to their own hygiene.

Administrative Guidelines for Admission
The Administration reserves the right to deny admission to a student if, after testing and evaluation of the student's application packet, it is determined that Lamar School cannot meet the needs of the student.

If, after reviewing academic records and/or admission test results, it is determined that a student needs to repeat a grade/course, this recommendation will be made to the parents of the prospective student.

Due to the lack of specialized programs, students with learning and/or behavioral problems may not be eligible for enrollment at Lamar School.

The Administration has the discretion to determine if a prospective student would support the mission of Lamar School. Under special circumstances, the Lamar Administration reserves the right to admit a student "on probation" for academic or behavioral reasons. Each case will be considered on an individual basis. Parents must sign a letter outlining the agreement for admission and terms of probation. Failure to perform at these predetermined levels (academic or behavioral) could result in immediate dismissal.

Out-of-County Transfer Students

Students wishing to transfer to Lamar School from an out-of-county school should meet the following requirements when applying for admission:

- Students must meet all of the previously stated requirements for new student admission.
- The school must receive transcripts from the student's former school.
- To be assigned to the next grade, prospective elementary and middle school students must have been promoted to the next grade at the student's former school.
  - Prospective elementary school students must also have passing grades in Reading and Mathematics at the appropriate grade level from the previous year.
  - Prospective middle school/high school students must also have passing grades at the appropriate grade level in English and Mathematics from the previous year.
- All previous standardized test scores (Stanford Achievement, ACT, etc.) must be provided to Lamar School for review.

In-County Transfer Students

Students wishing to transfer to Lamar School from any school within the boundaries of Lauderdale County must meet the following requirements when applying for admission:

- Lamar School will not accept a student who is an in-county transfer (Lauderdale County Schools, Meridian Public Schools, or any private school within the boundaries of Lauderdale County) for admission from a school on a **block or similar type schedule after the seventh (7th) day** of Lamar School's academic calendar without the approval of the Lamar School Administration.
- Students must meet all of the previously stated requirements for new student admission.
- Students must meet all of the previously stated requirements for out-of-county transfers.

Home-Schooled Students

Home-schooled students wishing to enroll in Lamar School must meet the following requirements when applying for admission:

- Home-schooled students, grades 1-12, will not be allowed to enter Lamar School **any later than thirty calendar days** after the beginning of the school year. Home-schooled students must meet all of the requirements for new student admission.
- Elementary students must meet grade-level expectations on reading and mathematics curriculum-based placement tests. Results from previous standardized achievement tests are requested, if available.
- Middle school students must demonstrate grade-level performance on standardized achievement tests, if available. If standardized achievement tests are not available, the student may be subject to a proficiency test in all subject areas to determine mastery/placement.
- Lamar will accept high school credits from an accredited home-schooled program; however, if the student has not been enrolled in an accredited program, proficiency in a subject area must be demonstrated for the school to validate any credits or to establish placement.

Requirements for Re-Admissions

All students applying for re-admission to Lamar School:

- Must meet the requirements of New Student Admissions (see above sections) unless otherwise stated below.
- Will be re-admitted under the same academic conditions in which they left Lamar School and shall be subject to the following policies:

Re-Admissions for Home-Schooled Students

Within the first fifteen (15) days of Lamar School's academic calendar, any student who leaves Lamar School in "good standing" (academically, financially, and behaviorally) and subsequently applies for re-admission may be re-admitted without entrance testing/screening.

Re-Admissions for All Other Students

- Any student who leaves Lamar in "good standing" (academically, financially, and behaviorally) and subsequently applies for readmission during the same academic school year may be re-admitted without entrance testing/screening.
- Any student who leaves Lamar and applies for readmission for an academic school year different than the one in which he/she left will come under New Student Admissions guidelines.
- Any student who leaves Lamar while on academic probation must have passing final grades in all subjects in his/her current school before being considered for readmission.
- Any student, who leaves Lamar while on academic probation, if readmitted, will be on academic probation through the end of the school year.
- If a student leaves Lamar due to academic dismissal, he/she may not reapply for readmission for one year. He/she must have all passing final grades before being considered for readmission. If readmitted, he/she will be placed on academic probation for one academic school year.

Requirements for Graduation

Students applying for high school must meet with the guidance counselor and provide a current transcript to ensure the student can meet the graduation requirements. Twenty-five units are required for graduation.

Subject	**Carnegie Units**	**Contents and Remarks**
English	4	
Math	4	Must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II *All seniors are required to take a math course.
Science	4	Must include Biology I Chemistry I (beginning Class of 2025) *All seniors are required to take a science course.
Social Studies	4	Must include U.S. History, World History, Economics, and Government
Foreign Language	1	2 units are recommended
Technology	1	
Fine Arts	1	
Electives	6	At least 1½ units must be Academic Electives

Senior Requirements

Seniors must be enrolled in at least one class of all of the four major disciplines (English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) and satisfactorily complete an exit examination. Exceptions must be approved by the guidance office and administration.

Seniors who do not meet all the requirements for graduation upon completion of their final exam will not be allowed to participate in baccalaureate or graduation ceremonies; however, they may complete requirements in summer school and obtain a diploma thereafter.

School Registration

Registration fee and tuition are reviewed each January by the Board of Trustees and may be changed at that time for the upcoming year.

Lamar School reserves the right to refuse admission to any student who, in conduct or academic progress, is not considered to be in harmony with the mission of Lamar School.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Enrollment
Pre-kindergarten applicants who reach the age of four on or before September 1 of the year for which application is made are eligible for that year. Kindergarten applicants who reach the age of five on or before September 1 of the year for which application is made are eligible for that year.

The pre-kindergarten is a full-day program, meeting regular school hours. No entrance screening is required.

Priority Enrollment (Entering Grades Pre-K – 12) for Families of Current Students and their Siblings
The priority registration period for current students and their siblings is during the month of February at which time they will receive first consideration for enrollment in grades Pre-K – 12. Current students register for the next school year by completing the online re-enrollment through their FACTS account, including a *completed and signed Tuition/Educational Contract accompanied by the registration fee* ***by designated date in February;*** after which, the registration fee increases. An application for new students must be completed by the same date. Acceptance will be based on screening results.

Open Enrollment (Entering Grades Pre-K – 12)
Open enrollment begins in February following priority registration. The school will accept applications for any new student for admission in grades Pre-K – 12 during the open registration period according to the date applications are received.

Anyone completing an application during the open enrollment period will be admitted if space is available and the student meets entrance requirements. Upon receipt of an application, the school will contact the applicant. If a space is available, a screening date will be set. After administrative review of the screening, an offer will be sent to continue the enrollment process. The student will have 15 days to complete the enrollment process. After 15 days, the offer will expire. If space is not available at that time, the student's application can be placed in a waiting pool. The $130 application fee is nonrefundable.

A student registering during or after the Open Enrollment period and placed in the waiting pool will receive priority according to the following criteria: 1) child of a Lamar faculty member, 2) child of a Lamar alumni, and 3) date and time registration was completed.

GENERAL POLICY AND INFORMATION

Morning Devotion and Pledge

A morning devotion, prayer, and Pledge of Allegiance will be given each morning over the intercom system and/or in individual classrooms.

Medical Information

Parents should notify the administration if their child has a medical problem of which the school needs to be aware. All students are required by law to have a State of Mississippi Certificate of Compliance on file in the school office.

The school will dispense medicine for a student per the "Authorization to Administer Medication" form on file in the office. Guidelines listed on this form should be followed. Forms may be picked up in the office or found on our website. All prescribed student medication must be listed on the medication form.

Arrangements for temporary prescription drugs brought for use during the day must be made with the school office.

If a student becomes ill during the school day, the office will contact the home or the person listed as "emergency contact" on the application form. If a student is injured and the home cannot be reached, the child will be taken to the doctor listed on the application form.

Controlled Substance Testing/Education Policy

All students enrolled at Lamar School may be required to participate in a substance abuse education program. Students in grades 6-12 will be required to participate in a drug-screening program (See more in-depth information in the Controlled Substance Testing Policy section of this handbook).

Parental Supply or Facilitation of Access to Alcoholic Beverages or Drugs

Parents of Lamar students shall not provide or knowingly facilitate access of alcoholic beverages or drugs to a Lamar student(s) in violation of MS law and in violation of Lamar School's Rule of Conduct concerning alcoholic beverages and student use, etc. Violation of this policy may result in the termination of the relationship between that family and Lamar School.

Visitors/Campus Security

Visitors and parents should register in the office.

As a rule, student visitors are not allowed on the Lamar Campus. This is to maximize safety and minimize disruptions. Also, Lamar students should not visit another school without receiving authorization from that school.

Students not enrolled in Lamar School are not allowed in the building or on the campus without permission from the administration.

In an effort to maintain the security of the campus, students not specifically assigned to the campus after school hours will not be permitted on the school grounds.

Lamar School officials reserve the right to inspect students' lockers and vehicles on campus at times deemed necessary.

Bad Weather/Emergency Procedures

Lamar School has emergency procedures in place for the safety and/or evacuation of students in case of bad weather, fire, bomb threats, or crisis situations.

A Parent Alert text message will be sent in case of any school closings. In case of tornado warnings or extremely bad weather, parents may pick up their children from school.

Student Check Out / Dismissal Procedure

Telephone lines must be kept clear for announcements from the Civil Defense Office; therefore parents should come to the school for their children rather than calling in messages if at all possible.

- Parents must come to the school to check out / pick up their children from school in the event of severe weather. Students must be signed out by a parent in order to leave.
- Parents wishing to pick up a student other than their own must have written permission from that parent in order to do so. (Phone calls to the office by parents wishing to have someone else pick up their child are discouraged for reasons stated above but will be sufficient if it becomes absolutely necessary.)
- ***Student drivers will absolutely not be dismissed to drive themselves during severe weather or emergency situations.***

Use of Facilities, Equipment, or School Property

The facilities of Lamar School are generally restricted to the use of students. Any individual, group, or organization wishing to use the Lamar School facilities, which include all buildings, grounds, equipment, or property, must have prior written permission from the Board of Trustees. The school will require:

1. A Lamar faculty, staff, or Foundation member be present,
2. The individual, group, or organization provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance, and
3. The individual, group, or organization will be responsible for cleaning the facility or the reimbursement for cleaning service.

The individual, group, or organization is responsible for any damages incurred. Lamar School will not be responsible for any injuries sustained by these individuals, groups, or organizations.

There should be a staff or faculty member in attendance with any Lamar School student group using the property or facilities.

Soliciting

No one, other than school-related groups, will be allowed to solicit for any reason on school property.

School Bus Use

Only authorized commercially licensed bus drivers may drive the school bus. Arrangements for use of the bus must be made through the Athletic Director.

Parking

Blocking entrances or exits to the buildings is prohibited. Student drivers should park in assigned parking places. The Facilities Director will issue parking spaces.

Field Trips

Teachers will send a permission slip home to parents informing them of the date, time, and place to be visited before each field trip. This note must be signed and returned to the school before the student will be allowed to go on the field trip. Students that have an “F” in a course for the previous nine weeks or that have excessive absences, as determined by the administration, will not be allowed to miss that class for a field trip unless the entire grade is participating in the field trip or it has been approved by the school administration.

Students participating in overnight trips (i.e., Washington DC, Chicago, etc.) must be current on their tuition before payments will be accepted toward the trips.

Books

Textbooks and library books are two of the school’s most expensive investments. Students are responsible for books assigned or checked out to them. Students whose books are lost or damaged during the year will be assessed fines or replacement costs. Report cards will not be issued until these fines are paid.

Outside Speakers

The Administration must approve guest speakers.

Lost and Found

Items found should be turned into the office. If a student loses something, the loss should be reported to the office.

Policies for Donations and the Acceptance of Donations

On January 26, 2007, the Lamar School Board of Trustees amended and approved the school's policies on accepting donations.

Our philosophy is that the Board, Head of School, and Principals have a broad understanding of the direction and the needs of this school. Time, effort, and expertise have been spent developing long-range plans for the school. It is our intention to attempt to follow goals set in the priorities in which they have been determined. With this in mind, the following steps should be taken when accepting donations:

Definitions

1. Annual Fund – The annual solicitation of financial support for the operating budget.
2. Capital Campaign – An effort to fund new buildings, or renovate existing buildings.
3. Endowment Gift – A gift given to provide income through earnings from a protected fund.
   a. Unrestricted Endowment Gift – Gifts of any size are accepted. Use of the earnings is designated by the Board within the guidelines established by the Board.
   b. Restricted/Named Endowment Gift – Gifts of any size are accepted as contributions towards an existing restricted/named endowment. New restricted/named endowments can be created with a minimum gift of $10,000.00. Earnings are used as designated by the donor or the donor's delegee, and may be used only for that specific purpose.
4. Gift-In-Kind – A gift of equipment, supplies, professional services, contract services, etc; to be approved by the Head of School or School Board.
5. Planned Gift – A gift made through bequest, contract, or trust.

Responsibilities and Authority

The Head of School or the Director of Annual Fund may receive on behalf of the School any of the following donations/gifts: Annual Fund, Capital Campaign, Endowment Gift, or Planned Gift. The Director of Annual Fund will acknowledge all donations/gifts to the Annual Fund, Capital Campaign, and Endowment with proper receipt for the donor's tax purposes.

Soliciting

No individual or support group may solicit funds in the name of or on the behalf of the school (or one of its entities) unless authorized to do so by the Board or Head of School.

No one, other than school-related groups, will be allowed to solicit for any reason on school property.

Donation(s) Involving Structures

Anyone wishing to make a donation to Lamar School that would either 1) create a permanent structure(s) or 2) create a change to the functionality of an existing permanent structure should present a written commitment detailing a description of the plan to the Director of Facilities. Proposals must be reviewed by the Property Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Accepting Financial or Gift-in-Kind Donations

1. All attempts should be made to have financial donations made directly to the Annual Fund, Endowments, or future Capital Development Campaigns.
2. The person (i.e., teacher, coach, administrator) accepting the donation shall:
   a. Be sure that the donor understands that approval for the use of the donation must be obtained before it is used.
   b. Give the donation to the Director of Finance for deposit within 24 business hours of receiving it.
   c. Notify the Head of School and immediate supervisor (i.e., principal or athletic director) of the donation and request for its use.
   d. Notify the Director of Finance who will acknowledge all gifts with proper receipt for the donor's tax purposes, upon request.

3. The Head of School is responsible for approving or securing approval for the acceptance and use of a donation according to the following guidelines:

- **DONATIONS (FINANCIAL OR GIFT-IN-KIND) VALUING LESS THAN $1000.00**
  The Head of School or his designee may approve the use of any donation, financial or gift-in-kind, outside of the Annual Fund, Capital Campaign, or Endowment totaling a value of less than $1000.00.
- **DONATIONS (FINANCIAL OR GIFT-IN-KIND) VALUING $1000.00 OR GREATER**
  The Head of School and the Board must approve the use of any donation, financial or gift-in-kind, outside of the Annual Fund, Capital Campaign, or Endowment totaling a value of greater than or equal to $1000.00.

Memorial Gifts

Memorial gifts will be directed to the Annual Fund unless they are designated to a Capital Campaign or Endowment.

Memorial Gifts to the Annual Fund

If the cumulative memorial gifts to the Annual Fund for an individual total $5,000.00, then the family will be consulted about the use of the money at Lamar School. Any specific request by the family will have to be approved by the Head of School and the Board.

Memorial Gifts to Capital Campaigns or Endowments

Memorial gifts may be designated to a Capital Campaign or Endowment. Gifts designated to these accounts are used for the designated use only. These gifts cannot be redirected and will not be counted in the cumulative memorial gifts mentioned above.

Gifts of Stock

Gifts of stock are accepted by Lamar School. The most common form of stock transfer is for the donor to work directly with a broker. While a broker can establish an account for the transfer, the use of a previously established account is preferred. When Lamar School is given the option, stocks are transferred through an existing account with:

Wells Fargo Advisors
Mr. Robert Coffin
Financial Consultant
2115 5th Street, Suite A
Meridian, MS 39301
(601) 483-3355

The dollar amount of the gift is determined using stock quotes on the day of the transfer. All gifts of stock to Lamar School are to be sold the day they become the property of Lamar School. All gifts are acknowledged with proper receipt for the donor's tax purposes by the Director of Finance.

Donation of Structures or Services

Anyone wishing to donate permanent structures or services to Lamar School should present written commitment detailing description of plan to the Head of School. Proposals must be reviewed by the Property Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Organization for Parents - PALS

The Parents Association of Lamar School (PALS) is an organization for the parents and teachers of Lamar School. The purpose of this organization is to welcome parents and their children to the school, plan and implement parent night and various scheduled school activities, as well as raise funds in concert with the school's development plan. For more information about PALS, contact the school office.

Athletic Season Tickets

Season tickets for all Lamar School's sports programs are available. These tickets are good for all home games, except MAIS state playoff games. Season ticket and gate admission monies are the primary sources of income used by the Foundation to fund the athletics' program budget.

All Lamar students, Pre-K – 12, are issued a season ticket as part of their registration fee. A student must have and present at the gate his/her season ticket in order to be admitted for free. If a student loses or destroys his/her season ticket, a replacement may be purchased from the Business Office for a cost of $5.00.

Season tickets are available for purchase through the Booster Club.

Technology Use Policy

In support of Lamar School's mission, the school provides computing, networking, and information resources to the Lamar School community of students, faculty, and staff.

Rights and Responsibilities

Computers, other devices, and networks can provide access on and off campus, as well as the ability to communicate with other users worldwide. Such open access is a privilege, not a right, and requires that individual users act responsibly. Users must respect the rights of other users, respect the integrity of the systems and related physical resources, and observe all relevant laws, regulations, and contractual obligations.

Rules for Care of Lamar School Technology Hardware

- All devices should be kept inside their protective case at all times.
- All devices in classroom labs and portable carts should be placed on the assigned cart or shelf and be plugged into an assigned charger when not in use.
- No food or drink should be present in and/or around any device.
- The Lamar School sticker should not be removed from any device for any reason.
- Laptops should only be carried closed.
- Any issues or problems that are noticed or observed should be directed immediately to the technology director or a building administrator.

Rules for the Use of Lamar School Technology Resources

- Technology resources are for academic activities only.
- No one shall attempt to change the basic device set-up parameters and desktop configurations.
- Unauthorized access or alteration of school-related records, files, or information will result in severe disciplinary action.
- Student work may be saved by:
  - 6th-12th Grade: data and documents may be saved to your device directly and on Google Drive.
  - iPad: storage is only used if directly for a project assigned by a teacher.
- All school email correspondence and communication should be for educational purposes and not contain any inappropriate language, abusive content, or be harassing in nature. No student should access school mail during class time unless directed to do so by a classroom teacher.
- No online chatting, texting, Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, or other social media may be conducted during school hours.
- Students are not to reveal their personal identification data, addresses, or phone numbers, or that of any fellow student or staff member.
- Any video, photo, or sound saved while using a School device should be for educational purposes only.
- Any attempt to access, save, download, or distribute inappropriate, sexual, pornographic, racist, vulgar, graphic, illicit, hate-oriented, or any offensive or questionable material will result in severe disciplinary action.
- There will be no downloading of games, music, movies, or executable files of any nature from the Internet. This does not include text, media, or pictures needed for school purposes.
- Lamar School is not responsible for damaged or lost data transferred through the school network, school mail, Google Drive, Flash drives, or iPads.
- Students should follow protocol for help with technology problems or resources.

Examples of Misuse

- Using an unauthorized computer account.
- Misusing Artificial Intelligence
- Leaving a computer or device unattended and not returned to the proper location.
- Knowingly saving or accessing inappropriate content on a school device.

- Obtaining a password for a computer account without the consent of the account owner.
- Using the campus local area network to gain unauthorized access to any computer system.
- Knowingly performing an act that will interfere with the normal operation of computers, terminals, peripherals, or networks.
- Knowingly running or installing on any computer system or network, or giving to another user, a program intended to damage or to place excessive load on a computer system or network. This includes, but is not limited to, programs known as computer viruses, Trojan horses, worms, and other malicious logic.
- Attempting to circumvent data protection schemes or uncover security loopholes.
- Violating terms of applicable software licensing agreements or copyright laws.
- Deliberately wasting computing resources such as excessive printing.
- Using electronic mail or a website to threaten or harass others.
- Masking the identity of an account or machine.
- Posting materials on electronic bulletin boards or websites that violate existing laws or the School's codes of conduct.
- Attempting to monitor or tamper with another user's electronic communications, or reading, copying, changing, or deleting another user's files or software without the explicit agreement of the owner.
- Purposefully changing computer default settings or changing the desktop of a lab device.

Existing Legal Content

All existing state and federal laws, as well as Lamar School regulations and policies, apply. Included are not only those laws and regulations that are specific to computers and networks but also those that may apply generally to personal conduct.

Misuse of computing, networking, or information resources may result in the loss of computing privileges. Additionally, misuse can be prosecuted under any applicable legal statutes. Users may be held accountable for their conduct under any applicable school policy, procedure, or agreement.

Complaints alleging misuse of Information Technology (IT) will be directed to those responsible for taking appropriate disciplinary action. Reproduction or distribution of copyrighted works, including, but not limited to, images, text, or software, without permission of the owner is an infringement of U.S. Copyright Law and is subject to civil damages and criminal penalties including fines and imprisonment. If a minor child carries out the misuse or abuse, there exists an element of parental responsibility and liability.

Enforcement

Penalties may be imposed under one or more of the following: Lamar School regulations and policies, Mississippi law, or the laws of the United States.

The Administration handles minor infractions of this policy, or those that appear accidental in nature, internally in an informal manner by electronic mail or in-person discussions. More serious infractions are handled via formal procedures. Infractions such as harassment, unauthorized use of IT systems, attempts to steal passwords or data, unauthorized use or copying of licensed software, violations of School policies, or repeated violations of minor infractions may result in the temporary or permanent loss of access privileges while the situation is under investigation.

Offenses that are in violation of local, state, or federal laws will result in the immediate loss of computing privileges and will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Reporting Misuse

Report all incidents of abuse to the Administration.

Apple 1:1 Program

All students and their parents participating in the Apple 1:1 program must complete the orientation session. In addition to the policies listed above, students must sign and agree to abide by the policies outlined in the Apple 1:1 Handbook.

Elementary School Policies and Information

ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual attendance is expected and is necessary for success in school. It is important students be in school every day, including short days prior to holidays. Students absent from class for any reason other than school sponsored or school related functions for more than twenty days per year will not receive academic credit for the year. The administration and school board may waive this standard if it is determined that the absences resulted from unusual circumstances or extended medical illness.

Parents may call the school office or email the school to report a student absence. If a student is able to attend class later in the school day, he/she must first check in at the office.

Planned Absence

When a student knows in advance that he/she will be absent, a planned absence form should be completed. All tests will be made up when the child returns to school. Families are expected to limit out-of-town trips during the school year.

Extended Illness or Absence

A student that is absent due to an extended illness must bring documentation to school when returning to class or no medical consideration will be given to the student if he/she exceeds the allowable absences in a class. This documentation should be submitted to the office within five (5) days of returning from the extended illness.

Tardiness

Classwork begins promptly at 8:00 A.M. in the elementary school. Students are considered tardy at 8:05 A.M. If a student exceeds two tardies per nine weeks, an early morning (7:15 a.m.) work session will be assigned and will continue to be assigned for each tardy thereafter until the end of the nine-week period. A conference including parents and administration will be held if tardies become excessive.

Checkout

Students must be checked out in the front office. Classwork continues until the dismissal bell at 2:40 P.M. each day. Early checkout for any other reason other than illness is discouraged. Students are responsible for the make-up of lessons and class assignments missed. A conference including parents and administration will be held if early checkout becomes excessive.

Make-up Work

A student absent because of illness, doctor appointments, and/or death in the family will be given up to the number of days absent to complete any missed assignments and tests. If a student has a pre-planned early check-out or a school sponsored early check-out any assignments and tests for that day should be completed before departure. All pre-planned absences or school sponsored absences will require missed assignments and tests to be completed on the day of return. Students are expected to make arrangements with teachers for all absences that are pre-planned. No tests or quizzes may be given before the scheduled date for a pre-planned absence.

SCHEDULE

Daily Schedule

7:30 Doors Open
7:40 Drop off Begins
8:00 First Bell
8:05 Tardy Bell
11:00-11:25 PK-K Lunch
11:05-11:30 1st-2nd Lunch
11:35-12:00 3rd-5th Lunch
2:40 Dismissal

Drop-off Car Line

- School drop off car line supervision begins at 7:40 A.M.
- All students enter the building through the front doors.
- Drivers must remain in the carpool line and not pass other cars for any reason.
- Drivers may not exit the vehicle in the carpool lane.
- Please limit walking students into the building to special circumstances (i.e., helping with a project).
- Drivers may not park in the carpool line.
- Cellular phone use is prohibited during carpool drop-off.

Pick-up Car Line

- Carpool lines **must** be used for student pick-up.
- Pick-up for ALL PK families is on the east side of the building.
- Families with the oldest child in K-1st grade pick up on the east side of the building (lower line).
- Families with the oldest child in 2nd-5th grade pick up on the front of the building (upper line).
- Display the yellow visor sign on the driver's visor for lower line
- Display the yellow visor sign on the passenger's visor for upper line.
- Children should not walk between cars during carpool.
- A student leaving with someone NOT listed on the pickup list MUST HAVE A NOTE OF PERMISSION FROM A PARENT.
- Cellular phone use is prohibited during carpool pick-up.

Promptness is expected on the part of parents at the end of the school day. A student who has not been picked up by 3:15 PM will be required to sign a late pick up form. After the third late pick up, a fine will be assessed of $20.00 per late pick up for the remainder of the school year.

Elementary students are not allowed to walk across the street to and from the high school to the elementary school. Older siblings are only allowed to pick students up through the regular dismissal carpool line in a vehicle.

ACADEMICS

Grade Level Structure

Pre-Kindergarten
Lamar School offers Pre-Kindergarten as a full-day program. Teachers integrate subject areas within weekly thematic units that include whole group instruction, small group instruction, and child-initiated tasks that develop fine and gross motor skills to promote development. The design of both the classroom and curriculum encourages play, exploration, problem solving, listening, and creative expression.

Kindergarten
Lamar School offers Kindergarten as a full-day program. Teachers emphasize language arts and math skills through experiential activities that blend with more structured, teacher-directed activities and small group centers to provide a strong, rigorous foundation for reading and math and a full introduction to concepts of phonics, writing, speaking, reading, numbers, patterns, and gross and fine motor skills.

Grade One
The well-designed curriculum incorporates language arts, math, social studies, and science instruction, often integrating two or more learning areas with a focus on building skills for independent reading and automaticity in math concepts. First Grade report cards go home at the end of each nine week period.

Grade Two
The well-designed curriculum incorporates language arts, math, social studies, and science instruction, often integrating two or more learning areas with a focus on developing comprehension and a love for a variety of literature. Second grade is the introduction of grade averages for each subject area.

Grade Three
A transitional grade between primary and upper elementary, third grade emphasizes growth and independence in learning. Teachers utilize a variety of methods, materials, and technology to build an understanding of new skills then facilitate student learning through guided practice and completion of related tasks in both mathematics and reading.

Grade Four
In fourth grade, students build onto upper elementary instruction in departmentalized classes of language arts, math, social studies, and science. Students develop more sophisticated communication and thinking skills across the curriculum through guided practice, novel study, writing, and problem solving.

Grade Five
In an effort to prepare students for the challenges of middle school curriculum, Lamar School provides rigorous fifth grade instruction geared around language arts, math, social studies, and science. Students develop more sophisticated communication and thinking skills across the curriculum through units and novel studies with a strong emphasis on independent learning and well-developed writing.

Curriculum

Reading
With an emphasis on good, quality literature, the reading program is designed to develop a life-long love of reading. Each grade level teaches reading skills such as phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, critical thinking, and higher-level reading strategies.

English
The English curriculum emphasizes correct usage of the English language in both written and spoken grammar. It also integrates speaking, listening, and cross-curricular activities to help students form connections with other areas of learning to develop life-long skills.

Spelling and Handwriting
Although these skills are often integrated into other subject areas, specific instruction of each skill is provided to strengthen performance and facilitate future learning. Students develop handwriting in both print and cursive.

Social Studies
Content is designed in a way that builds an appreciation of the world, beginning with family, neighborhood, and school then expanding to communities and regions of the United States. There is an emphasis within the curriculum on history, geography, economics, humanities, and citizenship particularly in the upper elementary grades.

Mathematics
Through direct and supervised instruction using a multisensory curriculum that emphasizes application of skills in higher level thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving, the mathematics program builds a foundation in key mathematics skills. In addition to a wide variety of teacher-created resources, individual student manipulatives provide high motivation for students to learn skills with practical everyday applications.

Science and STEM Lab
The science curriculum gives the opportunity to learn through the use of the scientific method, new technologies such as robotics and coding, and project-based lessons. Learning strands include physical science, earth science, life science, technology/society, science process/history, and health/human body. A well-equipped S.T.E.M. Lab provides a wide variety of technology, hands-on learning for projects, and integrated labs.

Special Subjects

Art
In addition to receiving exposure to a rich variety of media, students participate in activities that integrate topics of study from their regular classrooms. They participate in various art competitions and complete community service projects throughout the year, both in class and during planned after-school events.

Library
Students learn library skills and develop an appreciation for good literature through author studies and special events. They also participate in the computerized Accelerated Reader program, which involves individual goal-setting and encourages improved reading comprehension. Students utilize computers within the library to learn how to research topics of special interest and produce a piece of writing.

Music
The classroom teachers coordinate with the music teacher to present plays and devotionals. Students receive instruction in basic music concepts and use a wide variety of rhythm and musical instruments. The fourth grade participates with other students from local schools in Carnegie Hall's *Link Up* program, which provides them the opportunity to perform with the Meridian Symphony Orchestra.

Physical Education
Physical education classes encourage the development of motor skills, coordination, strength, and endurance. Students also learn the value of teamwork and the health benefits of regular exercise. Students compete for the Presidential Physical Fitness Award in grades one through five.

Spanish
Students in grades PK-5 become acquainted with Spanish as a second language through the development of basic vocabulary and conversational skills and transitioning into writing and knowledge of language structure.

Homework

Homework is an integral part of the school program. It is designed to supplement, complement, and reinforce classroom teaching and learning on an independent basis while establishing a foundation of self-discipline. Participation in school or extra-curricular activities is not a valid excuse for incomplete homework assignments. Students not completing homework will stay in during recess to complete the assignment.

Tests

Notice will be given before a test. An effort will be made by teachers to limit testing to two major tests a day.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Students identified as struggling in the area of academics or speech may be eligible for additional services provided by Lamar School at an additional cost. Teacher recommendation, documentation of need, and certified professional testing for a specific learning difficulty or speech difficulty may be eligible for reasonable classroom support. Due to the lack of specialized programs beyond tutoring and speech services, the school is unable to serve students with severe learning difficulties or behavioral needs that require additional support or modifications of curriculum/objectives.

Discovery

Discovery is a fee-based program staffed with a certified teacher. It is designed to help personalize learning and to improve the educational performance of students by providing needed support services. These services include use of intervention strategies through in-school tutoring for students diagnosed with learning difficulties. Discovery encourages the student to develop self-awareness, leading to an appreciation of individual strengths and the use of strategies that will help the student to compensate for academic weaknesses. Parents must submit academic test results and written recommendations made by the testing professional. Following consideration of the test report, the administration will make suggestions for reasonable support. Parental consent must be given to carry out a plan of support.

Speech

Speech is a fee-based program staffed with a certified speech pathologist. It is designed to help personalize speech and language needs and to improve the overall verbal performance of students by providing needed support services. These services include the use of intervention strategies through in-school one-on-one support for students diagnosed with speech difficulties. Speech encourages the student to develop self-awareness, leading to an appreciation of individual strengths and the use of strategies that will help the student to compensate for language weaknesses. Students must qualify for speech services through speech screening and testing. Following consideration of the test results, the administration will make suggestions for speech support. Parental consent must be given to carry out a plan of support.

GRADES

Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 1

4 - **Mastery** 3 - **Satisfactory** 2 - **Needs Improvement** 1 **- Unsatisfactory**

Grades 2 – 5

A **90-100** B **80-89** C **70-79** F **69-Below**

Grade Reports

Grading periods are nine weeks in length. FACTS is available for parents to check student progress for 2nd-5th grade. Students receive DAILY and TEST grades. Daily grades count for 40% of overall grade. Test grades account for 60% of overall grade. Parents will receive progress reports every 4 ½ weeks and report cards at the end of each nine weeks via a FACTS email attachment.

First grade parents will have a scheduled parent/teacher conference at the end of the first nine weeks period to review progress and see printed report cards. All four nine weeks grading periods will have a printed report card for parents to review.

Kindergarten parents will have a scheduled parent/teacher conference during the first nine weeks to discuss progress and student performance. For the remaining 3 nine-week grading periods, parents will receive printed report cards.

Pre-Kindergarten parents will have a scheduled parent/teacher conference at the beginning of the second semester of school to discuss progress and performance. Pre- Kindergarten students receive a printed progress report each semester.

Grade Retention/Academic Dismissal

A student will not be promoted if he/she cannot demonstrate reasonable mastery of grade-level reading and/or math skills. As the teacher monitors class progress during the school year, sometimes it becomes apparent that a student is exhibiting recurring learning behaviors that interfere with academic success. The teacher may request a conference with the parents to discuss areas of needed improvement. Parents will be notified at the end of the first semester if there is a possibility that their child will not be promoted. If the student is failing but would likely gain mastery through summer remediation, parents may secure a tutor for their child and request follow-up grade level screening to help determine appropriate grade placement.

If the administration concludes the needs of a student are not being met by the academic program at Lamar School (determined after reviewing test scores, report cards, and student progress), a conference will be held with the parents to decide if it is in the best interest of the student to repeat a grade level or be dismissed from the school.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Remarkable Raider Award

The Remarkable Raider Award is given randomly to students that demonstrate leadership among their peers and show strong characteristics of citizenship including being responsible, respectful, and resourceful.

Nine Weeks Honors

Lamar School recognizes the following school honors each nine weeks for students in the fourth and fifth grades:

Head of School's List: A student must have 93 or better in all academic classes
Principal's List: A student must have 90 or better in all academic classes.
Honor Roll: A student must have 85 or better in all academic classes.

Junior Beta Club

Fourth and fifth grade students are eligible for consideration for induction into Junior Beta Club based on the following criteria:

1. 90 or above GPA for Math, Science, Reading, English/Writing, Language Arts, and Social Studies with no C's
2. Evidence of exemplary citizenship including respect for teachers and school staff as well as other students

Fourth and Fifth Grade Awards Ceremony

Below is a list of required qualifications for each award presented at the end of the year 4th and 5th Grade Awards Ceremony:

Honor Roll: a student must have 85 or above in every academic class for the first three nine week period.
Principal's List: a student must have all A's in every academic class for the first 3 nine week period.
Head of School List: a student must have no grade below 93 on the report card for the first 3 nine weeks.
Citizenship: given to 4th grade students that show exemplary citizenship throughout the year.
Art Competition: recognize students that placed in local and state art competitions.
Student Council: presented to 4th and 5th graders that were elected to the student council.
Raider Championship: presented to students meeting required guidelines.
Spanish Award: presented to students that demonstrate excellence in Spanish as a second language.
Reading Award: presented to students that demonstrate excellence in the Accelerated Reader Program.
Music Award: presented to students that demonstrate excellence in Music.

Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony

Below is a list of qualifications for each award presented at the end of the year Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony:

Lela Rosenbaum Award: given to the student with the highest GPA earned at Lamar School for fourth and fifth grade.
Principal's Award: given to the student with the second highest GPA earned at Lamar School for fourth and fifth grade.
Lamar School Award: given to one boy and one girl that best represents Lamar Elementary School through their sportsmanship, participation, and achievements. The winners are selected by peers and teachers.
Physical Education Sportsmanship Award: given to one girl and one boy for outstanding physical achievement and exemplary qualities of sportsmanship in physical education.
Daughters of the American Revolution Patriotism and Citizenship Award: presented to one fifth grade student through written recommendations from teachers and selected by a member of the DAR.
Fred Brashier Citizenship Award: given to 10% of the students in the 5th grade class that consistently demonstrate excellent citizenship qualities. This award is selected by all 5th grade teachers and specials teachers.
The Presidential Certificate for Educational Excellence: presented to any student having a 90 GPA for fourth grade and the first semester of fifth grade and a score in or above the 85th percentile in reading or math on annual standardized achievement tests.
Presidential Educational Achievement Certificates: presented students at the principal's discretion for special achievement or academic improvement.
5 Year + Club: presented to students who have had continual enrollment at Lamar School since first grade.

CONFERENCES

Scheduled parent conferences will be held during the fall of the school year in grades kindergarten through 2nd grade. A parent conference may be arranged at any time during the school year by calling the school office. Parents may communicate with their child's teacher via email. Teacher email addresses are listed in the Lamar Directory on our website and FACTS. Administrators and teachers will not be available for a conference without an appointment.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

Standardized test results along with classroom evaluations are used to track each student's yearly progress and curriculum strengths and weaknesses. In addition, standard achievement test performance is one of the criteria used to establish eligibility for fourth through fifth grade academic excellence programs and awards. Standard achievement tests are administered to grades 1-5 each Spring. Because these tests are mandatory, prompt arrival and attendance are very important during the week(s) of testing. Test make-up cannot be guaranteed.

WrAP Writing Test

The ERB Writing Assessment (WrAP) is a two-day writing assessment. The WrAP uses prompt-based essay writing to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of student writing through the six traits of writing. The WrAP Writing Test is administered to students in grades 4-5 in the Spring.

CTP5 Test

The Comprehensive Testing Program (CTP5) is a rigorous assessment in the areas of reading, listening, vocabulary, writing, mathematics, verbal reasoning, and quantitative reasoning. The CTP5 helps compare and assess content-specific, curriculum-based performance to the more conceptual knowledge base found in reasoning tests. The test is administered to students in grades 1 – 5 in the spring.

CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

Lamar School strives for high standards in conduct and self-discipline. Elementary students are expected to be respectful, responsible, and resourceful. Policies of conduct and discipline are in place to provide an orderly, safe, and effective learning environment. Lamar School expects students and parents to adhere to these policies at all school sponsored and school related functions both on and off campus.

While serious discipline problems are rare and isolated cases, disruptions due to frustration and hostility caused by emotional or physical problems will not be tolerated. At this time, the school is not staffed to manage recurring, significant behavioral problems. In these instances, the teachers and the administration will offer alternative solutions to parents.

Parents and students must be aware that attending Lamar School is a privilege. Students who are not committed to obeying the rules of conduct of Lamar School will be asked to leave.

Policy of Conduct and Discipline

Lamar Elementary School promotes a policy that encourages students to develop the skills needed to become successful citizens both at school and within the community. Although the classroom teacher is primarily responsible for the administration of this policy, the faculty disciplinary team (teachers and administrators) may assume responsibility for reviewing student behavior and assigning appropriate consequences as needed. Consequences may include warnings, classroom infractions, loss of recess, isolation, major infractions, early morning work session, student/parent/teacher conference, parent conference with teacher/disciplinary committee, or placement of student in parent care.

School Rules

1. Be responsible
2. Be respectful
3. Be resourceful

Classroom Infractions

Classroom policies are in place to provide an orderly, safe environment that supports learning. Lamar Elementary expects students to take responsibility for their behavior. If a student fails to be responsible, respectful, or resourceful a classroom infraction will be given. Lamar Elementary encourages parents to use classroom infractions as a learning tool to help recognize and modify a behavior. The following behaviors may result in the assignment of a classroom infraction:

- Disrespect towards others
- Disobeying school rules (ex: running in the building, pushing or shoving)
- Disobeying classroom rules (ex: classroom disruption, excessive talking)
- Failure to follow directions
- Disrespect for school property (ex: destruction of property)
- Inappropriate behavior during school or school functions
- Failure to complete assignments
- Dress code violations
- Chewing gum
- Other misbehavior as determined by the teacher or administration

A classroom infraction form will be sent home when a student receives a classroom infraction. The form must be completed by the student, signed by a parent, and returned to the classroom teacher the following morning. Two classroom infractions within ten school days or three infractions in one semester will directly result in the assignment of an early morning work session. After 2 early morning work sessions, a student and parents must report to the discipline committee.

Discipline Referral

Lamar expects students to take responsibility for their behavior and to actively demonstrate their desire to make improvements when needed. A discipline referral will be given for major discipline issues such as:

- Fighting or assault
- Offensive language and/or gestures
- Destruction of school property
- Severe disrespect for authority
- Disobeying of school or classroom rules after warnings
- Inappropriate behavior during school or school functions after warnings

Early Morning Detention

Assigned early morning detention will be served before school, beginning at 7:15 a.m. The student must arrive in the building at the appointed time. Failure to be on time will result in re-assignment of morning detention. Siblings are not allowed before 7:30 a.m.

Citizenship

Lamar School will give a citizenship grade to each student in grades 2-5 every nine-week term. The student's citizenship grade will be a measure of his/her social **conduct** and assumption of **responsibilities**.

Excellent (4) – Exemplary in all areas of conduct and assumption of responsibilities
Good (3)- Setting a good example in conduct and assumption of responsibilities
Fair (2) – Improvement is required in conduct and/or assumption of responsibilities
Poor (1) – Conduct and/or assumption of responsibilities is unacceptable

Examples of factors for determining reduction in ratings may include but are not limited to:

1. Excessive tardies
2. Cheating/plagiarism
3. Failure to bring required materials to class
4. Preparation of assignments: failure to hand in on time or to make up after absences
5. Conduct

Cheating

Cheating is defined as giving or receiving information on classwork, a test, or homework.
The following procedures will be used as deemed appropriate:

First Offense: The teacher will call the parent to report/discuss behavior. The teacher may assign a grade of **50** to the work on which cheating occurred and the student will be given a classroom infraction.
Beyond First Offense: The teacher will call the parent to report/discuss behavior. The teacher may assign a grade of **0** to work on which cheating occurred, and the student will be assigned an early morning work session.
Recurring Offenses: The student may be subjected to review by the school's disciplinary committee, at which time additional measures to correct behavior will be assigned.

STUDENT LIFE

Student Council

Grades 3-5 elect the Elementary Student Council consisting of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. The Student Council helps to plan activities and represents the school during events.

Eligibility for Office:

1. The student must have a “B” average in all academic subjects (with no “F”).
2. The student must have excellent conduct in the classroom and at school functions with no infractions.

Personal Deliveries/Invitations

Students are not allowed to receive flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, or other personal deliveries at school for any occasion. Distribution of invitations to parties, etc., is not allowed unless all students in that classroom will receive one.

Lunch

Lunch and drinks are purchased through a debit system only. A lunch will be ordered for any student who does not bring a lunch from home. Canned or bottled carbonated drinks are not allowed. Menus are sent home weekly on the newsletter and posted on our website each month. The contractual agreement between Lamar School and the food service provider prohibits all commercial foods (i.e. Subway) from being brought into the Mitchell Cafetorium.

Snacks

A snack time each day will be given to all students in PK-5th grade. Students are asked to bring a healthy snack and a water bottle from home. Candy, chips, and sweets should not be brought for a daily snack.

Classroom Parties

Party plans are coordinated by PALS at the beginning of the school year. All plans and food must be cleared with the classroom teacher prior to the party. During a snack party, snacks are delivered straight to the office the morning of the party. Baby showers, wedding showers, and/or retirement parties held for a teacher must first be approved by the administration.

Thanksgiving Snack Party
Christmas Classroom Party
Valentine’s Snack Party
Easter Snack Party
End of Year Classroom Party

Party Rules:

1. Siblings are not allowed.
2. Parties are the last thirty minutes of the school day.
3. Party favors, happy bags, or balloons are not allowed.

Personal Property

Label all student outerwear, backpacks, and lunchboxes, so that misplaced items may be returned. The school lost and found is located in the office. Items unrelated to school academics such as toys, gadgets, and playing cards should not be brought to school. The administration reserves the right to check book bags, gym bags, and purses at any time.

Electronic Devices

Students are not allowed to bring electronic devices into the classroom during school hours. Violations of this policy will result in the confiscation of the device, and the offending student may be assigned an early morning work session for repeated violations. Only parents may retrieve confiscated items from the school office.

Weapons

Students, faculty, and visitors are prohibited from bringing guns, knives, or weapons of any kind on the Lamar School campus. The school and /or law enforcement officials will deal with violators. Students shall not possess, handle or transport razors, ice picks, explosives, fireworks, lighters, matches, or any other object that can be considered as a weapon or dangerous instrument.

ELEMENTARY DRESS CODE

Lamar School requires students PreK – 5th grade to wear the dress uniform daily in order to cultivate excellence and promote esprit de corps. Lamar School has chosen The Liberty Shop and Dennis Uniforms to supply uniform needs. To minimize misunderstandings items purchased from only these sources should be worn. Students may be asked not to wear unapproved items to school.

Boys

- Long or short-sleeved white collared shirt with the Lamar logo
- Long-sleeved navy crewneck sweater or sweatshirt with logo
- A white base layer may be worn under a navy sweater/sweatshirt
- Khaki pleated, plain-front, or elastic waist dress slacks (no jeans, cargo pants, sweat pants, wind pants, or knit fabrics)
- Khaki pleated, elastic waist, or plain-front shorts (no knit fabrics)
- Navy lightweight fleece jacket with logo
- Brown/Black/Navy belt (required)

Boys are expected to be neatly groomed. Hairstyles must be neat, well-groomed, and not extreme in color or style. Hair lengths must be cut above the eyebrows and cannot extend below the top of the collar or the bottom of the ear.

Girls

- Long or short-sleeved white collared shirt with the Lamar logo
- Long-sleeved navy crewneck sweater or sweatshirt with logo
- A white base layer may be worn under a navy sweater/sweatshirt
- Navy cardigan with logo
- Navy lightweight fleece jacket with logo
- Short-sleeved or long-sleeved knit white blouse (with logo if worn as top layer)
- Classic navy large plaid shorts, skort or skirt (a-line or pleated)
- Classic navy large plaid poly/rayon blend jumper without logo
- Navy biker shorts/ tights/bloomers underneath skirts and jumpers
- Plaid dress for Pre-K and K only

Dresses and skirts should be of sufficient length and loose enough to afford proper modesty. All tops must fit such that no skin is exposed at midriff or back while walking, sitting, or during any range of motion. Hairstyles must be neat, well-groomed, and not extreme in color or style. Makeup should be limited to plays only.

Baseball hats and caps are not permitted, and sunglasses may not be worn indoors. Body piercing is limited to the ear (girls only). Earrings are limited to studs.

Logo

The school logo must be displayed on the top layer of clothing worn indoors. If the top layer is a sweater/sweatshirt that may be removed during the school day, then the shirt underneath should also bear the logo. Shirttails of dress uniform must be tucked in at all times.

Coats

Heavy outerwear winter coats and raincoats that complement in color to the school uniform are acceptable outdoors, but students will not be allowed to wear these indoors.

Footwear

Shoes must have both closed toe and heel. The colors and design should complement the school uniform. Sock colors must be blue, black, or gray, red, or white. No sandals, athletic slides, toe shoes, flip flops, or Crocs are allowed. Low-heeled boots that hit below the knee are permitted for girls and boys. Boys may only wear boots with long pants (untucked). No pointed cowboy boots are allowed. Rain boots are discouraged.

T-Shirts

All students will be provided a class T-shirt. Students are also offered the opportunity to purchase additional Lamar School spirit wear at the beginning of the year from PALS, a homecoming shirt, and an Olympic Day shirt. Approved Lamar School T-shirts will be allowed on specific school days and on Fridays throughout the year. Any other T-shirt orders by parents or teachers must be approved by the administration prior to ordering.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are never mandatory. Arrangements will be made at school for a student who chooses not to participate. Individual permission slips will be sent home prior to each field trip. These forms must be returned to the school in order for the student to go on the field trip. Students are expected to follow the guidelines of the school on field trips. Swimming is not allowed on a school-sponsored field trip. Field trips are educational experiences arranged relevant to the grade, age, and curriculum.

Transportation

Parent drivers sometimes are needed to transport students during field trips in cars or in the school vans. Only the assigned drivers may accompany the class on the field trip. All students requiring a car seat/restraint under Mississippi Law must provide one in order to attend a field trip with parent drivers in cars.

Charter buses are used for out-of-town field trips. Teachers and students must ride the bus. Chaperones may ride the bus if there is room. Chaperones following the bus in cars must stay behind the bus at all times.

Driver Responsibilities

1. Driver must possess a valid driver's license.
2. Driver must have current car insurance.
3. There must be a working seat belt for each passenger in the car.
4. No children are allowed in the front seat.
5. The driver must follow the designated route to and from the field trip with no extra stops allowed.
6. The driver must take the children that are assigned to them.
7. The use of cell phones while driving is strictly prohibited.
8. No other children or siblings are allowed on field trips.
9. Any accidents or damage requires a police report.

Chaperone Responsibilities

1. Chaperones always monitor students in their care at souvenir shops, public restrooms, and parking lots.
2. Chaperones help with managing lunches, ice chests, and items for the trip.
3. Chaperones check public restrooms before students enter and remain at the restroom door.
4. The use of cell phones while supervising children is prohibited except for picture purposes and communication with staff.
5. No other children or siblings are allowed on field trips.

PALS (PARENTS AND LAMAR SCHOOL)

Parents are encouraged to get involved with our PALS (Parent and Lamar School) Program which gives opportunities for parents to volunteer at the school. Our PALS Program has a President, Vice President, and Secretary each school year. These three volunteers help coordinate events, sign-ups, and activities for the school. An electronic sign-up from PALS volunteers will go out at the beginning of school for parents to volunteer for activities such as parties, carpool assistance, homeroom mothers, and events. Some events that are coordinated by PALS include Olympic Day, Teacher Appreciation Week, Fall Festival, Veteran's Day, Raider Reader Party, Book Fair, Grandparents Day, and Uniform Resale. Homeroom Mothers help coordinate parent volunteers for parties, transportation, and events.

Middle School Policies and Information

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK

Attendance Policy

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all Lamar Middle School students and is considered critical if the results of the teaching and learning tasks are to be maximized. It is essential that each student recognizes the sequential nature of instruction and that any unnecessary and/or excessive absence severely impedes the educational process. Therefore, Lamar School attendance regulations have been established with the best interest of Lamar School and the students/parents in mind.

A student will be considered absent from a class if he/she is not in attendance for the full class period, regardless of the bell schedule (a tardy equals an absence).

Students absent from a class for any reason, other than school sponsored or school related, for more than ten (10) times per semester course or twenty (20) times per year course, ***will not receive academic credit*** for courses in which the absences have occurred. The administration and school board may waive this standard if it is determined that the absences resulted from unusual circumstances or extended illness.

Students participating in the sixth period athletic classes must be in attendance for the full class period from 1:37-2:30 pm. Coaches will take attendance and absences will be recorded.

A student that is absent due to an extended illness and is under a doctor's care at the time of the absence must bring documentation to that effect to school when returning to class or no medical consideration will be given to the student if he/she exceeds the allowable absences in a class. **This documentation should be submitted to the office within five (5) days of returning from the extended illness.**

Even though the school will make an effort to notify parents of excessive absences, it is the responsibility and accountability of the parents and students to avoid the excess. Middle school parents should call the morning of a student's absence. Notes will not be accepted. If a student reports to school during the school day, he/she ***must*** check in at the office.

Family Vacations / Parental Planned Absences
Since the school calendar allows ample time for vacations in and around holiday seasons, parents should make every effort to arrange their vacations to coincide with school vacations. School administration highly discourages taking additional days just prior to and immediately following a school holiday.

To receive approval for a planned absence, students should follow these procedures:

1. The parent should submit in writing a letter to the middle school principal stating the reason and the dates for the absence. The letter may be emailed or hand-delivered by the student.
2. The student should obtain a Planned Absence Form from the office and then obtain the signatures of all teachers on the form.
3. The student should return the completed Planned Absence Form to the office.
4. The parent letter and completed form will be kept on file in the office for the remainder of the school year.

Checking Out / Leaving the Campus
Permission to check out/leave campus may only be obtained from and through the office. Students are not allowed to leave campus without checking out.

An office staff member must make personal contact with the parent before a student will be allowed to check out/leave campus.
The desired forms of personal contact are :

- the parent being present at the time of checkout or
- a signed note with a follow-up phone call.

Once a student checks out he/she must leave campus. **Additionally, in order for a student to participate in any school sponsored event, practice, or competition the student must have been in attendance for the entire day, unless approved in advance by the Head of School. For Middle School Students, the school day encompasses six periods beginning at 7:50 am and ending at 2:30 pm.**

Late Work Policy

It is important that students understand the importance of adhering to assigned due dates for the work they complete in classes. Teachers expect that students complete and turn in work on time and as specified. Students should utilize FACTS to keep track of homework and assignments. Participation in extracurricular activities or sports, both school sponsored and/or community-based, is not a valid excuse for failure to complete assigned work in classes.

Assignments, homework, classwork, projects, etc. are due at the time/date specified by the teacher. If a student fails to turn in an assignment at the specified time and date, no credit will be given and a grade of zero will be entered into the grade book. Any exceptions to this policy will be made at the discretion of the teacher. Students should not expect to be granted extra time to complete assignments, nor should they expect to be able to complete extra credit assignments to make up for the missing assignments.

Make-Up Work Policies

When a student is absent for a portion of a class, an entire class period, or multiple days of a class (regardless of the reason for the absence(s)) it is the **student's responsibility** to:

1. Check FACTS for material covered in class and for assignments and homework missed
2. Communicate with teachers concerning due dates and requirements for makeup work
3. Adhere to the deadlines set forth by policy and/or their teacher

After reviewing the material missed due to an absence, the student should make an appointment to see his/her teacher if questions remain about the material or assignments. Students should understand that it is not the teacher's responsibility to reteach the entire missed lesson(s).

A "1" will be assigned in the FACTS grade book for all missed assignments until the work is satisfactorily completed and submitted to the teacher for grading and recording.

After two weeks (fourteen calendar days) from the date of the absence, a zero will replace the one for all missed assignments and tests due to student absence in the FACTS grade book.

Timelines for Submitting Make-Up Work After a Class Absence

Make-Up Work for Missing Class Period(s) Due to Checking Out and Checking In
Students who are present at school, check out for a period when a test is scheduled or major project or assignment is due, and then check back in to school after said period will be required to take the missed test and/or turn in the major assignment or project on the same day. A grade of zero will be given for the missed test and/or major project or assignment if the student does not adhere to this policy.

Make-Up Work After 1 or More Days Absence
Students will be allowed the same number of school days he/she was absent to make up/complete any test, quiz, homework, project, or classwork beginning with the day of return to school. Examples:

- One day absence – student has one day to complete work and assignment(s) is due on the second school day after return
- Two day absence – student has two days to complete work and assignment(s) is due on the third school day after return
- Three day absence – student has three days to complete work and assignment(s) is due on the fourth school day after return

Assignments/Tests Announced or Posted Prior to an Absence
For assignments and test dates announced in class and/or posted in FACTS prior to a student absence:
- Student is expected to turn in assignment or take test upon day of return to school.

Assignments/Tests Made on the Day of an Absence
For assignments and test dates announced in class or posted in FACTS on the day of a student absence:
- Students have the number of school days equivalent to the number of school days missed to complete assignments or tests.

Guidelines for Student Athletes and/or School-Sponsored Events
For assignments or tests missed due to:
- Full day school sponsored athletic events
- Early departure due to school sponsored athletic events
- School sponsored events

1. Students should make arrangements to turn in an assignment or take a test prior to the day of the event or time of departure unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher.
2. If an assignment cannot be turned in or a test taken prior to the day of the event or the time of departure, the student is required to take the test on the next day following the athletic event.
3. Any multiple-day assignment or project due on the day of an event should be turned in prior to the day of the event or time of departure, unless arrangements have been pre-approved by the teacher of the class.
4. For assignments made or tests announced on the day of an absence due to a full day school sponsored athletic event, an early departure athletic event, or school sponsored event the student has the same number of days as the absence to complete assignments or take missed tests beginning with the date of return to school from the event.

Assignments
Students and parents may view missed assignments utilizing FACTS. It is the student's responsibility to coordinate all missed assignments with the teacher. Participation in school or extracurricular activities is not a valid excuse for incomplete homework assignments.

STUDENT ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE POLICY AND INFORMATION

Morning Drop-off for Middle School

Middle School student morning drop-off begins at 7:30 a.m. The school is not responsible for students who are dropped off and left unattended earlier than 7:30 a.m.

Parents should go through the drop-off line that forms in front of the Middle School building where school personnel are on duty to direct traffic flow and assist with the safe flow of people and vehicles.

Do not go around the drop-off line and stop in traffic to drop off students. This line of traffic is designed for a steady flow of movement.

Afternoon Pick-up for Middle School

Afternoon pick-up for Middle School students is a stationary event. There is no moving line for afternoon pick-up as there is at morning drop-off. Parents and/or anyone planning to pick up a Middle School student at afternoon dismissal should park in the lot on the west end of the Middle School building no earlier than 2:15 p.m. This lot is used for High School student parking during the school day and is not available for parent use prior to 2:15 p.m.

Students will walk out to their vehicles after dismissal. Keep in mind that students will be coming from various parts of campus and may need to visit their lockers (located in the Middle School building) before coming to their cars for departure. Therefore, once students are dismissed from sixth period at 2:32, the time it takes them to be ready to depart campus for the day may vary.

Middle School students are not allowed to walk to other campus locations (i.e. elementary school, gyms, field house) for afternoon pick-up.

Middle School students must leave campus at the end of the school day unless they are participating in a Lamar School sport or extracurricular activity. Using the school campus as an after school hangout place is not permitted.

ACADEMIC POLICY AND INFORMATION

Curriculum Structure

The curriculum of Lamar Middle School is designed to implement the mission of the school in that it provides a challenging and purposeful college preparatory curriculum that meets the specific and unique needs of the middle school-aged learner. Students experience a well-rounded and robust course offering in Middle School that builds on the elementary design and provides a foundational bridge to rigorous high school course selections.

Course Load

Students in grades 6 through 8 will have a 6 period class day. Each period consists of fifty-five minutes. For grade 6, five of the periods are academic core classes. One period is devoted to enrichment rotation classes.

All students will take an English, math, science, and history course each year unless otherwise approved by the Administration.

Middle School Course Offerings (Subject to change)

Grade 6
English & Writing Skills
Literature & Composition
World History
Integrated Science 6
Math 6
Electives Rotation*

*6th grade rotations for 2024-2025 include Habitudes, Digital Citizenship, Math Enrichment, and Art. Students will take a different rotation course each nine weeks. Students will also attend PE class one day per week for the entire school year.

Grade 7
English
Writing Studio
United States History
Integrated Science 7
Pre-Algebra Foundations
Pre-Algebra Accelerated (prerequistes apply)
Math Studio
Strength and Conditioning or Rotation Classes

Grade 8
English
Writing Studio
Civics/MS History***
Integrated Science 8
Pre-Algebra Concepts***
Algebra I***
Math Studio
Computer Applications
Art
Strength and Conditioning

***Course counts as a HS credit.

High School Credits Earned in Middle School

Credit received in the eighth grade for Algebra I, Pre-Algebra Concepts, and Civics/Mississippi History will be recorded on the student's permanent record and the final average for the course will be part of the overall high school transcript and Grade Point Average (GPA).

Student Support Services

Students who have been tested within the past three years by a certified professional and diagnosed with specific learning difficulties may be eligible for limited academic support in grades K-12. Parents must submit test results and written recommendations made by the testing professional. Following consideration of the test report, the administration will make suggestions for reasonable support. Parental consent must be given to carry out a plan of support, and the student's academic and cumulative records must reflect the areas in which support is given.

The middle/high school is extremely limited in the support that can be provided for students in the classroom setting. Therefore, it is recommended that students requiring reasonable support investigate external resource programs and tutors that are available.

Due to the lack of specialized programs beyond discovery/tutoring services, the school is unable to serve students with severe learning and/or behavioral difficulties that require more extreme support or modification of curriculum/objectives.

EXPECTATIONS FOR HOMEWORK AND STUDY HABITS

Transitioning from Elementary School to Middle School

Developing strong and independent study habits and homework routines is a very important part of the transition from elementary school to middle school. As students begin to take on increasing levels of responsibility for their academic success, the partnership between the school and the home takes on greater significance.

Lamar School attempts to instill in each student a desire to learn to the best of his/her ability. Parents can help in this effort by taking the position that school is of major importance, that its schedule must be observed, and that outside activities must not be so time-consuming or numerous as to infringe on the time necessary for school work.

General Guides to the Development of Proper Study Habits

- Have a regular time and place to study each subject.
- Use willpower to keep on task.
- Concentrate on the work at hand.

- Keep up assignments from day to day.
- Keep well physically in order to feel like studying.
- Have sufficient materials at hand to use while studying.
- Improve reading habits and skills. The ability to read well is a prerequisite to effective study.
- Use a dictionary.
- Realize that learning pays off. Take pride in being a good student.

Lamar School Homework / Study Policy
Recognizing that research indicates a positive correlation between increased time on homework and higher proficiency scores, Lamar School has developed the following homework policy for students. Homework, in this instance, refers to work assigned by a teacher to be completed outside of class time.

This work is not limited to that which can be written but may include other types of work, such as studying, conducting research, or developing projects. It is our belief that homework serves many purposes:

- To improve academic and vocational performance
- To help students organize their time
- To extend learning and critical thinking beyond the school day
- To develop individual responsibility, decision making skills, and independence
- To provide additional time for the application of new skills
- To keep parents involved and informed about the curriculum and skills being developed
- To enhance grades

As the effectiveness of any policy depends upon the cooperation of all concerned, the following responsibilities are stated:

Students' Responsibilities
- Record assignments daily.
- Gather materials necessary for the completion of the assignment.
- Ask for clarification or help if an assignment is not understood.
- Complete the assignment on time.
- Should expect an average of around one to two hours of homework per night. Homework may consist of written assignments, reading, studying for quizzes and tests, practicing, or working on long-term projects or assignments.
- Plan adequate time for long-term assignments

Teachers' Responsibilities
- Provide a thorough explanation of how to do an assignment.
- Post homework assignments on FACTS.
- Acknowledge each assignment in some way (such as comment upon, grade, check, etc.).
- Ensure that homework assignments are meaningful.
- Provide ample time for long-term assignments throughout the school year.
- Communicate consequences for not completing homework to the students.
- Communicate the value of homework assignments with respect to the overall grade.

We Ask for Parental Cooperation with the Following
- Establish homework as a priority.
- Check FACTS frequently for assignments and posted test dates.
- Foster pride in completed tasks.
- Provide a quiet place, adequate time, and materials to complete assignments.
- Assist the student in managing his/her time outside of school to ensure enough time is allowed to complete homework.
- Encourage a consistent daily routine.
- If a student says that assignments are completed, see that the time is devoted to reading, reviewing, or other academic pursuits.
- Support consequences when homework is not completed.

Grading, Testing, and Reporting Policy and Information

Grading System

A **100-90** B **89-80** C **79-70** F **Below 70**

Regular Subject Testing

Students will have at least four test grades and a minimum of ten daily grades per course each grading period. Every effort will be made to have no more than two major tests and/or major projects a day.

The test schedule listed below has been developed for the Middle School. While every effort will be made to ensure adherence to these schedules, it is noted that unforeseen circumstances may arise that will facilitate the need to deviate from a scheduled test day. In the event a major test needs to be given on a day different than scheduled, affected teachers will be polled in order to prevent undue hardship on the students. Additionally, students will be notified in advance of the rescheduled test day.

Middle School Regular Test Schedule

Monday: Science, Literature, and Electives
Tuesday: English and History
Wednesday: Mathematics and Literature
Thursday: English, Science, and Electives
Friday: Mathematics and History

End of Semester Exams
A **comprehensive semester exam** covering material taught in that semester will be given in all academic subjects. This exam will be 20% of the semester grade.

In the case of a true emergency, only the administration may grant permission to change a scheduled semester exam. Exams missed during the regularly scheduled time must have a doctor's excuse before a make-up exam will be administered. Exams missed without prior approval or a doctor's excuse will receive a grade of zero.

Semester Exam Schedule

The semester Exam schedule is developed and set so as to protect both the students' and teachers' workload and planning during test weeks. For this reason, neither student nor teacher will be allowed to deviate from the prescribed schedule.

Middle School Semester Exams

Day 1	**1st Period – 8:00-10:00** **2nd Period – 10:30-12:30**
Day 2	**3rd Period – 8:00-10:00** **4th Period – 10:30-12:30**
Day 3	**5th Period – 8:00-10:00** **6th Period – 10:30-12:30**
Day 4	**Make-up exams 8:00-12:30**

End of Course / End of Year Exam Exemption

Exam exemption is a privilege, not a right, afforded to students that satisfy the criteria listed below pertaining to grade point average and discipline/citizenship.

A student that has been assigned to in-school or out-of-school suspension will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

Exemption Policies for the Final Exam of a Semester Course
Students in **grades 6-8** may be exempted if the following conditions are met:

1. Final average of 95 or above in the course
2. No more than two discipline infractions in any nine-week grading period. Disciple infractions are considered as a whole and not on a class-by-class basis
3. No more than one Saturday School assignment in the semester/year
4. No ISS or OSS assignment during the school year

Exemption Policies for the Second Semester Exam of a Yearlong Course
Students in **grades 6-8** may be exempted if the following conditions are met:

1. Final yearly average of 95 or above in the course
2. No more than two discipline infractions in any nine-week grading period. Discipline infractions are considered as a whole and not on a class-by-class basis
3. No more than one Saturday School assignment in the semester/year
4. No ISS or OSS assignment during the school year

Citizenship

Lamar School will give a citizenship grade to each student every nine-week term. The student's citizenship grade will be a measure of his/her social ***conduct*** and assumption of ***responsibilities***.

Ratings:

Excellent (4)	Setting an exemplary example in conduct and assumption of responsibilities
Good (3)	Setting a good example in conduct and assumption of responsibilities
Fair (2)	Improvement is required in conduct and/or assumption of responsibilities
Poor (1)	Conduct and/or assumption of responsibilities is unacceptable

Examples of factors for determining reduction in ratings may include but are not limited to:

1. Tardy to class
2. Cheating/plagiarism
3. Failure to bring required materials to class
4. Preparation of assignments: failure to hand in on time or to make up after absences
5. Conduct: disrespect to the teacher, excessive talking, disruption of class, infraction of school rules, abuse of school property, cell phone violation
6. Dress code violation
7. Misuse of technology

Reports to Parents

Parents are informed of each student's performance through progress reports and report cards. Report cards are sent via FACTS every nine weeks and progress reports are sent via FACTS at mid-term of each nine weeks.

Students' grades may be viewed online through FACTS and parents are encouraged to use this tool. Students and parents should set up their own accounts. An account may be set up through the link on the Lamar School website. The email address for each person must match the email address on file at school.

Standardized Testing

Many of these test scores will be used for determining admission into various Advanced, Honors, and Advanced Placement classes upon entering high school.

CTP5

The Comprehensive Testing Program (CTP5) is a rigorous assessment for high achieving students in the areas of reading, listening, vocabulary, writing, mathematics, and science. Verbal and quantitative reasoning subtests are part of the CTP5 as well. The CTP5 helps compare content-specific, curriculum-based performance to the more conceptual knowledge base found in reasoning tests. The test is administered annually in the spring to students in grades 6th-8th. Comprehensive individual student reports are mailed to parents during the summer, and overall school performance is reviewed at the annual grade-level meetings in the fall of each school year.

Writing Assessment Program (WrAP)

Lamar Middle School students participate in the Writing Assessment Program, or WrAP assessment, each spring. WrAP is a writing assessment designed to be a direct measure of student writing achievement and serves as a tool to help classroom teachers pinpoint specific strengths and weaknesses of their students' written expression. Comprehensive individual student reports are mailed to parents during the summer, and overall school performance is reviewed at the annual grade-level meetings in the fall of each school year.

Parent Conferences

A parent conference may be arranged at any time during the school year by calling the office. Parents may communicate with their child's teacher via email. Teacher e-mail addresses are listed on FACTS and the school's website.

Any questions concerning classroom work, conduct, or any other student concerns not resolved by email should be handled in the following manner:

1. First through the appropriate classroom teacher or coach by contacting the office for an appointment.
2. After meeting with the classroom teacher if further communication is desired, the parent should make an appointment to meet with the Dean of Students or the Dean of Faculty.
3. The final step in the hierarchy of communicating a situation/concern is to make an appointment to meet with the Head of School.
4. Any individual deviating from the steps described above will be directed back to the appropriate level before any further discussions will take place.
5. ***Administrators and teachers will not be available for a conference without an appointment.***

Note

- ***Parents are not allowed to go to the classroom to get their child or see the teacher. If this is necessary report to the office and the appropriate arrangements will be made.***
- ***Parents are to refrain from calling teachers/staff at their homes or cell phones; all contact should be made during school hours.***

Grade Retention / Summer School / Correspondence Work

Students in grades 6th-8th must pass the major subject courses of English, literature, mathematics, social studies, and science in order to be promoted to the next grade. If a student in 6th-8th fails any major subject course, he/she must complete an accredited summer school program for that course with a certified, school-approved teacher and curriculum. All academic summer work must be approved by and coordinated through the guidance office prior to enrollment in the course.

Course Replacement Credit

Any middle school student taking a high school course (Algebra, Computer Applications, Civics, and Mississippi History) who does not attain a B grade or better may take the course the following year and replace the credit on one's permanent record. The replacement credit may only be replaced the following year with the same Lamar School course.

Grade Retention / Academic Dismissal

If the administration concludes the needs of a student are not being met by the academic program at Lamar School (determined after reviewing test scores, report cards, and the student's progress), a conference will be held with the parents, classroom teacher, guidance office and administration. At that time, it will be decided if it is in the best interest of the student to repeat a grade level at Lamar School or be dismissed from the school.

Academic Probation / Academic Dismissal

Any student having two “F’s” at the end of an academic year will enter the succeeding year on academic probation, even if he/she has passed summer school or a correspondence course. As a part of the probationary status, Lamar School recommends that the student be professionally tested for a learning disability at the parent’s expense. Results of the testing should be presented to the guidance office to investigate what support, if any, may be made by Lamar School for any learning disabilities detected.

If the student fails any subject for the year while on probation, the student cannot attend Lamar School the subsequent year.

ACADEMIC HONORS AND RECOGNITION

Honor Societies and Clubs

National Junior Beta Club
The National Junior Beta Club was founded in 1934. Its purpose is to promote the ideals of character, service, and leadership among students, to reward meritorious achievement, and to encourage and assist students in continuing their education after high school.

Middle School students in 6th-8th grade earning a 90 or above combined GPA for Math, Science, English, Literature, and Social Studies, with no C’s, are deemed eligible for membership in the Lamar Middle School chapter of the National Junior Beta Club. Once inducted, students must maintain this same combined GPA at the end of each semester in order to remain active Junior Beta Club members.

Students who fail to meet the requirements at the end of any semester will be placed on inactive member status and will be allowed time to work and bring their overall GPA back to the standard.

New members are added during the first semester of the school year based on the above criteria. Students who are new to Lamar Middle School and were members of Beta Club at their former school will be allowed to transfer their membership if they meet the overall GPA requirement.

National Junior Honor Society
The National Junior Honor Society was founded in 1929. Five main purposes have guided chapters of NJHS from the beginning: to create enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote leadership; to encourage responsible citizenship; and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter.

Rising 8th graders must have obtained a 93 or above overall grade average at the end of their 7th grade year to become a member. The criteria for membership also require outstanding performance in the areas of service, leadership. and character. Students are eligible to be tapped for membership in the fall of their 8th grade year.

Nine Weeks Honors

Lamar School recognizes the following school honors each nine weeks for students in the Middle School:

- Head of School’s List: A student must have 93 or better in all academic classes
- Principal’s List: A student must have 90 or better in all academic classes
- Honor Roll: A student must have all 85 or better in all academic classes

Year-End Honors

An awards day is held each spring honoring those students with the highest GPA in each academic subject as well as those students who have remained on the Head of School’s List, Principal’s List, or Honor Roll each of the first three nine-week grading periods.

CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE POLICIES

Rationale of Discipline

Students of Lamar School are expected to meet the highest standards of personal, ethical, and moral conduct possible. Attending Lamar is a privilege that is extended on the condition that students and parents accept and support all School policies, including these conduct and discipline policies. When used in this document, the term "parents" will be considered to include legal guardians.

Students and parents are expected to be familiar with the school's conduct and discipline policies and to willingly abide by them. If any student or parent violates any of these policies, there will be a disciplinary response by the Lamar School. The school, in its sole discretion, will make the final determination of whether there has been a violation of its policies. Serious violations may result in expulsion.

Philosophy of Discipline

Lamar School strives for high standards in conduct and self-discipline. Students are expected to organize and manage their lives in a way that demonstrates personal responsibility for academic success. The fundamentals of discipline as looked upon by the Administration of Lamar School have the following objectives:

- To develop in all students a high level of responsibility with respect to the adherence to mandated rules, all school assignments, commitments to extra-curricular activities, and all other facets of their lives both school related and nonschool related.
- To create and preserve the conditions essential to the orderly process of the school.
- To prepare the student for effective participation in adult life.

The policies of conduct and discipline described hereafter are in place to provide an orderly, safe, and effective learning environment. The Board of Trustees supports policy decisions made by the administration and expects students and parents to adhere to these policies.

The conduct and discipline policies described in this section applies to any student who is:

- In attendance at school or on school property;
- At any school sponsored function or school related function on or off the Lamar School campus; or
- ***Involved in any conduct at any other time or place that has a negative effect on maintaining school order and discipline, protecting the safety and welfare of others, or damaging the reputation of Lamar School.***

Parents and students must be aware that attending Lamar School is a privilege. Students who are not committed to obeying the rules of conduct of Lamar School will be asked to leave.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

1. A Lamar student is expected to respect Lamar School and the authority of the school (i.e., administrators, teachers (regardless of whether the teachers are personal teachers of the student or not), and staff).
2. A Lamar student is responsible for knowing and adhering to the policies of Lamar School as they pertain to student conduct and student life.
3. A Lamar student is expected to respect the property of other students, staff, and personnel. No student is to borrow or use another person's property or enter another person's desk or locker without permission.
4. A Lamar student is responsible for his own personal property and is expected to take care of his belongings. The school takes no responsibility for the loss or damage to personal property.
5. A Lamar student is expected to respect school property, including the building, furnishings, grounds, equipment, and textbooks. Misuse, damage, or loss caused by a student is subject to fine, replacement, suspension or expulsion.
6. The following are the **Standard Classroom Policies.** In addition, teachers may have special regulations not listed below. **Students are bound by both the following rules and by the teacher's special rules.**

Middle School Standard Classroom Policies

- Students are to be in their classrooms and prepared to begin class when the tardy bell rings or at designated class start time. They are not to leave their places in the classroom without permission.
- Each student is to have all the necessary materials for class: text(s), workbooks, notebooks, paper, pencil/pen, calculator, etc.
- Students are to be attentive and participate actively in all class activities assigned by the teacher. They are not to do work for another class or to read other-than-class materials, unless given explicit permission to do so by the teacher. Materials for another class or for non-class activities should not be on a student's desk.
- Each student is to refrain from talking out without permission and from talking to others while instruction is going on or study periods or tests are underway; noise making, forced laughter, etc. are also unacceptable.
- Students are not to congregate around a teacher's desk without permission. All items on the teacher's desk are considered personal; students are not to touch or read papers, grade books, etc.
- Students are to avoid any actions that are distracting to the learning procedure underway in the classroom, especially harassing other students, taking books, poking and kicking others, pushing desks, throwing or shooting items around the room, passing notes, etc.
- Students are responsible for the cleanliness around their desks. Students are to clean up around their desks at the end of each class.
- Students are not to use: vulgar, obscene, suggestive, or insulting expressions; overt demonstrations of disapproval; and/or any behavior that is disruptive to the classroom situation. Additionally, they are not to argue about tests, grades, and/or punishments during the class, but rather they should see the teacher after class in order to resolve such difficulties.
- The location of desks, the condition of windows, blinds, thermostats, and lights are the teacher's responsibility; students are not to regulate these unless directed to do so by the teacher.
- Students should always knock before entering a classroom when a class is in session. Respect and politeness are expected at all times.

GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT

Note: ***This handbook does not and cannot address every situation, question, or problem that may arise. Any situation, question, or problem that arises and is not covered in this handbook will be left to the discretion of the administration.***

Guiding Principles

School officials are guided by certain principles in the administration of discipline. The guiding principles include the following:

- The school reserves the right to consider all attempts to commit violations in the same context as completed violations. Accomplices in violations may be considered as involved as violators and face similar consequences.
- During the investigation of a violation, the administration may suspend the student or prohibit or restrict participation in student activities, including, but not limited to athletics, student organizations, or elected positions. This action may be in conjunction with or in addition to any other form of disciplinary procedure utilized.
- The school reserves the right to discipline students for off-campus behavior when the police are involved, whether or not charges are brought, or when the student's behavior is so blatant that it brings embarrassment or dishonor to the school. The administration shall determine whether the off-campus behavior in question shall result in disciplinary action.
- The school reserves the right to consider any violation in which the students are/were involved, regardless of the time passed.
- The school reserves the right to use progressive forms of discipline in the event of excessive number of occurrences of a particular form of discipline or multiple offenses whether or not specified in the following descriptions. The decision will be the sole decision of the administration.

DISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE

Lamar School does not administer corporal punishment. In the absence of corporal punishment, other disciplinary measures will be used such as reprimand, loss of privileges, before school detention, parent conference, Saturday school, internal school suspension, external school suspension, or expulsion.

Students are subject to progressive forms of discipline in the event of excessive number of occurrences of a particular form of discipline or multiple offenses. The decision will be the sole decision of the administration.

Parents will be notified by email or personal contact if a student is required to visit the office and receives some form of the disciplinary actions mentioned below.

Detention

Detention is considered a Level One Consequence.

Detentions will be held each Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 7:15 A.M. until 7:50 A.M. Students assigned detention will be given notification and expected to serve detention at the assigned time.

Students are expected to be on time and dressed within the Lamar School dress code guidelines – students may not come dressed in athletic practice clothing. Detention begins promptly at the designated time. **Students who do not report for detention on time will be considered absent and will have to make the entire detention assignment up on a subsequent day and will be assigned an additional full detention.**

Parents will receive notification of an impending detention via email prior to the assigned detention date.

Saturday School

Saturday School is considered a Level Two Consequence and will be used as a progressive mode of discipline in the event that before school detention does not seem to be deterring improper behavior for a student so as to avoid a suspension. It also may be used as an initial form of discipline in some instances.

Saturday School will be held from 8:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. on the assigned Saturday of the month or as needed. Failure to report on the assigned date will result in at least one day of internal or external suspension.

Each student is expected to be on time and dressed within the Lamar School dress code guidelines. Any student late for Saturday School must stay in Saturday School thirty minutes past the assigned dismissal time. A student late for Saturday School must serve the remainder of the time assigned and will be assigned an additional form of discipline (i.e., additional time in Saturday school, after-school detention(s), or an additional Saturday school).

Parents will receive notification of an impending Saturday School assignment prior to the date of the assignment.

A student that has been assigned to Saturday School more than one time in a school year will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

Internal School Suspension

Internal School Suspension is considered a Level Two Consequence.

Internal school suspension (in-school suspension or ISS) will be given to students for continued discipline problems or inappropriate behavior. ***Students that are internally suspended will receive a one-point deduction from the final class average per internal suspension assignment at the end of the nine-week period for each class missed.*** The point deduction will be for each class missed according to the following guidelines:

- If a day of internal suspension is only for a portion of a school day, the points will be deducted only from the classes missed.

- If a day of internal suspension is for an entire school day, including early dismissal days and field days, the point deduction will be for all classes regardless of if the classes actually met or not on the day of suspension.

Furthermore, the student will be required to complete all work issued and return it to the teacher at the prescribed time. Students will be internally suspended from 7:50 A.M. until their regularly scheduled dismissal time and will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities that day (including practice or games).

A student that has been assigned to in-school suspension will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

External Suspension

External Suspension (out-of-school suspension or OSS) is considered a Level Two Consequence.

When a student has committed several minor offenses without improvement, violated school rules considered by the administration a serious breach of conduct, displayed immoral behavior, or has been arrested, he/she is subject to external suspension.

External school suspension will result in a loss of points from the final average for the nine-week period at a *rate of two points per day suspended, up to six points per suspension.* The points deduction will be for each class missed according to the following guidelines:

- If a day of suspension is only for a portion of a school day, the points will be deducted only from the classes missed.
- If a day of suspension is for an entire school day, including early dismissal days and field days, the points deduction will be for all classes regardless of if the classes actually met or not on the day of suspension.

Upon the receipt of the second external suspension, a student will be placed on disciplinary probation.

A student that has been assigned to out-of-school suspension will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

Other important notes regarding external suspension:

- The suspended student MAY NOT be on the Lamar School campus or in attendance at any school function or activity, on or off campus, throughout the duration of his/her suspension.
- All assignments from each class for the duration of the suspension will be available for a representative of the suspended student to pick up. It is the suspended student's responsibility to be sure that the assignments are picked up.
- All daily work (homework/classwork) missed during suspension will be due at the first of each class period on the day the student is readmitted to school.
- Tests scheduled during the days of suspension: The student will have up to the number of days suspended to make up any missed tests.
- Tests assigned during the suspension time and scheduled to be taken on a day that the student has been readmitted to school: The student will be required to take the test on the day it has been assigned, including the day he/she is admitted to school.

Expulsion

Expulsion is considered a Level Two Consequence.

In the event of a severe offense, the repetition of suspension-producing offenses, or the breach of disciplinary probation a student will be subject to expulsion. Should such an occasion arise, the Head of School will suspend the student for ten (10) days and recommend expulsion of the student to the Board of Trustees. An expulsion hearing will be held by a committee of the Board within ten (10) school days, the decision of the committee will be final.

The student and his/her parent(s) are entitled to a "due process" hearing, thus they will be informed of the date and time of the board committee hearing. A detailed account of violations/actions will be provided to the student, parent(s), and the Board.

If the decision of the Board committee is:

- ***Expulsion*** – the student will be withdrawn from school immediately and his/her permanent record/transcript will indicate the student was expelled; tuition relief is at the discretion of the school. In some cases, if certain conditions are met, re-enrollment is possible.
- ***Ten (10) Days of Suspension*** – the student responsibilities and penalties are outlined above in the section on External Suspension.
- ***Less than Ten (10) Days of Suspension***

1. For the ruled suspended days – the student responsibilities and penalties are outlined above in the section on External Suspension
2. For the days out of school above the ruled suspended days – all missed and due work must be turned in no later than the second day of return to school; tests will be made up within the time frame set by the administration

Parents and students must be aware that attending Lamar School is a privilege. Students who are not committed to obeying the rules of conduct will not be permitted to remain at Lamar School.

Level One Infractions and Consequences

Infractions

A Level One Infraction involves behavior that is generally distracting or disruptive to the learning environment and/or the day-to-day operations of the school.

Consequences

The consequence for a Level One infraction shall consist of any one or combination of the following actions. There is no progression in the consequences. Likewise, the consequence is determined at the discretion of the administrator.

- Reprimand
- Loss of privileges
- Detention

Level One Infractions are listed as follows:

- Violation of dress code – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd infraction
- Violation of cell phone policy – 1st and 2nd infraction
- Violation of technology responsible use policy Level 1- 1st, 2nd offenses
- Tardiness – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd infraction per semester
- Disruptive and disorderly conduct
- Food, drinks, or chewing gum in buildings
- Disrespect shown towards teacher or adult
- Insubordination towards teacher or adult
- Insulting or obscene language, gestures, or behaviors
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Inappropriate driving or parking on campus
- Visitation to other schools

A detailed description of policy regarding some Level One Infractions are given below:

Dress Code

Students are expected to adhere to the dress code guidelines on a daily basis and should enter the building at the start of the school day in full compliance. Students who are found to be out of compliance with the dress code at any time during the school day will have the following consequences administered within one semester. In addition, students must correct the dress code infraction before they will be allowed to return to class:

- 1st infraction – Student will receive an administrative warning
- 2nd infraction – Student will serve one morning detention
- 3rd infraction – Student will serve two morning detentions

Tardiness

Punctuality is expected of all students. Lamar School believes it is the responsibility of parents to see students arrive at school on time. It is the student's responsibility to arrive in class on time. The disciplinary action that will be administered for tardiness to a class within **one semester** is as follows:

- 1st tardy – Student will receive an administrative warning
- 2nd tardy – Student will serve one morning detention
- 3rd tardy – Student will serve two morning detentions

Physical Contact

Physical contact, handholding, hugging, and kissing, are inappropriate behaviors in school. It is important for all students to understand while certain behaviors may be viewed as correct in one social situation; they may be viewed as inappropriate at another time or place.

Cell Phones in Middle School

Lamar School recognizes the growing independence and responsibility that comes when a student transitions to Middle School, especially when it comes to the need and use of cell phones. While we realize that cell phones are a very important part of parent and student lives at this age, their place and significance in the educational environment and during the instructional school day is limited.

The use of a cell phone through any of its functions (calls, pictures, texting, etc.) is disruptive and interferes with the educational process. The use of cell phones is not permitted on school campus during school hours without permission from a school official. Phones should remain turned off and stored in student backpacks or lockers.

Parents should not expect Middle School students to answer text messages, take phone calls, or communicate in any form using their cell phones during the school day. We ask that you finalize plans for after-school activities before school begins each day. If a sudden or emergency situation arises during the school day where a parent needs to contact their student, they should call the middle school office and inform the school of this need.

Likewise, during the school day, Middle School students are not allowed to call parents from personal cell phones in the event of illness. If a student should become ill during the school day, they will be directed to the Middle School office. Once Middle School personnel have assessed the student's condition, they will be allowed to call a parent if needed. This practice ensures that students are properly and quickly taken care of in the event of illness or injury by school personnel.

Any phone that is visible, audible, or in use by a student during the school day is subject to be taken up. Therefore, students in Middle School will be expected to store phones in their locker or backpack, rather than in their pockets or anywhere on their person. The school day is defined as 7:50 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. for Middle School students.

When a student's cell phone is taken up by a teacher, administrator, or any other school official a discipline form will be completed and the phone will be secured in the office. Parents will be contacted in order to let them know that their student's cell phone has been confiscated before the end of the school day.

Consequences for cell phone policy violation in Middle School are as follows:

- First Offense - Phone taken up and held in office until the end of the school day. Student will serve one morning detention.
- 2nd Offense: Phone taken up and held in office until the end of the next school day. Student will serve one morning detention.
- 3rd Offense: Phone taken up and held in office for five days. Student will serve Saturday School.
- 4th Offense: Phone taken up and held in office for five days. Student will serve one day of In-School Suspension. A Parent Conference will be held.
- 5th Offense: Phone taken up and held in office for five days. Student will serve one day of Out of School Suspension. A Parent Conference will be held.

Please note the following rules concerning cell phone violations:

- Only a parent my retrieve a confiscated cell phone. Cell phones are not returned to students.
- Consequences are calculated on a semester basis.
- Cell phone consequences apply to school days. Phones are generally not held over weekends.

Electronic Devices on Campus

Laptops or iPads (other than those leased from Lamar School), Smart Watches, wearables, kindle type devices, headsets, cameras, and other electronic or internet connected devices are not to be used or visible on campus during school hours. Violations of this policy will result in ***the same penalties as described above for cell phones.***

If an electronic device is necessary for an educational activity, permission must be obtained from a school administrator.

Visitation to Other Schools
Without permission from the school in question, Lamar students are not to visit the campus of another school while that school is in session.

Level Two Infractions and Consequences

Infractions
Level Two Infractions constitute violations of school policy in a more serious, destructive, or threatening manner than Level One Infractions. Also considered in this category are repeated and/or multiple violations of any Level One Infraction. Some consequences also reflect a progression for violation of a specific policy.

Consequences
The consequence for a Level Two Infraction shall consist of any one or combination of the following actions. There is no progression in the consequences. Likewise, the consequence is determined at the discretion of the administrator.
- Saturday School (SS)
- In-school suspension (ISS)
- Out-of-school suspension (OSS)
- Expulsion

Level Two Infractions are listed as follows:
- Truancy or skipping class
- Violation of dress code – 4th, 5th+ offenses
- Violation of cell phone policy – 3rd, 4th+ offenses
- Violation of technology responsible use policy Level 1 – 3rd offense
- Violation of technology responsible use policy Levels 2 and 3
- Tardiness - 4th, 5th infraction per semester
- Disruptive and disorderly conduct (multiple infractions)
- Disrespect shown towards a teacher or adult (multiple infractions)
- Insubordination towards teacher or adult (multiple infractions)
- Insulting or obscene language, behavior, or gestures (multiple infractions)
- Improper leaving of campus
- Cheating or plagiarism
- Stealing
- Vandalism or damage to property, private or school
- Truancy or skipping class
- Gambling
- Unauthorized entry of school premises
- Indecent exposure or any offense otherwise punishable by law
- Use, under the influence, or in possession (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle) of alcohol or drugs
- Possession of a weapon (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle)
- Use, possession, distribution, or sale of tobacco or vape products or paraphernalia (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle)
- Possession of pornographic or hate-group materials
- Student Harassment
- Sexual harassment

A detailed description of policy regarding some Level Two Infractions is given below:

Truancy/Skipping
An absence for one or more periods without permission of parents and prior notification of the school is considered truancy. Truancy will result in the notification of parents and will be subject to Saturday school, internal suspension, external suspension, or any combination of the aforementioned.

Students on campus must be in their assigned/scheduled class unless permission has been obtained from the classroom teacher (or substitute teacher) of their assigned/scheduled class. Students found to be absent without permission (skipping) will result in the notification of parents and will be subject to Saturday school, internal suspension, external suspension, or any combination of the aforementioned.

Checking Out/Leaving the Campus
Permission to check out/leave campus may only be obtained from the office. Students are not allowed to leave campus without checking out. An office staff member must make personal contact with the parent before a student will be allowed to checkout/leave campus. The desired forms of personal contact are 1) the parent being present at the time of checkout or 2) a signed note with a follow-up phone call. Once a student checks out he/she must leave campus.

Any student leaving the campus without following proper checkout procedures will result in the notification of parents and the student will be subject to before school detention, Saturday school, internal suspension, external suspension, or any combination of the aforementioned.

Dress Code
Students are expected to adhere to the dress code guidelines on a daily basis and should enter the building at the start of the school day in full compliance. Students who are found to be out of compliance with the dress code at any time during the school day will have the following consequences administered within one semester. In addition, students must correct the dress code infraction before they will be allowed to return to class:

- 4th infraction – Student will serve one Saturday School
- 5th and subsequent infractions – Student will serve one day of ISS per infraction accrued

Tardiness
Punctuality is expected of all students. Lamar School believes it is the responsibility of parents to see students arrive at school on time. It is the student's responsibility to arrive in class on time. The disciplinary action that will be administered for being tardy to a class at level two is as follows:

- 4th tardy – Student will serve one Saturday School
- 5th and subsequent tardy – Student will serve one day of ISS per tardy accrued

Cheating and Plagiarism
Lamar School adheres to a strict policy of transparency, truthfulness, and integrity concerning student work. It is imperative that students realize the full meaning of cheating and plagiarism in relation to their personal integrity and the validity of the work they complete in every course.

Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of information and/or answers on a test, project, or homework assignment.

Plagiarism is defined as the quoting of material written by another person without indicating the source or properly citing the quoted material as a quote. Proper credit must be given to the arguments and ideas of another person. Instructional emphasis is given to this matter, especially in the upper school. It is essential that students realize its full meaning relative to the integrity of their work in every course.

The consequences for cheating and plagiarism are the same:

1st offense:

- Student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment or work in question.
- Student will serve one Saturday School.
- Student will be required to call parents to inform them of the cheating or plagiarism incident.

2nd offense:

- Student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment or work in question.
- Student will serve one day of in-school suspension.
- Student will be required to call parents to inform them of the cheating or plagiarism incident.

3rd offense:

- Student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment or work in question.
- Student will serve two days of in-school suspension.
- Student will be required to call parents to inform them of the cheating or plagiarism incident.
- Student will be excluded from membership in all academic honoraries and/or student council for a period of one year.

Stealing
Students determined to have stolen property or money from another individual or the school will be subject to internal or external suspension and the parents will be notified.

Weapons
Students, faculty, administrators, and visitors are prohibited from bringing guns, knives, or weapons of any kind on Lamar School campus. The school and/or law enforcement officials will deal with violators. Students shall not possess, handle, or transmit or house in a vehicle razors, ice picks, explosives, fireworks, cigarette lighters, matches, or any other objects that can be considered weapons or dangerous instruments.

Student Harassment Policy
Lamar School is not equipped to accommodate students with behavioral or emotional disorders. Aggressive or threatening behavior or bullying will not be tolerated.

Harassment is ongoing verbal and/or physical attacks against a person. It includes intimidation in all forms. It is done with intent to disrupt physically and/or emotionally. This can be done by an individual or by a group gathered to harass someone. Harassment can be physical, racial, verbal, or sexual, or consist of social media comments and postings. Harassment includes text messages, face-to-face contact, or social media.

Harassment is a behavior, which is **UNWELCOME** and **REPEATED**; it will **NOT** be allowed to continue. Some forms of harassment are **UNLAWFUL**.

The conduct and discipline policies described in this section applies to any student who is:
- In attendance at school or on school property;
- At any school sponsored function or school related function on or off the Lamar School campus; or
- ***Involved in any conduct at any other time or place that has a negative effect on maintaining school order and discipline, protecting the safety and welfare of others, or damaging the reputation of Lamar School.***

In school, harassment can happen when:
- A student harasses another student
- A student harasses an adult

Physical Harassment:
- Hitting, punching, jostling, pushing, or spitting
- Frightening others by threatening these actions against them
- Hiding, damaging, or destroying the property of others

Non-physical Harassment:
- Name-calling or putting others down
- Using offensive names or making suggestive comments
- Using abusive language to others
- Making degrading comments or slurs about another's race, culture, gender, religious, or social background
- Ridiculing a person or making derogatory comments about his or her body, face, or clothing
- Writing derogatory graffiti about others
- Writing crude notes or crude drawings about others
- Spreading rumors about students, adults, or their families
- Exhibiting shunning behavior towards another student
- Belittling another student's abilities or achievements
- Posting or sending derogatory messages, comments, or images, via email, text, group texts, or social media platforms

Bullying is considered to be persistent physical, verbal, written, or intimidating behavior. When the bullying behavior directed at the target is also based on a protected class, that behavior is defined as harassment. Protected classes include race, color religion, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

Cyberbullying is considered to be any harassing text messages, emails, or social network posts.

Any student who believes he/she has been the victim of bullying or harassment shall report any incident(s) to the principal.

Any student who engages in any of these behaviors toward another Lamar School student or adult will be subject to Level Two disciplinary action, which may include Saturday School, suspension, or expulsion.

Any student who engages in retaliation towards another student, teacher, or adult when harassment is reported will be subject to Level Two disciplinary action.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Lamar School is committed to ensuring that the students have a school free from sexual harassment and therefore recognizes the need to have and enforce a sexual harassment policy.

Sexual harassment includes any unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and any other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that meets the following criteria:

1. Any unwanted or inappropriate sexual attention that includes touching, looks, comments, or gestures;
2. Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory or obscene comments, slurs or sexual invitations, sexual jokes, propositions, suggestive, insulting, obscene comments, or gestures or other verbal abuse of a sexual nature;
3. Graphic, verbal commentary about one's individual's body, sexual prowess, or sexual deficiencies;
4. Flirtations, advances, leering, whistling, touching, pinching, assault, coerced sexual acts, blocking normal movements;
5. Visual conduct such as derogatory or sexual posters, improper use of cell phones, photographs, cartoons, drawing or gestures or other displays of suggestive objects or pictures;
6. Retaliation for having reported or threatened to report sexual harassment. This behavior is unacceptable at Lamar School and at Lamar School functions such as athletic events, dances, plays, field trips, etc.

Lamar School encourages the individual(s) who believe they are being harassed to firmly and promptly notify the offender that the behavior is unwelcome. Since the school recognizes this may be ineffective or impossible, the incident(s) should be reported to an administrator.

All complaints will be investigated thoroughly and promptly. Should complaints prove to be legitimate; the offending student will be subject to a Level Two disciplinary action that may result in the student being terminated from Lamar School without a refund of fees.

The fraternization of teachers and students is strictly prohibited, this includes such behaviors as texting, individually and/or in group messages.

Drugs/Controlled Substances

A student's use, under the influence, possession (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle), sale, or supply of illegal drugs/controlled substances is not permitted on campus or at any school-sponsored or school-related function and will result in suspension or expulsion from school. This policy shall also include the abuse of prescription or over-the-counter products.

Lamar School reserves the right to administer an accepted form of controlled substance detection methodology to students at school or school-sponsored activities when deemed necessary.

The school may turn individuals involved in drug-related offenses over to the appropriate law enforcement personnel.

In the case of illegal drugs/controlled substances in a vehicle, all Lamar Students in the vehicle will be considered in violation of the Drugs/Controlled Substances policy and will be subject to the same disciplinary action.

Smoking/Vaping/Tobacco Products

Lamar School expressly forbids students from smoking, vaping, or using tobacco products, as well as possessing such products and or paraphernalia, at any time in or on Lamar School property, buses, or other school vehicles, adjacent properties, or on Lamar School sponsored trips. All cigarettes (including electronic), vaping devices, smokeless tobacco, lighters, matches, etc., or other devices similar to cigarettes, lighters, matches, etc. brought on campus by students will be confiscated. Discipline will be imposed based on the circumstances existing at the time and may include suspension, probation, or expulsion.

Alcoholic Beverages

A student's use, under the influence, or in possession (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle) of alcohol is not permitted on campus or at any school sponsored or school related function and will result in suspension or expulsion from school.

Additionally, the possession, use, sale, or supply of alcoholic beverages by or to an underage person is a violation of Mississippi law and individuals may be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement personnel.

Lamar School reserves the right to administer an accepted form of alcohol detection methodology to students at school or school sponsored activities when deemed necessary.

In the case of alcohol in a vehicle, all Lamar Students in the vehicle will be considered in violation of the Alcoholic Beverage Policy and will be subject to the same disciplinary action.

MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES

Parental Supply or Facilitation of Access to Alcoholic Beverages or Drugs/Controlled Substances

Parents of Lamar students shall not provide or knowingly facilitate access of alcoholic beverages or drugs/controlled substances to a Lamar student(s) in violation of MS Law and in violation of Lamar School's Rule of Conduct concerning alcoholic beverages and student use, etc. Violation of this policy may result in the termination of the relationship between that family and Lamar School.

Hazing and Initiation

Antagonistic actions toward other students accomplish no positive educational purposes and generally lead more toward resentment and hard feelings than goodwill. No such actions of any kind will be allowed by organizations or clubs associated with Lamar School either on or off campus. Hazing, in any form, will not be tolerated on the Lamar School campus or associated with any of the Lamar School programs, co-curricular, or extracurricular activities.

Additionally, pledging, *in any form*, for any n**on-school clubs or activities** will not be allowed on the Lamar School campus.

Office Telephone Usage

Calls regarding illness or emergencies are to be made in the office by school officials.

Students will not be allowed to leave class to make phone calls unless they are sick. Phone calls must be made between classes, at break, or at lunch.

During the school day, students are not allowed to call parents from personal cell phones in the event of illness. If a student should become ill during the school day, they will be directed to the office. Once Middle School personnel have assessed the student's condition, they will be allowed to call a parent if needed. This practice ensures that students are properly and quickly taken care of in the event of illness or injury by school personnel.

Student Arrival and Departure Times

Middle School students should arrive on campus in the morning no earlier than 7:30 am. Prior to this time, there is no guarantee of adult supervision in halls or classrooms.

Students in grades 6th – 8th are dismissed from school at 2:32 pm and should depart campus at this time unless they are involved in a supervised, scheduled extracurricular activity or sport.

No before or after school care programs or supervision is provided for students in Middle School. It is imperative that students are picked up and depart school according to the guidelines stated above. Students should not expect to hang out once school is dismissed.

DRESS CODE

Lamar School will require students Pre K – 12th grade to wear the dress uniform daily in order to cultivate excellence and promote esprit de corps. Students' dress and appearance must be neat, clean, in good repair, and in good taste. Clothes should be within standards of modesty. The administration will make final decisions regarding the appropriateness of dress and appearance. The dress code is in effect from the moment a student arrives on campus in the morning until the end of the academic day. Lamar School has chosen The Liberty Shop and Dennis Uniforms to supply uniform needs. To minimize misunderstandings relating to matters of student dress we recommend that uniform items be purchased from these sources. Students may be asked not to wear unapproved items to school.

Dress Uniform

The school uniform for daily wear consists of your choice of the following:

Boys' Tops

- Long or short-sleeved white, collared, button-down, or polo style shirt with the Lamar logo. Shirttails are to be worn tucked in for boys.
- Long-sleeved navy crewneck sweater or V-neck sweater vest with logo
- Navy crewneck sweatshirt or hoodie with logo
- Navy lightweight fleece jacket with logo
- Navy half-zip fleece pullover with logo
- A white shirt is required under sweaters, sweatshirts, and fleece jackets or pullovers. If students desire to remove the sweater, sweatshirt, or fleece jacket during the school day, then a collared uniform shirt must be worn underneath. Otherwise, students are expected to wear the sweater or sweatshirt the entire school day. Base layers must be worn tucked in for boys

Boys' Bottoms

- Khaki pleated, plain-front, or elastic waist (must have belt loops) dress slacks (no jeans, cargo pants, sweat pants, wind pants, or knit fabrics)
- Khaki pleated, plain-front, or elastic waist (must have belt loops) chino shorts (no jean shorts, cargo shorts, sweat or athletic shorts, wind pants, or knit fabrics)
- Brown or black belt is required at all times whether the belt is visible or not

Girls' Tops

- Long or short-sleeved white, collared, button down/plain collar blouse or polo style shirt with the Lamar logo
- Long-sleeved navy crewneck sweater or V-neck sweater with logo
- Navy crewneck sweatshirt or hoodie with logo
- Navy cardigan with logo
- Navy lightweight fleece jacket with logo
- Navy half-zip fleece pullover with logo
- A white collared uniform shirt is required under sweaters, sweatshirts, and fleece jackets or pullovers. If students desire to remove the sweater, sweatshirt, or fleece jacket during the school day, then a collared shirt must be worn underneath. Otherwise, students are expected to wear the sweater or sweatshirt the entire school day

Girls' Bottoms

- Classic navy large plaid skort or skirt (A-line or pleated). Hem length for skorts or skirts must be no more than 4 inches above the back bend line of the knee
- Khaki pleated, plain-front, or elastic waist dress slacks (no skinny styles, no jean styles, cargo pants, sweat pants, wind pants, yoga pants, or knit fabrics)
- Navy biker shorts, leggings, or tights may be worn underneath skirts or skorts
- Tights and/or leggings must be worn underneath any style skort or skirt with a hemline more than 4 inches above the knee

6th-8th Guidelines for Footwear

- Closed toe shoes are preferred; however, a dress sandal is permitted.
- A sandal is defined as a shoe consisting of a sole fastened to the foot by a strap.
- All sandals must have a back heel strap. Slip-on shoes or sandals are not allowed.
- No athletic slides, indoor house shoes, toe shoes, flip flops, or Crocs are allowed.
- Heels are not to exceed two inches.
- Extreme fashion colored shoes or shoelaces are not allowed.
- All lace-up shoes must be securely laced and tied.
- Students are not allowed to wear shoes where the heel has been bent down to create a slip-on shoe.
- Boots are permitted for boys and girls. Boots should hit below the knee. Boys may not wear boots with pants tucked inside the boots.

Sports and Team Sweatshirts

- Students are not allowed to wear team-specific sweatshirts or hoodies for daily school uniforms.
- Students are not allowed to wear travel uniforms for daily school uniform wear.
- All exceptions to the school uniform for athletic teams must be approved by the administration and will be communicated to the players by the coach of the specific team.

Tucking in of Shirts

- Boys must wear dress shirts, polo shirts, and base layer shirts tucked in for the daily uniform. This applies when the shirt is worn under a pullover sweater, sweatshirt/hoodie, or fleece.
- Girls have the option to wear their shirts tucked or untucked. However, untucked shirts should fall neatly at the hip and should not be overly long or short.

Guidelines for Boys

- Boys are expected to be neatly groomed and sharply dressed in the appropriate school uniform pieces daily.
- Hats and caps are not permitted to be worn during the school day.
- Shirts should be of sufficient length that they stay tucked in when walking, bending, sitting, and reaching.
- Base layer shirts should be free from writing that would show through the white uniform shirt.
- Hairstyles for boys and must be neat, well-groomed, and not extreme in color, length, or style.
- Hair must be cut above the eyebrows.
- Facial hair (beard or stubble) is not permitted. Boys must be clean shaven at the start of each school day.
- Body piercings for boys are not allowed.
- Tattoos should not be visible while at school or on the playing field/court.

Guidelines for Girls

- The basis of the dress code for girls requires that clothing choices and the manner in which they are worn provide for sufficient length and loose enough fit to afford proper modesty at all times.
- Skirts may be worn with a hem that is no shorter than 4 inches above the back bend of the knee.
- All shirts and blouses must fit such that no skin shows at the midriff or back when walking, bending, sitting, and reaching.
- Tight fitting shirts are not permitted. Likewise, base layer shirts should be free from writing that would show through the white uniform shirt.
- Undergarments should be chosen carefully and should not be extreme in color or style so as to draw inappropriate or unwanted attention. Straps of undergarments should not show at the neckline of tops.
- Hairstyle for girls should be neat, well groomed, and not extreme in color or style. Girls should refrain from coming to school in the mornings with wet hair.
- Body piercing for girls is limited to small, singular piercings in each ear only. Earrings, or similar jewelry, are approved for wear only in the ears. Wearing rings or metal or plastic discs/objects in other areas of the body where piercings may be present is not permitted during the school day.
- Tattoos should not be visible while at school or on the playing field/court.
- Blankets are not allowed to be used as coverings at any time during the school day.
- Specific guidelines for clothing worn at formal events will be outlined and discussed with girls prior to each event. However, clothing that is overly revealing – such as extremely short in length, lowcut or plunging necklines, two-piece or cut-out so as to reveal the skin of the waist/midriff area, or splits in dresses that rise too high on the leg will not be allowed.

Free Dress Code Days

- All free dress code days must be approved by the administration.

STUDENT LIFE POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Student Lockers

Students will be assigned a locker at the start of each school year. Students can find their locker number on the schedule issued at the beginning of school. The lockers are located throughout the Middle School building. Students should keep the following locker rules in mind throughout the school year:

- Locks are not allowed.
- Students must use the locker they are assigned. Switching lockers with a friend or classmate is not allowed.
- Liquids and food may not be stored in lockers overnight.
- Students are responsible for any damage spilled and/or ruined liquids and food may cause to their personal belongings and also of the belongings of students who have adjacent lockers either beside, above, or below their own lockers.
- Students may decorate lockers and use insert shelving designed for lockers. However, students should keep in mind that nothing permanent may be applied or used in lockers.
- Students are not allowed to store items below lockers or on top of lockers.
- Athletic bags are to be stored in the wooden cubbies located in the Middle School building.

The administration reserves the right to check student lockers at any time.

Personal Backpacks, Gym Bags, and Purses

Lamar Middle School students must have a backpack for daily use that is large enough to carry the textbooks, notebooks, and various classroom supplies students will need throughout the school day. Students are encouraged to give careful consideration when choosing a backpack to particular spaces where they can safely house and transport a cell phone, as phones must be stored in the backpack or locker. Rolling backpacks are not permitted due to safety concerns and space limitations.

The administration reserves the right to check backpacks, gym bags, purses, at any time.

Personal Property

It is recommended that students not bring personal property to school where ownership could be in question. Students are responsible for their own personal property and are expected to take care of their belongings. The school takes no responsibility for the loss or damage to personal property.

Food and Drinks in Middle School Buildings & Classrooms

Students are allowed to bring water bottles into classrooms and buildings. A water bottle refilling fountain is located in the hallway near the restrooms in the Middle School building.

Students are not allowed to bring food into the buildings or classrooms unless they are directed to do so by a teacher or administrator. This includes breakfast food items in the morning. Students should eat breakfast before arriving on campus at the start of the school day. Likewise, food items from break or lunch are not allowed to be brought back into the buildings or classroom.

Personal Deliveries

Students are not allowed to receive flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, or other personal deliveries at school for any occasion.

Distribution of Non-School Invitations

The distribution of invitations to parties and such that are non-school related is prohibited.

Middle School Clubs and Organizations

Middle School students have the opportunity to participate in the following clubs and organizations:
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)
Junior Beta Club
Bible Studies
Chess Club
National Junior Honor Society
Student Council

Middle School Student Council

All students are eligible for nomination as an officer or a representative on the Student Council. Speeches and elections will be held during the first nine weeks of the school year.

Lunch/Cafetorium

The food service program is a debit system for the convenience of the parents and to speed up the serving process. **A student will only be able to participate in the food service program if his(her) account reflects a positive balance. A student's debit system ID number will be temporarily inactivated when his/her account balance becomes negative with a balance of $25 or higher.** All questions/requests regarding a student's account, purchasing activities, or meal concerns should be directed to the Manager at 601-482-1345, ext. 235.

All eating must be done at the tables in the cafetorium. Students are not allowed to eat in the classroom buildings. Students are asked to help keep the eating area clean by putting all waste material in the containers provided. Electronic devices, including computers and phones, are not allowed in the cafetorium anytime food is being served. Additionally, the contractual agreement between Lamar School and the food service provider prohibits **all commercial foods** (i.e., Subway, McDonald's, etc.) from being brought into the cafetorium during the lunch periods, regardless of its packaging.

SCHEDULE

2024-2025 Middle School Bell Schedule

Period	Time	Minutes
1st	7:50 – 8:50	60
2nd	8:54 – 9:49	55
Break	9:51 – 10:07	16
3rd	10:11 – 11:06	55
4th	11:10 – 12:06	55
Lunch	12:06 – 12:32	26
5th	12:36 – 1:31	55
6th	1:35 – 2:30	55

High School Policies and Information

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

The curriculum of the school has evolved from and implements the mission and stated objectives of the school. The format of the curriculum is designed to give special emphasis to those areas, which would prepare a student to attend college.

Traditional academic areas of study are stressed with emphasis given to diversification of course selection in those courses appropriate and necessary for students working toward college degrees. Students may not take the same course twice for academic credit, such as a regular and an AP or honors version of the same course.

Course Load

Students in grades 9 through 12 will have a 6 period class day.

Lamar School does not enroll part-time students. All students, including seniors, will take an English, math, science, and history course each year unless otherwise approved by the Administration.

Schedule Changes and Drop/Add

Students cannot drop or add a course after the first 10 days of school in the semester in which the course begins. The administration and guidance office, with consultation of teacher(s) and parents, must approve any schedule change. In extreme circumstances, the administration may grant a change in a student's schedule after the 10-day period.

High School Course Offerings

(Subject to change. ** Courses do not count in cumulative GPA.)

English
English I
Accelerated English I
English II
Accelerated English II
English III
AP English III - Lang and Comp
English IV
AP English IV - Lit and Comp

Social Studies
MS History (½ unit)
Civics (½ unit)
World Geography
World History
AP World History
U.S. History
AP U.S. History
Government (½ unit)
Economics (½ unit)
AP Government (½ unit)
Honors Economics (½ unit)

Arts
Art I
Art II
Survey of Fine Arts

Electives
Biblical Worldview
Broadcasting and Communications
Criminal Law
Engineering
Health (½ unit)
Journalism
Nutrition and Wellness (½ unit)
Personal Finance (½ unit)
Psychology (½ unit)
Sociology (½ unit)
Speech (½ unit)
Research and Prep**

Math
Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II
Algebra III (½ unit)
Statistics (½ unit)
College Algebra (½ unit)
College Trigonometry (½ unit)
Honors Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus
AP Statistics
Senior Math

Foreign Language
Spanish I
Spanish II
College Spanish I
College Spanish II
Virtual Foreign Languages

Technology
Computer Applications
AP Computer Science Principles
Computer Aided Design I (CAD)
Computer Aided Design II (CAD)

Science
College Anatomy and Physiology I
College Anatomy and Physiology II
Earth and Marine Science
Ecology/Botany
Biology I
College Biology I
College Biology II
Chemistry I
Honors Chemistry II
General Physics
AP Physics
Physical Science
Zoology

Advanced and Honors Classes

Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) Classes are more challenging for students than regular courses. Additional material and more in-depth assignments should be typical of this type of course. No grade above 105 may be recorded on Lamar School report cards and transcripts. **Beginning with the Class of 2025, no additional points will be given in final grade computation.**

Advanced classes will differ from the regular sections of the same course in significant ways:

1. **Pace** – Essential skills and information will be covered much more rapidly.
2. **Depth** – The recommended AP curriculum will be followed in AP classes. Honors classes will explore more challenging aspects of the required material and demand a higher level of rigor.
3. **Topics** – In addition to the material covered in the regular curriculum, additional topics may be introduced.
4. **Testing** – Honors classes will generally use test formats that require more independent thinking and critical analysis. Test grades count 70% and daily grades count 30%.
5. **Independent Work** – AP and Honors classes will require more individual effort, both in and out of class. More responsibility is given to each student to follow up classwork with independent study until one masters the material. Additionally, AP and Honors courses will require more outside assignments, including projects, presentations, or reading of appropriate additional material. Summer assignments may also be assigned prior to taking an AP or Honors class.

Advanced and Honors Class Admission

In order to be admitted to Honors, AP, Dual Credit classes a student must meet certain prescribed criteria. However, students not meeting the criteria may petition to be admitted as a non-qualifier (see section titled Petition to Enter or Remain in the Honors/Advanced Program for Non-Qualifiers on page below).

High School Advanced Placement/Accelerated English

A student qualifies for admission to Accelerated English if a student had an "A" the previous year in regular English. A student qualifies for admission to AP English if a student had an "A" the previous year in regular English a 21 ACT subscore in English or Reading beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

High School Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Math

Advanced math courses build upon previous math courses. In an effort to protect the student and due to the rigor of the courses, certain guidelines have been established for students wishing to enter AP/Dual Credit math courses at the high school level.

- A student wishing to enter Honors Pre-Calculus must have completed Algebra II must have at least a "B" average in the previous math course and a 21 ACT subscore in math.
- A student wishing to enter AP Calculus must have a teacher recommendation, must have completed Algebra II and Pre-Calculus must have at least a "B" average in the previous math course and a 21 ACT subscore in math.
- A student wishing to enter AP Statistics must have completed Algebra II must have at least a "B" average in the previous math course and a 21 ACT subscore in math.
- A student wishing to enter College Algebra and College Trigonometry must have GPA of 3.0 and an 19 ACT math score.

High School Honors/Advanced Placement/Dual Credit Science

- A student desiring entrance into Chemistry I must have taken Algebra I and be enrolled in Algebra II. If these requirements have not been met, the student must have an "A" average in Algebra I and have a recommendation from his/her math and science teachers.
- For entrance into *Honors Chemistry II,* a student must have completed Chemistry I and Algebra II with at least a "B" average in each course.
- For entrance into *AP Physics,* a student must have completed Geometry and Algebra II with at least a "B" average in each course. Trigonometry is recommended, but not required.
- For entrance into *College Biology,* a student must have GPA of 3.0 and a composite ACT score of 20 or higher.
- For entrance into *College Anatomy and Physiology*, a student must have a GPA of 3.0 and a composite ACT score of 16.

Advanced Placement History

For entrance into any AP History class, a student must have an "A" average in the previous history class and a 21 ACT subscore in reading beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

Dual Credit Psychology/Sociology/Spanish (when offered)

For entrance into Dual Credit Psychology, students must have an overall GPA of 3.00 and have taken the ACT.

Petition to Enter or Remain in the Honors/Advanced Classes for Non-Qualifiers

Any student not meeting the above-mentioned criteria for entering or remaining in Honors classes and who desires to enter or remain in a class must make a formal application through the guidance office by an announced deadline.

For a student approved to enter/remain in Honors/Advanced classes, the Honors Committee will evaluate the student's progress at the end of the first nine weeks and the first semester. If the student fails to achieve an "85" average in the course, he/she will meet, along with his/her parents, with the Honors Committee and the classroom teacher. The Honors Committee will then determine if the student should remain in the Honors/Advanced course.

As additional AP courses are added to the curriculum, requirements for entrance will be established. Students not meeting all criteria may petition the Honors Committee for admittance. The Honors Committee will make the final determination of whether to admit a student to these courses.

The administration shall review the petition processes and procedures annually to determine if changes are to be made for the upcoming school year. In the event changes are to be made, they will be made prior to the distribution of subject selection sheets to students and will be so noted on the subject selection sheets.

GRADUATION AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Senior Requirements

Seniors must be enrolled in at least one class of all of the four major disciplines (English, Mathematics, Science, and History). Exceptions must be approved by the guidance office and administration. Seniors who do not meet all the requirements for graduation will not be allowed to participate in baccalaureate or graduation ceremonies; however, they may complete requirements in summer school and obtain a diploma thereafter.

Requirements for Graduation (25 units)

Subject	**Carnegie Units**	**Contents and Remarks**
English	4	
Math	4	Must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II *All seniors are required to take a math course.
Science	4	Must include Biology I Chemistry I (beginning class of 2025) *All seniors are required to take a science course.
Social Studies	4	Must include U.S. History, World History, Economics, and Government
Foreign Language	1	2 units are recommended
Technology	1	
Fine Arts	1	
Electives	6	At least 1½ units must be Academic Electives

Freshman Admission Minimum Requirements for Mississippi Public University Admissions (Prerequisites)

The following are guidelines for college entrance requirements based on entry to Mississippi public universities set by the state. Because college requirements vary, students should contact the guidance office of the college for exact requirements. More information can be found on www.mississippi.edu/admissions/.

Subject	Carnegie Units	Contents and Remarks
English	4	Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included.
Math	3	Must include Algebra I and 2 units higher than Algebra I
Science	3	Must include Biology I and 2 units higher than Biology I
Social Studies	3	Must include US History, World History, U.S. Government, and Economics or Intro to World Geography
Arts	1	Includes any one Carnegie Unit of visual and performing arts course(s) meeting the requirements of high school graduation.
Advanced Electives	2	Option 1: Foreign Language I and II Option 2: Foreign Language I and Advanced World Geography Option 3: Any combination of English, Mathematics higher than Algebra I, Science higher than Biology I, Advanced Elective Category, any AP course, any IB course.
Technology	1	Course should emphasize the computer as a productivity tool. Instruction should include utilizing various forms of technology to create, collaborate, organize, and publish information. The application of technology as a productivity tool, rather than a specific hardware and/or software packages should be the focus of the course.
Pre-High School Units		Courses taken prior to high school will be accepted for admission, provided the course earns Carnegie credit and the content is the same as the high school course.

Units of Credit

The basic unit of high school credit shall be the Carnegie unit. One unit of credit shall be equivalent to one Carnegie unit. In a full-year course, a student will receive either one unit of credit or no credit; there is no way to earn a half-unit of credit in such a course. In a semester course, a student will receive a half-unit credit if successfully completed. If a student receives no credit, the student must successfully repeat the entire course in order to earn that credit.

High School Grade Classification

High School students must have the following credits to achieve sophomore – senior classification:
Sophomore: 6 credits
Junior: 12 credits
Senior: 18 credits

Permanent Records

Beginning in ninth grade, students' grades and credits will be recorded on their permanent school record. Credit received for Algebra I, Computer Applications, and Mississippi History in the eighth grade will be recorded on each permanent record and the final average will be part of the Grade Point Average (GPA). It is of utmost importance that parents receive and understand the student's yearly accumulation of credits toward graduation and GPA.

HOMEWORK AND STUDY HABITS

Success in the academic field is enhanced by efficient study habits. Time in the classroom is spent acquainting the student with study techniques, but the knowledge of techniques must work hand in hand with independent thinking and concentration. For this reason, the faculty recommends that there be a quiet place at home for study and that a sufficient amount of uninterrupted time be devoted to this aspect of academic training.

Lamar School attempts to instill in each student a desire to learn to the best of his/her ability. Parents can help in this effort by taking the position that school is of major importance, that its schedule must be observed, and that outside activities must not be so time-consuming or numerous as to infringe on the time necessary for school work.

General Guides to the Development of Proper Study Habits

1. Have a regular time and place to study each subject.
2. Use willpower to keep on task.
3. Concentrate on the work at hand.
4. Keep up assignments from day to day.
5. Keep well physically in order to feel like studying.
6. Have sufficient materials at hand to use while studying.
7. Improve reading habits and skills. The ability to read well is a prerequisite to effective study.
8. Use a dictionary.
9. Realize that learning pays off. Take pride in being a good student.

Lamar School Homework/Study Policy

Recognizing that research indicates a positive correlation between increased time on homework and higher proficiency scores, Lamar School has developed the following homework policy for students. Homework, in this instance, refers to work assigned by a teacher to be completed outside of class time. This work is not limited to that which can be written but may include other types of work, such as studying, conducting research, or developing projects. It is our belief that homework serves many purposes:

- To improve academic and vocational performance
- To help students organize their time
- To extend learning and critical thinking beyond the school day
- To develop individual responsibility, decision making skills, and independence
- To provide additional time for the application of new skills
- To keep parents involved and informed about the curriculum and skills being developed
- To enhance grades

As the effectiveness of any policy depends upon the cooperation of all concerned, the following responsibilities are stated:

Students' Responsibilities

- Record assignments daily.
- Gather materials necessary for the completion of the assignment.
- Ask for clarification or help if an assignment is not understood.
- Complete the assignment on time.
- Should expect an average of around two hours of homework per night. Homework may consist of written assignments, reading, studying for quizzes and tests, practicing, or working on long-term projects or assignments (Honors and AP students should expect more).
- Plan adequate time for long-term assignments.

Teachers' Responsibilities

- Provide a thorough explanation of how to do an assignment.
- Post homework assignments on FACTS.
- Acknowledge each assignment in some way (such as comment upon, grade, check, etc.).
- Ensure that homework assignments are meaningful.
- Provide ample time for long-term assignments throughout the school year.
- Communicate consequences for not completing homework to the students.
- Communicate the value of homework assignments with respect to the overall grade.

We Ask for Parental Cooperation with the Following

- Establish homework as a priority/Check FACTS frequently.
- Foster pride in completed tasks.
- Provide a quiet place, adequate time, and materials to complete assignments. Watching TV, allowing telephone interruptions, or listening to music should be avoided while doing homework.
- Assist the student in managing his/her time outside of school to ensure enough time is allowed to complete homework.
- Encourage consistent daily routine.
- If a student says that assignments are completed, see that the time is devoted to reading, reviewing, or other academic pursuits.
- Support consequences when homework is not completed.

Before/After School

Teachers are generally available to provide occasional review, instructional support, and makeup work opportunities before or after school. Students should not expect to receive daily tutoring during this time, nor is it expected to be a replacement for paying close attention during class and completing assignments in a timely manner. Students should make prior arrangements with their teacher to meet before or after school. There will be times when teachers are unable to meet with students due to scheduled grade or department meetings and/or parent conferences.

GRADING, TESTING, AND REPORTING POLICY AND INFORMATION

Grading System

A **100-90** B **89-80** C **79-70** F **Below 70**

Regular Subject Testing

Students will have at least four test grades and a minimum of ten daily grades per course each grading period. Every effort will be made to have no more than two major tests and/or major projects a day.

The test schedules listed below have been developed for the High School. While every effort will be made to ensure adherence to these schedules, it is noted that unforeseen circumstances may arise that will facilitate the need to deviate from a scheduled test day. In the event a major test needs to be given on a day different than scheduled, affected teachers will be polled in order to prevent undue hardship on the students. Additionally, students will be notified in advance of the rescheduled test day.

High School Regular Test Schedule

Monday: English and Science
Tuesday: Math and History
Wednesday: Science and Electives
Thursday: English and History
Friday: Math and Electives

Semester Exam Schedule

The Semester Exam schedule is developed and set so as to protect both the students' and teachers' workload and planning during test weeks. For this reason, neither student nor teacher will be allowed to deviate from the prescribed schedule.

End of Semester Exams
For all grades 9-12, **a comprehensive semester exam** covering material taught in that semester will be given in all academic subjects. This exam will be 20% of the semester grade.

In the case of a true emergency, only the administration may grant permission to change a scheduled semester exam. Exams missed during the regularly scheduled time must have a doctor's excuse before a make-up exam will be administered. Exams missed without prior approval or a doctor's excuse will receive a grade of zero.

High School Semester Exams

Day 1	**1st Period - 8:00 - 10:00** **2nd Period - 10:30 - 12:30**
Day 2	**3rd Period - 8:00 - 10:00** **4th Period - 10:30 - 12:30**
Day 3	**5th Period - 8:00 -10:00** **6th Period - 10:30 - 12:30**
Day 4	**Make-up exams 8:00 - 12:30**

End of Course/End of Year Exam Exemption

Exam exemption is a privilege, not a right, afforded to students that satisfy the criteria listed below pertaining to grade point average and discipline/citizenship.

A student that has been assigned to in-school or out-of-school suspension will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

Exemption Policies for the Final Exam of a Semester Course
Students in **grades 9-12** may be exempted if the following conditions are met:
1. Final average of 95 or above in the course
2. No more than two discipline infractions in any nine-week grading period. Discipline infractions are considered as a whole and not on a class-by-class basis
3. No more than 1 Saturday School assignment in the semester/year
4. No ISS or OSS assignment during the school year

Exemption Policies for the Second Semester Exam of a Yearlong Course
Students in **grades 9-12** may be exempted if the following conditions are met:

1. Final yearly average of 95 or above in the course
2. No more than two discipline infractions in any nine-week grading period. Discipline infractions are considered as a whole and not on a class-by-class basis.
3. No more than 1 Saturday School assignment in the semester/year
4. No ISS or OSS assignment during the school year

Citizenship

Lamar School will give a citizenship grade to each student every nine-week term. The student's citizenship grade will be a measure of his/her social conduct and assumption of responsibilities.

Ratings:

Excellent (4)	Setting an exemplary example in conduct and assumption of responsibilities
Good (3)	Setting a good example in conduct and assumption of responsibilities
Fair (2)	Improvement is required in conduct and/or assumption of responsibilities
Poor (1)	Conduct and/or assumption of responsibilities is unacceptable

Examples of factors for determining reduction in ratings may include but are not limited to:

1. Tardy to class
2. Cheating/plagiarism
3. Failure to bring required materials to class
4. Preparation of assignments: failure to hand in on time or to make up after absences
5. Conduct: disrespect to the teacher, excessive talking, disruption of class, infraction of school rules, abuse of school property, cell phone violation
6. Dress code violation
7. Misuse of technology

Reports to Parents

Parents are informed of each student's performance through progress reports and report cards. **Report cards** are sent via FACTS every **nine weeks** and **progress reports** are sent via FACTS at **mid-term of each nine weeks.**

Students' grades may be viewed online through FACTS and parents are encouraged to use this tool. Students and parents should set up their own accounts. An account may be set up through the link on the Lamar School website. The email address for each person must match the email address on file at school.

Standardized Testing

Many of these test scores will be used for determining admission into various Advanced, Accelerated, Honors, and Advanced Placement classes.

PSAT/NMSQT
The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test in combination with the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is administered each October to all tenth and eleventh grade students. Test scores are usually reported by January. Any additional students in 9th grade who are interested in taking the PSAT should contact the counselor's office.

Pre-ACT
Freshmen are required to take the Pre-ACT. This test serves as an indicator assessment with results that help students begin to plan coursework and prep work in anticipation of taking the ACT assessment as part of their college application process in the junior and senior years.

ACT and SAT
The American College Test and the Scholastic Aptitude Test are required as entrance tests by over 90 percent of colleges and universities in the United States. (Students should be advised that the SAT Subject Tests, formerly SAT II: Subject Tests, are required by some colleges and universities). It is the student's responsibility to contact desired colleges to determine which of the two tests should be taken. The tests are administered approximately five times a year, always on Saturday, and are taken at the expense of the student. Published testing dates are posted in the high school guidance office. Students can register electronically for the ACT by following guidelines posted at *www.act.org* or for SAT at *www.collegeboard.com*. Lamar School's code number on the test applications is **251-907**. ACT results must be on file at Lamar prior to graduation.

School Day ACT Administration
Lamar School will offer two weekday administrations of the ACT during the school year. Sophomores are required to participate in the spring administration at their own expense. All juniors are required to participate in both test administrations at their own expense. Seniors are required to participate in the fall ACT weekday test administration and may choose to test during the spring weekday test at their own expense. The only exceptions will be for those seniors who have scored 30 or better on their ACT.

Advanced Placement Testing
Students who take any of the AP courses offered at Lamar School are required to take the AP exam as the final course assessment in lieu of the semester exam. They are also required to pay the fee for these tests as set by the College Board. These tests are designed by the College Board specifically to assess the content of each AP course. Students who score a 3 or better on an AP test can receive credit for college course hours. Colleges vary in how they allow AP credits to be used and students are responsible for contacting their individual college of choice concerning AP credits.

Test Prep

Lamar School requires sophomores, juniors, and seniors to participate in test prep sessions offered by the school for the ACT and PSAT tests unless a student has achieved a documented ACT composite score of 30 or better. Additional test prep options may be available.

Parent Conferences

A parent conference may be arranged at any time during the school year by calling the office. Parents may communicate with their child's teacher via email. Teacher e-mail addresses are listed on FACTS and the school's website.

Any questions concerning *classroom work, conduct, athletics, or any other student concerns* not resolved by email should be handled in the following manner:

1. First through the appropriate classroom teacher or coach by contacting the office for an appointment.
2. After meeting with the classroom teacher or coach if further communication is desired, the parent should make an appointment to meet with the Principal or Athletic Director.
3. The final step in the hierarchy of communicating a situation/concern is to make an appointment to meet with the Head of School.
4. Any individual deviating from the steps described above will be directed back to the appropriate level before any further discussions will take place.
5. ***Administrators and teachers will not be available for a conference without an appointment.***

Note

- **Parents are not allowed to go to the classroom to get their child or see the teacher. If this is necessary report to the office and the appropriate arrangements will be made.**
- **Parents are to refrain from calling teachers/staff at their homes or cell phones; all contact should be made during school hours.**

Repeating a Course: Summer School/Correspondence Work

Summer school and correspondence courses are only for those students who fail, **not** for students who want to work ahead. All academic summer work must be approved by and coordinated through the guidance office **prior to enrollment in the course.**

A maximum of two units of correspondence course work and two units of summer school work can be accepted toward graduation.

High School
If a student fails a major subject, it is strongly recommended that he/she repeat the class through an accredited summer school program or a correspondence course. All academic summer work must be approved by and coordinated through the guidance office. **All summer school and correspondence courses must be completed prior to the beginning of the next school year.**

If a student fails to receive credit for summer work, he/she will not be admitted to the next level class.

High School Transfer Students
Occasionally a student will transfer into Lamar School after he/she has begun amassing Carnegie units for graduation and the units received at the school from which he/she is transferring does not have him/her on track to meet graduation requirements at Lamar School. In such a case, the Lamar School administration may approve a summer school course or correspondence course taken as a new course to meet graduation requirements.

Grade Retention/Academic Dismissal

If the administration concludes the needs of a student are not being met by the academic program at Lamar School (determined after reviewing test scores, report cards, and the student's progress), a conference will be held with the parents, classroom teacher, guidance office and administration. At that time, it will be decided if it is in the best interest of the student to repeat a grade level at Lamar School or be dismissed from the school.

Academic Probation/Academic Dismissal

Any student having two "F's" at the end of an academic year will enter the succeeding year on academic probation, even if he/she has passed summer school or a correspondence course. As a part of the probationary status, Lamar School recommends that the student be professionally tested for a learning disability at the parent's expense. Results of the testing should be presented to the guidance office to investigate what support, if any, may be made by Lamar School for any learning disabilities detected.

If the student fails any subject for the year while on probation, the student cannot attend Lamar School the subsequent year.

Student Support Services

Students who have been tested within the past three years by a certified professional and diagnosed with specific learning difficulties may be eligible for limited academic support in grades K-12. Parents must submit test results and written recommendations made by the testing professional. Following consideration of the test report, administration will make suggestions for *reasonable* support. Parental consent must be given to carry out a plan of support, and the student's academic and cumulative records must reflect the areas in which support is given.

The middle/high school is extremely limited in the support that can be provided for students in the classroom setting. Therefore, it is recommended that students requiring reasonable support investigate external resource programs and tutors that are available.

Due to the lack of specialized programs beyond discovery/tutoring services, the school is unable to serve students with severe learning and/or behavioral difficulties that require more extreme support or modification of curriculum/objectives.

HONORS RECOGNITION

Honors Societies and Clubs

National Honor Society and MAIS Honor Society
The National Honor Society was founded in 1921. Its purpose was to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. Although all members must maintain a 93 or above overall GPA, membership in the National Honor Society and MAIS Honor Society is more than just academic recognition. The criteria for membership require outstanding performance in the areas of service, leadership, and character. Students are eligible to be tapped for membership in the fall of their junior or senior year.

Beta Club
The National Beta Club was founded in 1934. Its purpose is to promote the ideals of character, service, and leadership among students, to reward meritorious achievement, and to encourage and assist students in continuing their education after high school. Students must have at least an overall 90 GPA or above with no grade below an 80. New members will be inducted during the fall semester of their 9th grade year or thereafter.

Mu Alpha Theta
Mu Alpha Theta is a National Mathematics Honor Society. Students having completed Algebra II or a higher math and having maintained a 90 or above average in all math classes are invited to join this organization. New members will be inducted during the fall semester.

Sociedad Española de la Mancha
Sociedad Española de la Mancha is an honor society for students excelling in the study of Spanish. To be admitted, students must be enrolled in their fourth semester of Spanish and have a 93 or above average for the four semesters. To remain in the honor society, they must be currently enrolled in the language and have maintained a “B” average after being enrolled in the honor society.

Art Honor Society
The National Art Honor Society was established in 1978 by the National Art Education Association for high school students in grades ten through twelve to inspire and recognize those students who have shown an outstanding ability in art. Its purpose is to assist student members to attain their highest potential in all forms of art and to raise awareness of art education throughout the school and community.

Nine Weeks Honors

Lamar School recognizes the following school honors each nine weeks for students in the High School:
- Head of School’s List: A student must have 93 or better in all academic classes.
- Principal’s List: A student must have 90 or better in all academic classes.
- Honor Roll: A student must have all 85 or better in all academic classes.

The following courses are not counted when compiling GPA or nine-week honors: Study Hall, Research and Prep, and Athletics.

Year-End Honors

An awards day is held each spring honoring those students with the highest GPA in each academic subject as well as those students who have remained on the Head of School’s List, Principal’s List, or Honor Roll each of the first three nine-week grading periods.

Additionally, the following **Scholarship Recipients for the Upcoming Year (applied toward Lamar School tuition)** will be recognized (if available):
- ***The Jefferson Davis Academy Scholarship***: Qualifications considered for this scholarship will be a rising senior, good citizenship, and former family connection to Jefferson Davis Academy.
- ***Wilbourn Scholarships***: Criteria considered for these scholarships includes rising seniors who participate in athletics.
- ***Drew Denney Foundation Scholarships:*** Criteria considered for these scholarships include participation in extracurricular activities, involvement in school clubs and organizations, and GPA.

Graduation Honors

The following courses are not counted when compiling GPA, nine-week honors, or year-end honors: Study Hall, Research and Prep, and Athletics.

Valedictorian

1. Student must attain the highest numerical average for high school Carnegie academic credits, determined at the end of the third grading period of the senior year.
2. Student must attend Lamar their entire 9th through 12th grade years.
3. Student must have taken AP U.S. History, AP World History, AP 11th Grade English and be enrolled in AP Calculus, AP 12th Grade English, and an AP or Honors Science as a senior.

Salutatorian

1. Student must attain the second highest numerical average for high school Carnegie academic credits, determined at the end of the third grading period of the senior year.
2. Student must attend Lamar their entire 9th through 12th grade years.
3. Student must have taken AP U.S. History, AP World History, AP 11th Grade English and be enrolled in AP Calculus, AP 12th Grade English, and an AP or Honors Science as a senior.

STAR Student (Student-Teacher Achievement Recognition)

1. According to the Mississippi Economic Council, the STAR student is "the student with the highest ACT score at the end of the first semester of the senior year—minimum ACT of 25; minimum GPA of 93. Grades in the 10th, 11th, and first semester 12th grades are used to determine the STAR student's average. Only the following subject areas are to be included: English, Foreign Language, Math, Science, and History."
2. The STAR student selects the STAR teacher.
3. If the school has more than one senior with an ACT of 35 or above and a GPA of 93, each of these students will be a STAR student.

Top of Class

The top seniors with the highest numerical average for high school Carnegie academic credits—determined at the end of the third grading period of the senior year—are given this honor. Students must have taken or been enrolled in AP World History, AP U.S. History, AP 11th Grade English, AP Calculus or AP Statistics, AP 12th Grade English and Honors OR AP science class. An overall numerical average of 90 or above, determined at the end of the third grading period of the senior year, must be achieved in order to be included in the Top of Class.

Honor Graduates

Students with an overall numerical average of 95-100, determined at the end of the third grading period of the senior year, will graduate with Highest Honors.

Students with an overall numerical average of 90-94, determined at the end of the third grading period of the senior year, will graduate with Honors.

Class Rank is based on final numerical grades, determined at the end of the third grading period of the senior year, in all academic subjects that are calculated into the GPA for each semester completed. Class Rank is only computed for the purposes of determining Top of Class, Salutatorian, and Valedictorian. As a college preparatory school, small differences in grades result in significant difference in rank; hence, rank is not a useful measure of Lamar School's students.

12 Year Plus Club is composed of students who have been enrolled in Lamar School for 12 or more years (grades 1-12) with ***consecutive*** years of enrollment in Lamar School ONLY.

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK

Attendance Policy

A priority of Lamar School is to use instructional time productively. Regular and punctual attendance is critical if the results of the teaching and learning tasks are to be maximized. It is essential that each student recognizes the sequential nature of instruction and that any unnecessary and/or excessive absence severely impedes the educational process. Therefore, Lamar School attendance regulations have been established with the best interest of Lamar School and the students/parents in mind. ***A student will be considered absent from a class if he/she is not in attendance for the full class period, regardless of the bell schedule (a tardy equals an absence).***

Students absent from a class for any reason, other than school sponsored or school related, for more than ten (10) times per semester course or twenty (20) times per year course, ***will not receive academic credit*** for courses in which the absences have occurred. The administration and school board may waive this standard if it is determined that the absences resulted from unusual circumstances or extended illness.

A student that is absent due to an extended illness and is under a doctor's care at the time of the absence must bring documentation to that effect to school when returning to class or no medical consideration will be given to the student if he/she exceeds the allowable absences in a class. **This documentation should be submitted to the office within five (5) days of returning from the extended illness.**

Even though the school will make an effort to notify parents of excessive absences, it is the responsibility and accountability of the parents and students to avoid the excess. Parents should call the morning of a student's absence. Notes will not be accepted. If a student reports to school during the school day, he/she **must** check in at the office.

Family Vacations / Parental Planned Absences
Since the school calendar allows ample time for vacations in and around holiday seasons, parents should make every effort to arrange their vacations to coincide with school vacations. School administration highly discourages taking additional days just prior to and immediately following a school holiday.

To receive approval for a planned absence, students should follow these procedures:

1. The parent should submit in writing a letter to the Secondary Principal stating the reason and the dates for the absence. The letter may be emailed or hand-delivered by the student.
2. The student should obtain a Planned Absence Form from the office and then obtain the signatures of all teachers.
3. The parent letter and completed form will be kept on file in the office for the remainder of the school year.

Checking Out / Leaving the Campus
Permission to check out / leave campus may only be obtained from the office. Students are not allowed to leave campus without checking out. **An office staff member must make personal contact with the parent before a student will be allowed to check out / leave campus.** The desired forms of personal contact are 1) the parent being present at the time of checkout or 2) a signed note with a follow-up phone call. **Once a student checks out he/she must leave campus. Additionally, in order for a student to participate in any school-sponsored event, practice, or competition the student must have been in attendance for the entire day, unless approved in advance by the Head of School.**

College Visits

- ***Seniors*** will be allowed three excused absences to visit colleges they are interested in applying to for admission.
- ***Juniors*** will be allowed two college days for special college preview days.

A "Pre-Planned College Visit Form," obtained from the guidance office, must be completed and **returned to the guidance office one week in advance of the visit.** The guidance office and the administration must approve all visits.

Documentation, such as a note from the Dean on school letterhead, must be brought from the college visited and placed on file with the guidance office. No visits may be taken during the last four weeks of regular classes of the school year without special permission from the Head of School. No student will be allowed to miss a class for a college visit if he/she has an "F" in a class for the previous nine-week period unless approved by the administration.

Under extreme and unique circumstances, a student may be granted or allowed an additional college day(s) by the Head of School. He/she must submit a written request to the Head of School detailing the unique circumstances.

Make-Up Work – Class Lecture and Notes

When a student is absent for a portion of a class, an entire class period, or multiple days of a class (regardless of the reason for the absence(s) it is the **student's responsibility** to:

1. Check FACTS for material covered in class and for assignments and homework missed
2. Communicate with teachers concerning due dates and requirements for makeup work
3. Adhere to the deadlines set forth by policy and/or their teacher

After reviewing the material missed due to an absence, the student should make an appointment to see his/her teacher during 7th period (or at a time designated by the teacher) if questions remain about the material or assignments. Students should understand that it is not the teacher's responsibility to reteach the entire missed lesson(s).

A "1" will be assigned in the FACTS online grade book for all missed assignments until the work is satisfactorily completed and submitted to the teacher for grading and recording.

After two weeks (fourteen calendar days) from the date of the absence, a zero will replace the one for all missed assignments and tests due to student absence in the FACTS grade book.

Timelines for Submitting Makeup Work After a Class Absence

Makeup Work for Missing Class Period(s) Due to Checking Out and Checking In
Students who are present at school, check out for a period when a test is scheduled or major project or assignment is due, and then check back in to school after said period will be required to take the missed test and/or turn in the major assignment or project by 3:15 on the same day. A grade of zero will be given for the missed test and/or major project or assignment if the student does not adhere to this policy.

Makeup Work After 1 or More Days Absence
Students will be allowed the same number of school days he/she was absent to make up/complete any test, quiz, homework, project, or classwork beginning with the day of return to school. Examples:

- One day absence – student has one day to complete work and assignment(s) is due on the second school day after return
- Two-day absence – student has two days to complete work and assignment(s) is due on the third school day after return
- Three day absence – student has three days to complete work and assignment(s) is due on the fourth school day after return

Assignments/Tests Announced or Posted Prior to an Absence
For assignments and test dates announced in class and/or posted in FACTS prior to a student absence:

- Student is expected to turn in assignment or take test upon day of return to school.

Assignments/Tests Made on the Day of an Absence
For assignments and test dates announced in class or posted in FACTS on the day of a student absence:

- Students have the number of school days equivalent to the number of school days missed to complete assignments or tests.

Guidelines for Student Athletes and/or School-Sponsored Events
For assignments or tests missed due to:

- Full day school sponsored athletic events
- Early departure due to school sponsored athletic events
- School sponsored events

1. Students should make arrangements to turn in an assignment or take a test prior to the day of the event or time of departure unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher

2. If an assignment cannot be turned in or a test taken prior to the day of the event or the time of departure, the student is required to take the test on the next day following the athletic event.
3. Any multiple-day assignment or project due on the day of an event should be turned in prior to the day of the event or time of departure, unless arrangements have been pre-approved by the teacher of the class.
4. For assignments made or tests announced on the day of an absence due to a full day school sponsored athletic event, an early departure athletic event, or school sponsored event the student has the same number of days as the absence to complete assignments or take missed tests beginning with the date of return to school from the event.

Assignments
Students and parents may view missed assignments utilizing FACTS. It is the student's responsibility to coordinate all missed assignments with the teacher. Participation in school or extracurricular activities is not a valid excuse for incomplete homework assignments. Loss of technology privileges due to disciplinary infractions is not a valid excuse for incomplete homework or assignments.

CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE POLICIES

Lamar High School Rationale of Discipline

Students of Lamar School are expected to meet the highest standards of personal, ethical, and moral conduct possible. Attending Lamar School is a privilege that is extended on the condition that students and parents accept and support all School policies, including these conduct and discipline policies. When used in this document, the term "parents" will be considered to include legal guardians.

Students and parents are expected to be familiar with the school's conduct and discipline policies and to willingly abide by them. If any student or parent violates any of these policies, there will be a disciplinary response by the Lamar School. The school, in its sole discretion, will make the final determination of whether there has been a violation of its policies. Serious violations may result in expulsion.

Lamar High School Philosophy of Discipline

Lamar School strives for high standards in conduct and self-discipline. Students are expected to organize and manage their lives in a way that demonstrates personal responsibility for academic success. The fundamentals of discipline as looked upon by the Administration of Lamar School have the following objectives:

- To develop in all students a high level of responsibility with respect to the adherence to mandated rules, all school assignments, commitments to extra-curricular activities, and all other facets of their lives both school related and nonschool related.
- To create and preserve the conditions essential to the orderly process of the school.
- To prepare the student for effective participation in adult life.

The policies of conduct and discipline described hereafter are in place to provide an orderly, safe, and effective learning environment. The Board of Trustees supports policy decisions made by the administration and expects students and parents to adhere to these policies.

The conduct and discipline policies described in this section applies to any student who is:

- In attendance at school or on school property;
- At any school sponsored function or school related function on or off the Lamar School campus; or
- ***Involved in any conduct at any other time or place that has a negative effect on maintaining school order and discipline, protecting the safety and welfare of others, or damaging the reputation of Lamar School.***

Parents and students must be aware that attending Lamar School is a privilege. Students who are not committed to obeying the rules of conduct of Lamar School will be asked to leave.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

1. A Lamar student is expected to respect Lamar School and the authority of the school (i.e., administrators, teachers (regardless of whether the teachers are personal teachers of the student or not), and staff).
2. A Lamar student is responsible for knowing and adhering to the policies of Lamar School as they pertain to student conduct and student life.
3. A Lamar student is expected to respect the property of other students, staff, and personnel. No student is to borrow or use another person's property or enter another person's desk or locker without permission.
4. A Lamar student is responsible for his own personal property and is expected to take care of his belongings. The school takes no responsibility for the loss or damage to personal property.
5. A Lamar student is expected to respect school property, including the building, furnishings, grounds, equipment, and textbooks. Misuse, damage, or loss caused by a student is subject to fine, replacement, suspension, or expulsion.
6. The following are the **Standard Classroom Policies.** In addition, teachers may have special regulations not listed below. **Students are bound by both the following rules and by the teacher's special rules.**

- Students are to be in their classrooms and prepared to begin class when the tardy bell rings. They are not to leave their places in the classroom without permission.
- Each student is to have all the necessary materials for class: text(s), workbooks, notebooks, paper, pencil/pen, etc.
- Students are to be attentive and participate actively in all class activities assigned by the teacher. They are not to do work for another class or to read other-than-class materials, unless given explicit permission to do so by the teacher. Materials for another class or for non-class activities should not be on a student's desk.
- Each student is to refrain from talking out without permission and from talking to others while instruction is going on or study periods or tests are underway; noise making, forced laughter, etc. are also unacceptable.
- Students are not to congregate around a teacher's desk without permission. All items on the teacher's desk are considered personal; students are not to touch or read papers, grade books, etc.
- Students are to avoid any actions that are distracting to the learning procedure underway in the classroom, especially harassing other students, taking books, poking and kicking others, pushing desks, throwing or shooting items around the room, passing notes, etc.
- Students are responsible for the cleanliness around their desks. Students are to clean up around their desks at the end of each class.
- Students are not to use: vulgar, obscene, suggestive, or insulting expressions; overt demonstrations of disapproval; and/or any behavior that is disruptive to the classroom situation. Additionally, they are not to argue about tests, grades, and/or punishments during the class, but rather they should see the teacher after class in order to resolve such difficulties.
- The location of desks, the condition of windows, blinds, thermostats, and lights are the teacher's responsibility; students are not to regulate these unless directed to do so by the teacher.
- Students should always knock before entering a classroom when a class is in session. Respect and politeness are expected at all times.

DISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE

Lamar School does not administer corporal punishment. In the absence of corporal punishment, other disciplinary measures will be used such as reprimand, loss of privileges, before school detention, parent conference, Saturday school, internal school suspension, external school suspension, or expulsion.

Students are subject to progressive forms of discipline in the event of excessive number of occurrences of a particular form of discipline or multiple offenses. The decision will be the sole decision of the administration.

Parents will be notified by email or personal contact if a student is required to visit the office and receives some form of the disciplinary actions mentioned below.

Before School Detention

Detentions will be held each Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 7:30 A.M. until 8:15 A.M. Students assigned a before school detention will be given notification and expected to serve detention at the assigned time.

Students are expected to be on time and dressed within the Lamar School dress code guidelines – students may not come dressed in athletic practice clothing. Detention begins promptly at 7:30 A.M. **Students who do not report for detention at 7:30 A.M. will be considered absent and will have to make the entire detention assignment up on a subsequent day and will be assigned an additional full detention.**

Parents will receive notification of an impending detention via email prior to the assigned detention date.

Saturday School

Saturday School will be used as a progressive mode of discipline in the event that before school detention does not seem to be deterring improper behavior for a student so as to avoid a suspension. It also may be used as an initial form of discipline in some instances.

Saturday School will be held from 8:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. on the assigned Saturday of the month or as needed. Failure to report on the assigned date will result in at least one day of internal or external suspension.

Each student is expected to be on time and dressed within the Lamar School dress code guidelines. Any student late for Saturday School must stay in Saturday School thirty minutes past the assigned dismissal time. A student late for Saturday School must serve the remainder of the time assigned and will be assigned an additional form of discipline (i.e., additional time in Saturday school, after-school detention(s), or an additional Saturday school).

Parents will receive notification of an impending Saturday School assignment prior to the date of the assignment.

A student that has been assigned to Saturday School more than one time in a school year will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

Internal School Suspension

Internal school suspension (in-school suspension or ISS) will be given to students for continued discipline problems or inappropriate behavior. ***Students that are internally suspended will receive a one-point deduction from the final class average per internal suspension assignment at the end of the nine-week period for each class missed.*** The point deduction will be for each class missed according to the following guidelines:

- If a day of internal suspension is only for a portion of a school day, the points will be deducted only from the classes missed.
- If a day of internal suspension is for an entire school day, including early dismissal days and field days, the point deduction will be for all classes regardless of if the classes actually met or not on the day of suspension.

Furthermore, the student will be required to complete all work issued and return it to the teacher at the prescribed time. Students will be internally suspended from 7:50 A.M. until their regularly scheduled dismissal time and will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities that day (including practice or games).

A student that has been assigned to in-school suspension will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

External Suspension

When a student has committed several minor offenses without improvement, violated school rules considered by the administration a serious breach of conduct, displayed immoral behavior, or has been arrested, he/she is subject to external suspension.

External school suspension will result in a loss of points from the final average for the nine-week period at a *rate of two points per day suspended, up to six points per suspension.* The points deduction will be for each class missed according to the following guidelines:

- If a day of suspension is only for a portion of a school day, the points will be deducted only from the classes missed.
- If a day of suspension is for an entire school day, including early dismissal days and field days, the points deduction will be for all classes regardless if the classes actually met or not on the day of suspension.

Upon the receipt of the second external suspension a student will be placed on disciplinary probation.

A student that has been assigned to out-of-school suspension will forfeit his/her privilege of exam exemption for the remainder of the school year.

Other important notes regarding external suspension:

- The suspended student MAY NOT be on the Lamar School campus or in attendance at any school function or activity, on or off campus, throughout the duration of his/her suspension.
- All assignments from each class for the duration of the suspension will be available for a representative of the suspended student to pick up. It is the suspended student's responsibility to be sure that the assignments are picked up.
- All daily work (homework/classwork) missed during suspension will be due at the first of each class period on the day the student is readmitted to school.
- Tests scheduled during the days of suspension: The student will have up to the number of days suspended to make up any missed tests.
- Tests assigned during the suspension time and scheduled to be taken on a day that the student has been readmitted to school: The student will be required to take the test on the day it has been assigned, including the day he/she is admitted to school.

Expulsion

In the event of a severe offense, the repetition of suspension-producing offenses, or the breach of disciplinary probation a student will be subject to expulsion. Should such an occasion arise, the Head of School will suspend the student for ten (10) days and recommend expulsion of the student to the Board of Trustees. An expulsion hearing will be held by a committee of the Board within ten (10) school days, the decision of the committee will be final.

The student and his/her parent(s) are entitled to a "due process" hearing, thus they will be informed of the date and time of the board committee hearing. A detailed account of violations/actions will be provided to the student, parent(s), and the Board.

If the decision of the Board committee is:

- ***Expulsion*** – the student will be withdrawn from school immediately and his/her permanent record/transcript will indicate the student was expelled; tuition relief is at the discretion of the school. In some cases, if certain conditions are met, re-enrollment is possible.
- ***Ten (10) Days of Suspension*** – the student responsibilities and penalties are outlined above in the section on External Suspension.
- ***Less than Ten (10) Days of Suspension***

1. For the ruled suspended days – the student responsibilities and penalties are outlined above in the section on External Suspension
2. For the days out of school above the ruled suspended days – all missed and due work must be turned in no later than the second day of return to school; tests will be made up within the time frame set by the administration

Parents and students must be aware that attending Lamar School is a privilege. Students who are not committed to obeying the rules of conduct will not be permitted to remain at Lamar School.

GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT

Note: ***This handbook does not and cannot address every situation, question, or problem that may arise. Any situation, question, or problem that arises and is not covered in this handbook will be left to the discretion of the administration.***

Guiding Principles

School officials are guided by certain principles in the administration of discipline. The guiding principles include the following:

- The school reserves the right to consider all attempts to commit violations in the same context as completed violations. Accomplices in violations may be considered as involved as violators and face similar consequences.
- During the investigation of a violation the administration may suspend the student or prohibit or restrict participation in student activities, including, but not limited to athletics, student organizations, or elected positions. This action may be in conjunction with or in addition to any other form of disciplinary procedure utilized.
- The school reserves the right to discipline students for off-campus behavior when the police are involved, whether or not charges are brought, or when the student's behavior is so blatant that it brings embarrassment or dishonor to the school. The administration shall determine whether the off-campus behavior in question shall result in disciplinary action.
- The school reserves the right to consider any violation in which the students are/were involved, regardless of the time passed.
- The school reserves the right to use progressive forms of discipline in the event of excessive number of occurrences of a particular form of discipline or multiple offenses whether or not specified in the following descriptions. The decision will be the sole decision of the administration.

Level One Infractions and Consequences

Infractions

A Level One Infraction involves behavior that is generally distracting or disruptive to the learning environment and/or the day-to-day operations of the school.

Consequences

The consequence for a Level One infraction shall consist of any one or combination of the following actions. There is no progression in the consequences. Likewise, the consequence is determined at the discretion of the administrator.

- Reprimand
- Loss of privileges
- Before school detention

Level One Infractions are listed as follows:

- Violation of dress code – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd infraction
- Violation of cell phone policy – 1st and 2nd infraction
- Violation of technology responsible use policy Level 1- 1st, 2nd offenses
- Tardiness – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd infraction per semester
- Disruptive and disorderly conduct
- Food, drinks, or chewing gum in buildings
- Disrespect shown towards teacher or adult
- Insubordination towards teacher or adult
- Insulting or obscene language, gestures, or behaviors
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Inappropriate driving or parking on campus
- Visitation to other schools

A detailed description of policy regarding some Level One Infractions are given below:

Student Drivers

Student drivers must have valid driver's license and be covered by liability insurance. Students should observe posted speed limits.

Students are encouraged to lock their vehicles. Students are not allowed to return to their cars, unless they are leaving the campus, without permission from the office. Lamar School is not responsible for personal property left in student vehicles.

Students that drive too fast or recklessly will be considered in violation of a Level One Infraction and may also lose their driving privileges.

Lamar administration reserves the right to inspect students' vehicles on campus if deemed necessary.

Parking

Blocking entrances or exits to the buildings is prohibited. Students are assigned a parking space by the administration. Students must park in designated areas and in an orderly fashion, those failing to do so will be in violation of a Level One infraction. Repeated offenses could result in loss of driving privileges on the Lamar campus.

Dress Code

Students are expected to adhere to the dress code guidelines on a daily basis and should enter the building at the start of the school day in full compliance. Students who are found to be out of compliance with the dress code at any time during the school day will have the following consequences administered within one semester. In addition, students must correct the dress code infraction before they will be allowed to return to class:

- 1st infraction – Student will receive an administrative warning
- 2nd infraction – Student will serve one morning detention
- 3rd infraction – Student will serve two morning detentions

Tardiness

Punctuality is expected of all students. Lamar School believes it is the responsibility of parents to see students arrive at school on time. It is the student's responsibility to arrive in class on time. The disciplinary action that will be administered for tardiness to a class within **one semester** is as follows:

- 1st tardy – Student will receive an administrative warning
- 2nd tardy – Student will serve one morning detention
- 3rd tardy – Student will serve two morning detentions

Physical Contact

Physical contact, handholding, hugging, and kissing, are inappropriate behaviors in school. It is important for all students to understand while certain behaviors may be viewed as correct in one social situation; they may be viewed as inappropriate at another time or place.

Cell Phones

While we realize that cell phones are a very important part of parent and student lives, they do not have a place in the educational environment. The use of a cell phone through any of its functions (calls, pictures, texting, etc.) is disruptive and interferes with the educational process. The use of cell phones is not permitted within a classroom during an academic period or during an assembly without permission from a school official. Student phones should remain turned off and stored in backpacks during the academic day. **Any phone that is visible or audible within a classroom during an academic period or in an assembly is subject to be taken up by the classroom teacher or other school official.**

- First Offense - Phone taken up and held in office until the end of the school day. Student will serve one morning detention.
- 2nd Offense: Phone taken up and held in office until the end of the next school day. Student will serve one morning detention.
- 3rd Offense: Phone taken up and held in office for five days. Student will serve Saturday School.
- 4th Offense: Phone taken up and held in office for five days. Student will serve one day of In-School Suspension. A Parent Conference will be held.
- 5th Offense: Phone taken up and held in office for five days. Student will serve one day of Out of School Suspension. A Parent Conference will be held.

Electronic Devices on Campus

Laptops or iPads (other than those leased from Lamar School), Smart Watches, wearables, kindle type devices, headsets, cameras, and other electronic or internet connected devices are not to be used or visible on campus during school hours. Violations of this policy will result in the same penalties as described above for cell phones.

If an electronic device is necessary for an educational activity, permission must be obtained from a school administrator.

Visitation to Other Schools
Without permission from the school in question, Lamar students are not to visit the campus of another school while that school is in session.

Level Two Infractions and Consequences

Infractions
Level Two Infractions constitute violations of school policy in a more serious, destructive, or threatening manner than Level One Infractions. Also considered in this category are repeated and/or multiple violations of any Level One Infraction. Some consequences also reflect a progression for violation of a specific policy.

Consequences
The consequence for a Level Two Infraction shall consist of any one or combination of the following actions. There is no progression in the consequences. Likewise, the consequence is determined at the discretion of the administrator.
- Saturday School (SS)
- In-school suspension (ISS)
- Out-of-school suspension (OSS)
- Expulsion

Level Two Infractions are listed as follows:
- Truancy or skipping class
- Violation of dress code – 4th, 5th+ offenses
- Violation of cell phone policy – 3rd, 4th+ offenses
- Violation of technology responsible use policy Level 1 – 3rd offense
- Violation of technology responsible use policy Levels 2 and 3
- Tardiness - 4th, 5th infraction per semester
- Disruptive and disorderly conduct (multiple infractions)
- Disrespect shown towards a teacher or adult (multiple infractions)
- Insubordination towards teacher or adult (multiple infractions)
- Insulting or obscene language, behavior, or gestures (multiple infractions)
- Improper leaving of campus
- Cheating or plagiarism
- Stealing
- Vandalism or damage to property, private or school
- Truancy or skipping class
- Gambling
- Unauthorized entry of school premises
- Indecent exposure or any offense otherwise punishable by law
- Use, under the influence, or in possession (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle) of alcohol or drugs
- Possession of a weapon (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle)
- Use, possession, distribution, or sale of tobacco or vape products or paraphernalia (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle)
- Possession of pornographic or hate-group materials
- Student Harassment
- Sexual harassment

A detailed description of policy regarding some Level Two Infractions is given below:

Truancy/Skipping
An absence for one of more periods without permission of parents and prior notification of the school is considered truancy. Truancy will result in the notification of parents and will be subject to Saturday school, internal suspension, external suspension, or any combination of the aforementioned.

Students on campus must be in their assigned/scheduled class unless permission has been obtained from the classroom teacher (or substitute teacher) of their assigned/scheduled class. Students found to be absent without permission (skipping) will result in the notification of parents and will be subject to Saturday school, internal suspension, external suspension, or any combination of the aforementioned.

Checking Out/Leaving the Campus
Permission to check out / leave campus may only be obtained from the office. Students are not allowed to leave campus without checking out. An office staff member must make personal contact with the parent before a student will be allowed to checkout/leave campus. The desired forms of personal contact are 1) the parent being present at the time of checkout or 2) a signed note with a follow-up phone call. Once a student checks out he/she must leave campus.

Any student leaving the campus without following proper checkout procedures will result in the notification of parents and the student will be subject to before school detention, Saturday school, internal suspension, external suspension, or any combination of the aforementioned.

Dress Code
Students are expected to adhere to the dress code guidelines on a daily basis and should enter the building at the start of the school day in full compliance. Students who are found to be out of compliance with the dress code at any time during the school day will have the following consequences administered within one semester. In addition, students must correct the dress code infraction before they will be allowed to return to class:

- 4th infraction – Student will serve one Saturday School
- 5th and subsequent infractions – Student will serve one day of ISS per infraction accrued

Tardiness
Punctuality is expected of all students. Lamar School believes it is the responsibility of parents to see students arrive at school on time. It is the student's responsibility to arrive in class on time. The disciplinary action that will be administered for being tardy to a class at level two is as follows:

- 4th tardy – Student will serve one Saturday School
- 5th and subsequent tardy – Student will serve one day of ISS per tardy accrued

Stealing
Students determined to have stolen property or money from another individual or the school will be subject to internal or external suspension and the parents will be notified.

Weapons
Students, faculty, administrators, and visitors are prohibited from bringing guns, knives, or weapons of any kind on Lamar School campus. The school and/or law enforcement officials will deal with violators. Students shall not possess, handle, or transmit or house in a vehicle razors, ice picks, explosives, fireworks, cigarette lighters, matches, or any other objects that can be considered weapons or dangerous instruments.

Student Harassment Policy
Lamar School is not equipped to accommodate students with behavioral or emotional disorders. Aggressive or threatening behavior or bullying will not be tolerated.

Harassment is ongoing verbal and/or physical attacks against a person. It includes intimidation in all forms. It is done with intent to disrupt physically and/or emotionally. This can be done by an individual or by a group gathered to harass someone. Harassment can be physical, racial, verbal, or sexual, or consist of social media comments and postings. Harassment includes text messages, face-to-face contact, or social media.

Harassment is a behavior, which is UNWELCOME and REPEATED; it will NOT be allowed to continue. Some forms of harassment are UNLAWFUL.

The conduct and discipline policies described in this section applies to any student who is:

- In attendance at school or on school property;
- At any school sponsored function or school related function on or off the Lamar School campus; or
- Involved in any conduct at any other time or place that has a negative effect on maintaining school order and discipline, protecting the safety and welfare of others, or damaging the reputation of Lamar School.

In school, harassment can happen when:

- A student harasses another student
- A student harasses an adult

Physical Harassment:
- Hitting, punching, jostling, pushing, or spitting
- Frightening others by threatening these actions against them
- Hiding, damaging, or destroying the property of others

Non-physical Harassment:
- Name-calling or putting others down
- Using offensive names or making suggestive comments
- Using abusive language to others
- Making degrading comments or slurs about another's race, culture, gender, religious, or social background
- Ridiculing a person or making derogatory comments about his or her body, face, or clothing
- Writing derogatory graffiti about others
- Writing crude notes or crude drawings about others
- Spreading rumors about students, adults, or their families
- Exhibiting shunning behavior towards another student
- Belittling another student's abilities or achievements
- Posting or sending derogatory messages, comments, or images, via email, text, group texts, or social media platforms

Bullying is considered to be persistent physical, verbal, written, or intimidating behavior. When the bullying behavior directed at the target is also based on a protected class, that behavior is defined as harassment. Protected classes include race, color religion, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

Cyberbullying is considered to be any harassing text messages, emails, or social network posts.

Any student who believes he/she has been the victim of bullying or harassment shall report any incident(s) to the principal.

Any student who engages in any of these behaviors toward another Lamar School student or adult will be subject to Level Two disciplinary action, which may include Saturday School, suspension, or expulsion.

Any student who engages in retaliation towards another student, teacher, or adult when harassment is reported will be subject to Level Two disciplinary action.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Lamar School is committed to ensuring that the students have a school free from sexual harassment and therefore recognizes the need to have and enforce a sexual harassment policy.

Sexual harassment includes any unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and any other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that meets the following criteria:
- Any unwanted or inappropriate sexual attention that includes touching, looks, comments, or gestures;
- Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory or obscene comments, slurs or sexual invitations, sexual jokes, propositions, suggestive, insulting, obscene comments, or gestures or other verbal abuse of a sexual nature;
- Graphic, verbal commentary about one's individual's body, sexual prowess, or sexual deficiencies;
- Flirtations, advances, leering, whistling, touching, pinching, assault, coerced sexual acts, blocking normal movements;
- Visual conduct such as derogatory or sexual posters, improper use of cell phones, photographs, cartoons, drawing or gestures or other displays of suggestive objects or pictures;
- Retaliation for having reported or threatened to report sexual harassment. This behavior is unacceptable at Lamar School and at Lamar School functions such as athletic events, dances, plays, field trips, etc.

Lamar School encourages the individual(s) who believe they are being harassed to firmly and promptly notify the offender that the behavior is unwelcome. Since the school recognizes this may be ineffective or impossible, the incident(s) should be reported to an administrator.

All complaints will be investigated thoroughly and promptly. Should complaints prove to be legitimate; the offending student will be subject to a Level Two disciplinary action that may result in the student being terminated from Lamar School without a refund of fees.

The fraternization of teachers and students is strictly prohibited, this includes such behaviors as texting, individually and/or in group messages.

Cheating and Plagiarism
Lamar School adheres to a strict policy of transparency, truthfulness, and integrity concerning student work. It is imperative that students realize the full meaning of cheating and plagiarism in relation to their personal integrity and the validity of the work they complete in every course.

Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of information and/or answers on a test, project, or homework assignment.

Plagiarism is defined as the quoting of material written by another person without indicating the source or properly citing the quoted material as a quote. Proper credit must be given to the arguments and ideas of another person. Instructional emphasis is given to this matter, especially in the upper school. It is essential that students realize its full meaning relative to the integrity of their work in every course.

The consequences for cheating and plagiarism are the same:

1st offense:
- Student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment or work in question.
- Student will serve one Saturday School.
- Student will be required to call parents to inform them of the cheating or plagiarism incident.

2nd offense:
- Student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment or work in question.
- Student will serve one day of in-school suspension.
- Student will be required to call parents to inform them of the cheating or plagiarism incident.

3rd offense:
- Student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment or work in question.
- Student will serve two days of in-school suspension.
- Student will be required to call parents to inform them of the cheating or plagiarism incident.
- Student will be excluded from membership in all academic honoraries and/or student council for a period of one year.

Weapons and Threats
While on school grounds, students may not possess, handle, or transmit any item that the administration deems a weapon or dangerous instrument. Students in possession of or who fail to report knowledge of any such items to school authorities are subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension, expulsion, or termination from Lamar. Any student that issues a threat, delivered in any manner, to another student, employee, or the school in general will be subject to any and all disciplinary options including contacting Meridian Police Department.

Drugs/Controlled Substances
A student's use, under the influence, possession (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle), sale, or supply of illegal drugs/controlled substances is not permitted on campus or at any school-sponsored or school-related function and will result in suspension or expulsion from school. This policy shall also include the abuse of prescription or over-the-counter products.

Lamar School reserves the right to administer an accepted form of controlled substance detection methodology to students at school or school-sponsored activities when deemed necessary.

The school may turn individuals involved in drug-related offenses over to the appropriate law enforcement personnel.

In the case of illegal drugs/controlled substances in a vehicle, all Lamar Students in the vehicle will be considered in violation of the Drugs/Controlled Substances policy and will be subject to the same disciplinary action.

Smoking/Vaping/Tobacco Products
Lamar School expressly forbids students from smoking, vaping, or using tobacco products, as well as possessing such products and or paraphernalia, at any time in or on Lamar School property, buses, or other school vehicles, adjacent properties, or on Lamar School sponsored trips. All cigarettes (including electronic), vaping devices, smokeless tobacco, lighters, matches, etc., or other devices similar to cigarettes, lighters, matches, etc. brought on campus by students will be confiscated. Discipline will be imposed based on the circumstances existing at the time and may include suspension, probation, or expulsion.

Alcoholic Beverages
A student's use, under the influence, or in possession (on person, in personal belongings, or in vehicle) of alcohol is not permitted on campus or at any school sponsored or school related function and will result in suspension or expulsion from school. Additionally, the possession, use, sale, or supply of alcoholic beverages by or to an underage person is a violation of Mississippi law and individuals may be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement personnel.

Lamar School reserves the right to administer an accepted form of alcohol detection methodology to students at school or school sponsored activities when deemed necessary.

In the case of alcohol in a vehicle, all Lamar Students in the vehicle will be considered in violation of the Alcoholic Beverage Policy and will be subject to the same disciplinary action.

MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES

Parental Supply or Facilitation of Access to Alcoholic Beverages or Drugs/Controlled Substances

Parents of Lamar students shall not provide or knowingly facilitate access of alcoholic beverages or drugs/controlled substances to a Lamar student(s) in violation of MS Law and in violation of Lamar School's Rule of Conduct concerning alcoholic beverages and student use, etc. Violation of this policy may result in the termination of the relationship between that family and Lamar School.

School Sponsored Dances and Events

The Lamar faculty and administration are very proud of the fact that special occasion dances are continued to be sponsored by the school. However, in order for the school to continue the tradition of these events, student behavior and adherence to school policies and policies of the individual events must be strictly followed.

The assurance that all school policies are abided by is the sole responsibility of the Lamar School students and their guests that attend these events.

Students are reminded that they are responsible for the behavior of their guests and all school policies are in effect at these events including the right to search any vehicle on the Lamar campus.

Lamar School reserves the right to administer an accepted form of alcohol or controlled substance detection methodology to all or individual students attending the dance.

Hazing and Initiation

Antagonistic actions toward other students accomplish no positive educational purposes and generally lead more toward resentment and hard feelings than goodwill. No such actions of any kind will be allowed by organizations or clubs associated with Lamar School either on or off campus. Hazing, in any form, will not be tolerated on the Lamar School campus or associated with any of the Lamar School programs, co-curricular, or extracurricular activities.

Additionally, pledging, *in any form*, for any n**on-school clubs or activities** will not be allowed on the Lamar School campus.

Off Campus Behavior

When a student decides to attend Lamar, responsibilities accompany that choice. Members of the Lamar School community should always desire to conduct themselves in a way that brings honor to self, family, and the Lamar community.

Student Arrival and Departure Times

High School students should arrive on campus in the morning no earlier than 7:30 am.

Students in grades 9th-12th are dismissed from school at 2:20 pm and should depart campus at this time unless they are involved in a supervised, scheduled extracurricular activity or sport.

No before or after school care programs or supervision is provided for students in high school. It is imperative that students are picked up and depart school according to the guidelines stated above. Students should not expect to hang out once school is dismissed.

Office Telephone Usage

Calls regarding illness or emergencies are to be made in the office by school officials.

Students will not be allowed to leave class to make phone calls unless they are sick. Phone calls must be made between classes, at break, or at lunch.

DRESS CODE

Lamar School will require students Pre K – 12th grade to wear the dress uniform daily in order to cultivate excellence and promote esprit de corps. Students' dress and appearance must be neat, clean, in good repair, and in good taste. Clothes should be within standards of modesty. The administration will make final decisions regarding the appropriateness of dress and appearance. The dress code is in effect from the moment a student arrives on campus in the morning until the end of the academic day. Lamar School has chosen The Liberty Shop and Dennis Uniforms to supply uniform needs. To minimize misunderstandings relating to matters of student dress we recommend that uniform items be purchased from these sources. Students may be asked not to wear unapproved items to school.
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Dress Uniform

The school uniform for daily wear consists of your choice of the following:

Boys' Tops

- Long or short-sleeved white, collared, button down or polo style shirt with the Lamar logo. Shirttails are to be worn tucked in for boys.
- Long-sleeved navy crewneck sweater or V-neck sweater vest with logo
- Navy crewneck sweatshirt or hoodie with logo
- Navy lightweight fleece jacket with logo
- Navy half-zip fleece pullover with logo
- A white shirt is required under sweaters, sweatshirts, and fleece jackets or pullovers. If students desire to remove the sweater, sweatshirt, or fleece jacket during the school day, then a collared uniform shirt must be worn.
- Navy dress blazer (required for seniors)

Boys' Bottoms

- Khaki pleated, plain-front, or elastic waist (must have belt loops) dress slacks (no jeans, cargo pants, sweat pants, wind pants, or knit fabrics)
- Khaki pleated, plain-front, or elastic waist (must have belt loops) chino shorts (no jean shorts, cargo shorts, sweat or athletic shorts, wind pants, or knit fabrics)
- Brown or black belt is required at all times whether the belt is visible or not.

Girls' Tops

- Long or short-sleeved white, collared, button down/plain collar blouse or polo style shirt with the Lamar logo
- Long-sleeved navy crewneck sweater or V-neck sweater with logo
- Navy crewneck sweatshirt or hoodie with logo
- Navy cardigan with logo
- Navy lightweight fleece jacket with logo
- Navy half-zip fleece pullover with logo
- A white base-layer uniform shirt is required under sweaters, sweatshirts, and fleece jackets or pullovers. If students desire to remove the sweater, sweatshirt, or fleece jacket during the school day, then a collared shirt must be worn. Then a collared shirt must be worn.
- Navy dress blazer (required for seniors)

Girls' Bottoms

- Classic navy large plaid skort or skirt (A-line or pleated). Hem length for skorts or skirts must be no more than 4 inches above the back bend line of the knee.
- Khaki pleated, plain-front, or elastic waist dress slacks (no skinny styles, no jean styles, cargo pants, sweat pants, wind pants, yoga pants, or knit fabrics)
- Navy biker shorts, leggings, or tights may be worn underneath skirts or skorts.
- Navy tights and/or leggings must be worn underneath any style skort or skirt with a hemline more than 4 inches above the knee.

9th-12th Guidelines for Footwear

- Closed toe shoes are preferred; however, a dress sandal is permitted.
- A sandal is defined at a shoe consisting of a sole fastened to the foot by a strap.
- All sandals must have a back heel strap. Slip-on shoes or sandals are not allowed.
- No athletic slides, indoor house shoes, toe shoes, flip flops, or Crocs are allowed.
- Heels are not to exceed two inches.
- Extreme fashion colored shoes or shoelaces are not allowed.
- All lace up shoes must be securely laced and tied.
- Students are not allowed to wear shoes where the heel has been bent down to create a slip-on shoe.
- Boots are permitted for boys and girls. Boots should hit below the knee. Boys may not wear boots with pants tucked inside the boots.

Sports and Team Sweatshirts

- Students are not allowed to wear team-specific sweatshirts or hoodies for daily school uniforms.
- Students are not allowed to wear travel uniforms for daily school uniform wear.
- All exceptions to the school uniform for athletic teams must be approved by the administration and will be communicated to the players by the coach of the specific team.

Tucking in of Shirts

- Boys must wear dress shirts, polo shirts, and base layer shirts tucked in for the daily uniform. This applies when the shirt is worn under a pullover sweater, sweatshirt/hoodie, or fleece.
- Girls have the option to wear their shirts tucked or untucked. However, untucked shirts should fall neatly at the hip and should not be overly long or short.

Guidelines for Boys

- Boys are expected to be neatly groomed and sharply dressed in the appropriate school uniform pieces daily.
- Hats and caps are not permitted to be worn during the school day.
- Shirts should be of sufficient length that they stay tucked in when walking, bending, sitting, and reaching.
- Base layer shirts should be free from writing that would show through the white uniform shirt.
- Hairstyles for boys and must be neat, well-groomed, and not extreme in color, length, or style.
- Hair must be cut above the eyebrows.
- Facial hair (beard or stubble) is not permitted. Boys must be clean shaven at the start of each school day.
- Body piercings for boys are not allowed.
- Tattoos should not be visible while at school or on the playing field/court.

Guidelines for Girls

- The basis of the dress code for girls requires that clothing choices and the manner in which they are worn provide for sufficient length and loose enough fit to afford proper modesty at all times.
- Skirts may be worn with a hem that is no shorter than 4 inches above the back bend of the knee.
- All shirts and blouses must fit such that no skin shows at the midriff or back when walking, bending, sitting, and reaching.
- Tight fitting shirts are not permitted. Likewise, base layer shirts should be free from writing that would show through the white uniform shirt.
- Undergarments should be chosen carefully and should not be extreme in color or style so as to draw inappropriate or unwanted attention. Straps of undergarments should not show at the neckline of tops.
- Hairstyle for girls should be neat, well-groomed, and not extreme in color or style. Girls should refrain from coming to school in the mornings with wet hair.
- Body piercing for girls is limited to small, singular piercings in each ear only. Earrings, or similar jewelry, are approved for wear only in the ears. Wearing rings or metal or plastic discs/objects in other areas of the body where piercings may be present is not permitted during the school day.
- Tattoos should not be visible while at school or on the playing field/court.
- Blankets are not allowed to be used as coverings at any time during the school day.
- Specific guidelines for clothing worn at formal events will be outlined and discussed with girls prior to each event. However, clothing that is overly revealing – such as extremely short in length, lowcut or plunging necklines, two-piece or cut-out so as to reveal the skin of the waist/midriff area, or splits in dresses that rise too high on the leg will not be allowed.

Free Dress Code Days

- All free dress code days must be approved by the administration.

SCHEDULES

High School Bell Schedule

8:15	**First Bell**
8:20-9:13	**1st Period**
9:18-10:08	**2nd Period**
10:08-10:21	**HS Break**
10:25-11:15	**3rd Period**
11:19-12:09	**4th Period**
12:13-1:03	**5th Period**
1:03-1:25	**HS Lunch**
1:30-2:20	**6th Period**

High School Assembly and Pep Rally Schedules

Assemblies and pep rallies are important events. They will be scheduled to minimize disruption to the academic day. Times will be announced.

High School Pep Rallies are held on scheduled Fridays from 1:50 to 2:20 pm. Ninth graders attend scheduled Junior Varsity Pep Rallys on Thursdays from 2:10 to 2:30 pm. Chapels begin at the end of 2nd period.

Student Life Policies and Information

Organizations and Clubs

Beta Club
Book Club
Charitable Investment Club
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)
Student Council
National Art Honor Society
National Honor Society
Le Corsair (Yearbook)
Quiz Bowl Team
Media and Communications
Mock Trial Team
Mu Alpha Theta
National Green School Society
Postscript
Robotics Team
Sociedad Espanola de la Mancha

High School Student Council
Officers – To be eligible for nomination for a Student Council office, a student must:

1. Have an overall "B" average for the year, determined at the end of the third nine weeks grading period.
2. Have **no** "F" in any subject for any grading period of the school year.
3. Have good conduct in the classroom and at school functions.

Grade Representatives – All students are eligible for nomination as a grade representative on the Student Council.

Elections will be held for high school Student Council officers and grade representatives during the fourth nine weeks for the upcoming school year.

The Student Council advisor may appoint additional at-large representatives as deemed necessary.

Class Officers
To be eligible for nomination as a class officer, a student must have an overall "C" average for the year, determined at the end of the third nine weeks grading period, with **no** "F" in any subject for any grading period of the school year and have good conduct in the classroom and at school functions. The class president will automatically serve as a grade representative in the Student Council. Elections will be held during the fourth nine weeks for the upcoming school year. Additionally, students cannot be elected to the student council **and** be a class officer, except for class president.

Lockers/Book Bags

Lockers may be assigned if available and are not to be changed without permission. Lockers should be kept neat and clean and are not to be written on. The administration reserves the right to check lockers at any time. Locks may be placed on lockers only if the office is provided a key or combination. The school will not be responsible for the loss or damage to personal property in lockers.

Book bags should never be left on the floors in the hall or corridors of any administrative area and the administration reserves the right to check book bags, gym bags, and purses at any time.

Personal Property

It is recommended that students not bring personal property to school where ownership could be in question. Students are responsible for their own personal property and are expected to take care of their belongings. The school takes no responsibility for the loss or damage to personal property.

Lunch/Cafetorium

The food service program will be on a debit system for the convenience of the parents and to speed up the serving process. **A student will only be able to participate in the food service program if his(her) account reflects a positive balance. A student's debit system ID number will be temporarily inactivated when his/her account balance becomes negative with a balance of $25 or higher.**

All eating must be done at the tables provided in the cafetorium. Students are not allowed to eat in the classroom buildings. Students are asked to help keep the eating area clean by putting all waste material in the containers provided. Additionally, the contractual agreement between Lamar School and the food service provider prohibits **all commercial foods** (i.e., Subway, Burger King, etc.) from being brought into the cafetorium during the lunch periods, regardless of its packaging.

All questions/requests regarding a student's account, purchasing activities, or meal concerns should be directed to the Manager at 601-482-1345, ext. 235.

Electronic devices, including computers and phones, are not allowed in the cafetorium anytime food is being served.

Personal Deliveries

Students are not allowed to receive flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, or other personal deliveries at school for any occasion.

Distribution of Non-School Invitation

The distribution of invitations to parties and such that are non-school related is prohibited.

Freshman/Sophomore Winter Formal

Lamar School Student Council annually sponsors a Freshman/Sophomore Winter Formal.

- The evening is restricted to only freshmen and sophomores of Lamar School and their dates.
- Dates of participating Lamar School students are limited to being in their freshmen or sophomore year. Students will be required to sign-up in advance so that a verification of the grade of their date can be made.
- Lamar School students are reminded that they are responsible for the conduct of their dates.
- Lamar School reserves the right to administer an accepted form of alcohol or controlled substance detection methodology to all or to individual students attending the Winter Formal.

Junior/Senior Banquet/Prom

Lamar School Student Council annually sponsors a Junior/Senior Prom each spring.

- The evening is restricted to only juniors and seniors of Lamar School and their dates.
- Dates of participating Lamar School students are limited to being in their sophomore, junior, or senior year. Students will be required to sign-up in advance so that a verification of the grade of their date can be made.
- **No students in the 9th grade or below will be allowed to participate in Junior/Senior Prom evening.**
- Lamar School students are reminded that they are responsible for the conduct of their dates.
- Lamar School reserves the right to administer an accepted form of alcohol or controlled substance detection methodology to all or to individual students attending the Junior/Senior Prom.

Student Superlative Elections

The annual staff is responsible for conducting the election. All categories to be voted on by the student body must be approved by the teacher advisory committee. All votes will be counted by the administration. A student winning or being selected for any honorarium shall not preclude the student from winning or being selected for any other honorarium.

MS/HS Controlled Substance Testing Policy

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of the controlled substance program is as follows:

1. To educate the student regarding the dangers of controlled substance abuse.
2. To help prevent controlled substance use or abuse by students of Lamar.
3. To identify any student who may be using controlled substances illegally and to identify that controlled substance.
4. To ensure that any chronic dependency problem is recognized, addressed, and treated appropriately.
5. To promote the health and academic progress of each student.
6. To aid students in the development of healthy, responsible lifestyles.
7. TO GIVE THE STUDENTS A REASON TO SAY "NO" TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Lamar School's intent is to instill in the student seriousness of purpose and personal responsibility. General responsibility for discipline rests upon the students themselves. However, in the particular and serious area of the use/possession of controlled substances by students, Lamar School shall adhere to the regulations and procedures outlined below.

All students enrolled in grades K-12 may be required to participate in a controlled substance education program. All students in grades 6-12 will be required to participate in a controlled substance screening program.

Definitions

1. "Controlled substance" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Mississippi Code.
2. "Controlled substance-related object" means any instrument, device, or object which is designed or marketed as useful primarily for injecting, ingesting, whole or otherwise, introducing a controlled substance into the human body, enhancing the effect of a controlled substance on the human body, testing the strength, effectiveness or purity of a controlled substance, processing or preparing a controlled substance for introduction into the human body, concealing any quantity of a controlled substance, or holding a controlled substance while it is being introduced into the human body.
3. Random Selection is a system of selecting students for drug testing in which each student shall have a fair and equitable chance of being selected each time.

Regulations

It is prohibited for any student to sell, display for sale, provide to another or use or to possess with intent to sell, deliver, distribute, display for sale, provide to another or use any controlled substance or controlled substance-related object while under the jurisdiction of the School. Any student who violates this regulation may be dismissed from the school.

Testing Procedures

Random testing will be unannounced. The dates and times will be selected by the Head of School.

1. As of August 11, 1997, the parents/guardians of each student, in signing their enrollment contract, have consented to their child's participation in the controlled substance screening program.
2. Students, administrators, teachers, coaches, employees, and the Board of Trustees are subject to random controlled substance testing during the school year.
3. The method of testing will be by hair sample, urinalysis, or other method used by the testing center and approved by the Board of Trustees by a systematic random sampling technique.
4. The collection and coding of samples will be handled in such a manner as to ensure confidentiality.

5. The samples will be tested by an out-of-town private laboratory utilizing generally accepted methods.
6. If a student, administrator, teacher, coach, employee, or member of the Board of Trustees is taking medications, pursuant to prescriptions or over-the-counter medications, this information must be furnished at the time that a sample is requested.
7. Test results will be provided only to a designated Lamar School Administrator. No one other than this person will have the test results.

Refusal to submit to a test will constitute a violation of the drug testing policy and will be treated as a positive test result.

Positive Results

First Incident - Any sample testing positive will be immediately retested by the testing laboratory to confirm the positive result. Once a positive result is confirmed, the following procedure will be followed:

1. The Lamar School contact person will be advised of the results.
2. The student and parent/guardians will be contacted in a confidential manner and will be advised of the results.
3. The student in question will be suspended for one week.
4. The student in question must then be evaluated within ten (10) days by a professional consultant in controlled substance abuse. A list of approved professionals will be provided. Alternate sources of evaluations may be accepted with board approval only. This evaluation and assessment shall be obtained by the parents/guardians at their expense.
5. In the event that the professional consultant mentioned above should recommend that the student attend a counseling program, then the student, at the expense of the parents/guardians, must enroll in and complete the counseling program recommended by the said consultant within the recommended time frame. The parents/guardians must provide documentation to the head of school that the program was completed.
6. The student must also participate in any after-care counseling and comply with any additional recommendations of the said professional consultant.
7. Failure to enroll in and/or complete the entire requirements of the counseling program recommended for the student will result in the student's immediate dismissal from Lamar School.
8. In the event that a student is dismissed from Lamar as a result of a positive controlled substance screen and/or failure to complete a counseling program, the parents/guardians shall not be entitled to any reimbursement of tuition or other fees previously paid up to the time of dismissal.
9. Following a confirmed positive test result, a student shall be subject to repeated testing throughout the school year. This shall be at the parents'/guardians' expense.
10. A student is prohibited from extracurricular activities for nine weeks following a confirmed positive test result.
11. In the event that an administrator, teacher, coach, employee, or member of the Board of Trustees should test positive, for substances other than those properly prescribed by a physician, then he or she will be immediately terminated.
12. Any sample found to have tampered with will be treated as positive. Any further testing required will be at the expense of the student.

Second Incident - Any sample testing positive will be immediately retested by the testing laboratory to verify the positive result. Once a second positive result is confirmed, the following procedure will be followed:

1. The Lamar contact person will be notified of the results.
2. The student and parents/guardians will be contacted in a confidential manner and advised of the results.
3. The student will be immediately dismissed.
4. In the event that a student is dismissed as a result of a second positive controlled substance screen, the parents/guardians shall not be entitled to any reimbursement of tuition or other fees previously paid up to the time of dismissal. The student will be released from his/her contract.
5. The parents/guardians of any student desiring readmission following the completion of an approved rehabilitation program may apply to the admissions committee and the Board of Trustees in writing. Readmission will be at their discretion.
6. In the event that readmission should occur, such student shall be required to submit to periodic controlled substance testing. This shall be at the parents'/guardians' expense. In the event said student should again test positive he/she will be permanently dismissed from Lamar School.

Positive Nicotine Results

Any positive test for nicotine will result in the parents being informed of the screening results.

- The student will be suspended for 1 day of in-school suspension, will pay a $30 fine, and will be tested each time following.
- The second positive will result in 3 days of in-school suspension, a $30 fine, and subsequent testing.
- Three or more positive tests will result in 3 days of out-of-school suspension, a $30 fine, and subsequent testing.

Summary of the Steps to Be Followed

1. Controlled Substance Education may be conducted in Grades K-12
2. Controlled Substance Testing will occur in Grades 6-12
3. First Positive Controlled Substance Screen
    a. Evaluation and/or counseling of the student
    b. One-week suspension
    c. Prohibited from extra-curricular activities for nine weeks
4. Second Positive Controlled Substance Screen
    a. Immediate dismissal
    b. Mandatory controlled substance treatment program as a prerequisite to readmission – readmission is possible, but not automatic
5. Third Positive Controlled Substance Screen = Permanent dismissal

This policy applies throughout grades 6-12, e.g. no starting over. For example: If a student tests positive in the 8th grade, completes counseling, and then tests positive in the 11th grade, the student will be dismissed subject to readmission as set forth here and above. If the student is readmitted and then tests positive again in the 12th grade, dismissal will be permanent.

Illegal Possession

It is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to possess a controlled substance unless such substance was obtained from a valid prescription.

Any Lamar student who violates illegal possession is subject to drug testing. Refusal to test will be treated as a positive result.

MS/HS Interscholastic Athletic Policies and Information

STUDENT ATHLETES

Lamar School's sports teams are established for the purpose of participation in and enjoyment of the competitive experience. Sports are an integral part of our school community and serve to provide its participants with developmental traits inherent in the athletic experience: the spirit of cooperation and camaraderie, the struggle to achieve, the attainment of common goals, and the total team aspect.

Athletic achievement requires sincere commitment from all athletes, parents, coaches, and administrators. For all of us to be successful, effective communication must occur. Our athletic department strongly believes in being accessible to parents and supportive of the coaching staff.

We must be ever-mindful, however, that athletics is but one part of the school experience and that the over-riding purpose of our school is stated in the mission statement: *"To educate each individual by providing a challenging and purposeful college preparatory curriculum in a safe, respectful, Christian environment."*

Lamar School's athletic program provides a level of competition appropriate to the age, development, ability, and interests of all of its students. While varsity competition places a greater emphasis on winning, the purpose of sub-varsity teams is to develop skills and prepare athletes physically and mentally for the varsity level. Lamar School coaches place the team ahead of the individual student athlete while providing a healthy balance between winning and the enjoyment of the team experience.

Lamar School players are expected to be models of the stereotypical scholar-athlete; although they may excel on the playing field, they must also strive to succeed in the classroom.

All student athletes shall meet the requirements for team membership as listed below:

Eligibility

1. All athletes of Lamar School must first meet the criteria of the Mid-South Association of Independent Schools(MAIS) for establishing eligibility for the school year. The rule states that all athletes must pass four (4) major subjects (credits) the previous school year; this may include summer school and/or a certified correspondence course.
2. Lamar School has instituted the following eligibility rules that will be enforced in addition to the MAIS rule of eligibility.
    - Athletes receiving 2 or more F's at the end of a grading period (nine weeks) will become ineligible to participate (compete in games, practice, and travel with the team) for the succeeding grading period (nine weeks). However, an athlete's eligibility may be reestablished if the athlete has a "c" or better in all classes at the two and half week mark of the following grading period. Only the headmaster or principal may reestablish an athlete's eligibility.
    - **The ineligible period will begin on the day following the day in which the counselor has formulated the "failure list" for the grading period (nine weeks).**
    - **An athlete's eligibility may be reestablished on the day in which the counselor has formulated the "failure list" for the grading period.**
    - **If the athlete's team will begin state playoff competition within two calendar weeks of the day he/she becomes ineligible, the headmaster or principal may allow him (her) to continue to compete throughout the duration of the playoff competition. However, the athlete will not be allowed to compete in any sports (only the one involved in the state playoff competition) during the period of ineligibility.**
3. A sixth grader may compete for a position (try-out, where required) on the junior high track, volleyball, and dance teams and on the varsity level in golf, tennis, cross country.

	Football	Soccer	Basketball	Track/CC	Golf	Tennis	Baseball	Cheer	Dance	Archery	Volleyball	Swimming *extends to 1st grade
Grade 12	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V Try-out	V Try-out	V	V	V
Grade 11	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V Try-out	V Try-out	V	V	V
Grade 10	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V Try-out	V Try-out	V	V	V
Grade 9	JH/V	JH/V	JH/V	JH/V	B-Team/V	B-Team/V	B-Team/V	JH Try-out	V Try-out	JH/V	JH/V	JH/V
Grade 8	JH	JH/V	JH	JH/V	B-Team/V	B-Team/V	B-Team/V	JH Try-out	V Try-out	JH/V	JH/V	JH/V
Grade 7	JH	JH/V	JH	JH/V	B-Team/V	B-Team/V	B-Team/V	JH Try-out	V Try-out	JH/V	JH/V	JH/V
Grade 6				JH/V	B-Team/V	B-Team/V			V Try-out	JH/V	JH	JH/V

Definition of Athletic Teams and Athletes

Athletics at Lamar School is defined to mean all interscholastic sports teams, cheerleading squads, and dance teams; additionally, the word athletes will mean all members of the aforementioned teams and squads.

Participation

In order for an athlete to participate in team practices or competitions, he/she must:

1. Have been cleared for eligibility by the athletic office.
2. Have been in *attendance at Lamar School for the* ***entire day,*** unless approved in *advance* by the Head of School.
3. Have a current physical on file with the Athletic Director.
4. Have a current MAIS Concussion Information Form on file with the Athletic Director.
5. Have one parent attend AD Parent Meeting.

It is required that each coach have a meeting with the parents of his players during the preseason. No player will be permitted to compete unless at least one of the athlete's parents attends this meeting, or has met with the coach. Each coach shall document attendance at the meetings. Items to be discussed are as follows:

- Game and practice attendance expectations
- Holiday games and practices, if applicable
- Transportation
- "Student pay" items needed for the year
- Sportsmanship and any incurred fines

Sportsmanship

Lamar School coaches and players are expected to conduct themselves at all times in the finest traditions of sportsmanship and fair play. An appreciation of the efforts and competitive trials of opponents is at the foundation of our beliefs and should be an integral part of our own efforts to succeed.

Rude or abusive behavior will not be tolerated by players and/or fans of Lamar School and may result in severe disciplinary action.

Responsibilities of the Athlete

You are ***always*** representing yourself, your family, Lamar School, and our community. ***Always*** live up to the standards of a student, athlete, and sportsmanship established and expected of a Lamar School athlete. ***Always*** display positive actions in public. **Always** respect the integrity and judgment of the officials and your opponents. Attend every practice unless excused by the coach.

Responsibilities of the Fan

Spectators at an athletic contest have an important role in displaying good sportsmanship. As a group, your actions may have the biggest impact on how others see the reputation of Lamar School. Lamar School fans should complement student athletes in their attempts to improve and learn. We should know and understand the rules of the game and cheer good performances by both teams.

We must respect players, coaches, and fans of opposing teams and never confront them at any time. Lamar School fans should never interact with an official/umpire before, during, or after a contest; MAIS rules simply put game officials "off-limits". We should ***never*** cheer against nor degrade game officials, opposing players, teams, coaches, and fans. We attend games to support our teams – not belittle opponents and yell at officials.

Fan Ejection

Any fan ejected from a contest shall be expected to be barred from all MAIS events until the individual has fulfilled sanctions and conditions imposed by the MAIS. Furthermore, Lamar School reserves the right to impose its own sanctions and conditions in addition to the MAIS.

MAIS currently has the following sanctions in place:

1. Be assessed a fine of $250.00 (or more should the situation warrant such)
2. Write a letter of apology
3. Be suspended 7 calendar days beginning the next day

Additionally, Lamar School will be fined within the same monetary range. ***In the event Lamar School is fined due to a fan ejection he/she will be responsible for paying the school's fine as well as his/her own. If the fine is not paid by the fan, the amount will be considered indebtedness to the school. If the fan has a child participating in the Lamar athletic program the child will become ineligible to participate until the fine/indebtedness is paid.***

Athletic Lines of Communication

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging responsibilities. By establishing and understanding each position, we are able to accept the actions of the others thus enhancing effective communication. As parents, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with effective communication.

Communication You Should Expect From the Coach

1. When and where practices and contests are held
2. Expectations the coach has for your child and the team
3. Team requirements/rules for being a member of the team
4. Notification whenever any disciplinary action results in your child being denied participation in a practice or game
5. Notification of same-day game changes will be made through Parent Alert

Communication Coaches Expect From Players

As students become involved in athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to also understand that at times students may experience disappointment and frustration. **At these times, *student-initiated discussion with the coach is recommended and encouraged.***

Parents/students should notify the coach concerning:

1. Notification of any schedule conflict well in advance
2. Any specific health concerns

Appropriate Concerns for Parents to Discuss with Coaches

1. Any unhealthy mental or physical strain you detect in your child at home
2. Ways you can contribute to your child's skill improvement and development
3. Any dramatic changes you detect in your child's behavior
4. Treatment of your child, mentally and physically

Issues Not Appropriate for Parents to Discuss with Coaches

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy or play calling
3. Other student athletes

Procedure to Follow if a Parent Has a Concern to Discuss with a Coach

1. Make an appointment with the coach. **NEVER** approach the coach immediately after a game. Lamar School acknowledges a 24 hour grace period concerning discussions with coaches. Wait until tomorrow and make an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director to set up a meeting with the coach.
3. Please do not confront a coach before, during, or immediately after a contest or practice (24-hour grace period). These can be busy and emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution. Productive meetings always require calm, rational attitudes.

If the meeting with the coach does not result in resolution of the problem, the steps, as set up by Lamar School in the Student Handbook for Communication and Parent Conferences, must be followed.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND POLICIES

Conduct

The conduct of athletes must reflect the fact that they represent Lamar School. In both the athletic and academic arenas and in the community, in general, athletes' behavior must epitomize good citizenship, a positive attitude, and a strong work ethic. According to this code of conduct, athletes must:

1. Conduct themselves in such a manner as to make themselves and the team better,
2. Remain drug, alcohol, and tobacco free,
3. Display positive actions in public,
4. Play hard and play for the love of the game,
5. Respect officials and accept their decisions without question, and
6. Win without boasting and lose without excuses.

Athletes Participating in Multiple Sports During the Same Season

In the case where an athlete desires to participate in more than one sport during the same season, the coaches of the involved sports should get together to work out a practice schedule that will benefit the athlete and Lamar School. If there is a game on the same day, the following formula should be used to determine which sport the athlete will participate in that day.

- Championship > Regular Season (If both games are championships, the sport that obtains the most All Sports points will have priority.)
- Varsity > JV (If both games are varsity, district games will have priority, if both games are district, then All Sports points potential will have priority, if All Sports points are the same, the Athletic Director will decide.)
- JV > Middle School (If both games are JV games, then All Sports points will decide. The same applies to middle school games.)

In **no instance** shall the athlete or his/her parent make the decision as to what he/she will participate in on a particular date. Ultimately, the Athletic Director will have the decision if coaches can't agree.

Athletes Participating in Overlapping Sports

In the case where an athlete desires to participate in a sport and another sport in which he/she plans to participate begins prior to the conclusion of the first sport, the athlete's primary responsibility is with the first or seasonal sport. No athlete will be taken from one sport at the expense of another sport at Lamar School. The head coach of the in-season team has the right to deny or grant permission for the athlete to participate in some activities on a limited basis.

Points of Emphasis

It is important for the involved coaches to work together for the benefit of the entire athletic program and not put the athlete in the middle of the controversy.

The end of a sport is obviously the most important time due to playoffs and tournaments. Coaches need athletes to focus on advancing as far as possible without the added pressures of starting a new sport.

Athletes that know they will be involved in overlapping sports must accept the circumstances and take responsibility. The athlete should work outside of the season sport on an individual basis to condition and improve skills required in the next sport. The athlete must realize that those players already working on the next sport may have an early advantage. No athlete will be penalized for participating in another Lamar School sport.

An Athlete Quitting a Sport During the Season
If an athlete (including cheerleader and dance team member) "begins a season"* with a team and subsequently quits the team, he/she will be unable to participate with any other athletic teams until the season of the team he/she quit has completed.

In the case where an athlete is competing in multiple sports during the same season (i.e., baseball and track) and subsequently quits one of the teams, he/she WILL BE ALLOWED to continue to compete on the other teams he/she was already a member of.

*"Beginning a season" for an athlete, cheerleader, or dance team member is defined as participating in practices 20 weekdays prior to the first official competition/game or thereafter; or competing in any of the official competitions/games.

The athlete is responsible for any fees associated with this sport including travel fees if they began the season as a part of the team.

NOTE: The coach of the team that an athlete quits does have the authority to give permission for the athlete to begin participating with another sport if he/she so desires. THIS MUST BE CLEARED THROUGH THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR BEFORE THE ATHLETE CAN BEGIN ANY ACTIVITY WITH ANOTHER SPORT.

The purpose of these guidelines is to reinforce a commitment to finishing what you start and to reinforce loyalty to your teammates and program. These guidelines prevent athletes from changing sports for inappropriate reasons; i.e., quitting toward the end of an unsuccessful season to start a new sport or to reinforce to players that may have taken a limited role on the team that there is an obligation that goes with being selected to a team.

Middle School/JV/Varsity Expectations
- **Middle School -** Participation, Development for the next level, Competitive Excellence (Winning)
- **JV -** Development for the next level (JV exists to make varsity players, run the same system, call the same plays), Competitive Excellence (Winning), Participation
- **Varsity -** Competitive Excellence (Winning), Development for the next level, Participation

Strength and Conditioning
All students are required to participate in Strength and Conditioning. Students who fail to adhere to the attendance policy set by the Athletic Director will not be eligible to participate in athletics at Lamar School.
- Attendance policy: Students are allowed 3 absences per 9 weeks. After the third absence, the student will be ineligible to participate in practices or games for one week. For each subsequent absence, the student will be ineligible for one week. If there is an extreme circumstance that causes the student to miss more that three times in a nine weeks, it will go before the Athletic Director for review.
- Strength and Conditioning will be optional for archery and swim. Cheer and Dance will begin after their competition ends.
- When a senior finished their last sport of the year, they will not be required to attend for the remainder of the year.
- All 7th and 8th grade athletes will take Strength and Conditioning as their 6th period class, except those only participating in archery and swim.

Attendance
Athletes are expected to attend all scheduled practices and competitions; in the event of unforeseen circumstances, the athlete should contact the coach prior to his/her absence.

Missed Classes Due to Athletics
An athlete will periodically be absent from a class due to interscholastic competition. It is the athlete's responsibility to secure ***in advance*** all work and deadlines from the teachers of the classes he/she will miss. If the athlete does not uphold this responsibility he/she may be held out of competition for a period of time.

When tests are scheduled on the day of a trip, it may be required that the test be taken before a student can leave. Arrangements should be made with the teacher in advance. ***It is the athlete's responsibility to initiate communication with the teacher.***

Attendance at School the Day Following a Contest
All athletes are expected to be in school the entire day following an interscholastic competition. If an athlete persists in coming to school late or being absent the day following the competition he/she will be held out of competition for a period of time.

Before School Detention
Any athlete assigned to a Before School Detention must attend the detention. Failure to serve at the appropriate time will result in the student being assigned an additional full detention and ineligible for extracurricular activity until assigned detention is served. Extracurricular activities or practices will not excuse students from a before school detention assignment.

Internal School Suspension
As per the Lamar School policy, any athlete Internally Suspended ***will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activity on the day or days he/she is assigned Internal School Suspension (including practice and interscholastic competitions).*** Additionally, the athlete may not attend the activity.

Any athlete assigned to Internal School Suspension on a Friday and the subsequent Monday will not be allowed to participate in any practices or interscholastic competitions on the Saturday and Sunday encompassed by the Internal School Suspension days.

External School Suspension
Any athlete receiving an External School Suspension will additionally be ***suspended from all athletic participation (including practice and interscholastic competitions).*** The student may not attend any athletic activities during the period of suspension.

The athlete may be reinstated for athletic participation by the Lamar School administration.

Uniforms and Equipment
The care and safekeeping of uniforms and equipment issued are the responsibility of the athlete. An athlete will be liable for the replacement cost of items lost or damaged beyond the normal, expected wears.

All uniforms and equipment issued by the school should be turned in within one week of the last event of the sport. Failure to do so may result in suspension from further athletic participation. Any uniforms not returned by the end of the school year will result in a fine. Report cards will not be issued until all uniforms are returned.

Student-Pay Items
Athletes may be asked to or given the opportunity to purchase student-pay items (i.e., practice clothing, shoes, etc.). The athlete must pay for the items before he/she receives them.

If an athlete is a member of a team and orders student-pay items and subsequently quits before receiving the items, he/she will still be responsible for paying for them. Failure to do so may result in suspension from further athletic participation.

Concessions Policy for Parents
Parents are expected to work the concession stand once per season for the sport their child plays. If parents do not work, they will be charged a $100 concession fee at the end of the season. Parents may get someone to work in their place if they would like to. That information needs to be communicated through the Booster Club and to the Athletic Director. Workers are to be 18 years of age or older. Children are not allowed in the concession stand. Links to signup will be send out via GroupMe and email. Parents with multiple children playing multiple sports are not expected to work multiple times. For example, if parents have two children playing volleyball, they are only expected to work once during that season. If parents have a child who plays football, basketball, and baseball, they are expected to work three times total, once for each sport.

Special Recognition Awards for State Championship Teams
The athletic department will only buy special recognition awards for the members of any team that wins a team class or overall state championship. The award that is bought and the manner in which the award is to be presented will be coordinated with the coach or coaches of the deserving sport.

Lamar School Athletic Department will not fund any portion of buying Championship rings.

End of Season Parties/Athletic Awards
If a coach desires to have an end of season party, all arrangements for it should be made between the coach and the parents of his/her team. The school will not financially support any end of season parties. The Athletic Director will purchase all plaques/awards.

Pre and Post Game Meals for Athletes
Lamar School Athletic Department will not pay for any student meals. "Athletic meals" will either be prepared by parents or will be "student pay". The decision as to whether a team will eat pre- or post-game meal(s) or where and what they will eat should be the decision of the head coach. The coach, however, may delegate this responsibility to a team parent.

Team Transportation to Competition
The Athletic Director will arrange all team transportation. The mode of team transportation will either be by school bus, charter bus, or parents. The Athletic Director will work closely with each coach in determining travel arrangements.

All team members of a sport are expected to travel to each competition in the school arranged transportation. In the case of an unusual circumstance, an athlete may request to travel to a competition in a manner other than that arranged by the school. This request must be submitted in advance to the Athletic Director.

Athlete Not Riding Home in School Arranged Transportation
An athlete may be released to his/her parent following a competition. The coach should be sure he/she has made personal contact with the parent before releasing the athlete. Once the athlete has been released to his/her parent, Lamar School and the coach have been relieved of all liability and responsibility.

If an athlete is to ride home with an adult (parent) other than with his/her parent, the coach must secure permission from the parent by personal contact (a note with parent signature is highly recommended). ***A coach may not release an athlete to a non-adult.***

A parent may sign the Athletics Permission Form to cover the entire season. A separate form should be provided to the coach of any sport the athlete participates in.

Transporting Athletes to a Local Practice Session
If athletes are required to leave the school campus to attend a practice session the following guidelines will be used:

- The Lamar School bus should be used for practice transportation.
- If an athlete will be transported on the school bus or by his/her parent no permission need be attained from his/her parent.
- If an athlete will be transported in a manner other than the school bus or his/her parent (i.e., driving his/her own vehicle, riding with the coach, riding with another adult, or riding with another student) a NOTE MUST BE SECURED from his/her parent giving permission for the transportation.
- A generic note for the entire season is acceptable. Be sure that the note is not too specific.
- Keep in mind that if a note is received, a follow-up phone call to the parent will reinforce its validity - as it is not impossible for a note to be a forgery.
- If verbal permission is given for an athlete's transportation such permission releases a coach from the travel liability of the immediate travel only.

Meet the Raiders
Lamar School athletic department hosts a "Meet the Raiders" in early August for all high school and junior high school sports.

MAIS Website
The MAIS website (www.msais.org) provides access to the public for such things as announcements, playoff schedules, and access to directions to all MAIS member schools.

Booster Club
All parents are encouraged to join Lamar School's Booster Club. The Booster Club raises money to fund expenses such as equipment, uniform, and travel. More information can be found at www.lamarschool.com under Athletics.