

GRADES 5-8

# Student Code of Conduct

2025-2026

# STUDENT BEHAVIOR/CONDUCT

## Introduction

Students are expected to comply with all guidelines and policies listed in the Bladen County Board of Education Policy Manual. Students are also expected to comply with the rules established by the faculty and staff of BCS and their individual school. Minor classroom disturbances will be handled by the teacher. If disciplinary action by the administration is warranted, faculty/staff members will refer students using Educator's Handbook. The appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the Bladen County Schools Code of Conduct and following an escalating consequence model. School administrators will work in conjunction with law enforcement and/or the school SRO when necessary and violations of school rules that are considered breaking the law will be reported to law enforcement. Please keep in mind that behavior violations that do not fit into our level of consequences will be handled on an individual basis. \*All individual offenses will be handled at the discretion of the school principal and/or designee.

\*You may access the Bladen County Board of Education Policy Manual by visiting: <https://www.boardpolicyonline.com/bl/?b=bladen>.

## Statement of Purpose

Students should recognize their responsibility to know the contents of this Student Code of Conduct and to ask the local school administration or staff for any clarification. All students, regardless of age, are subject to the rules and regulations of Bladen County Public Schools. Each local school will review the contents of this handbook with its students.

It is the responsibility of the principal, assistant principal to investigate fully the cases of students appropriately referred to his/her office, to ensure fair treatment of each student and the protection of their procedural and substantive rights, and to determine what, if any, disciplinary action is warranted. The teacher shall have the responsibility and authority to discipline students, except in those cases requiring the attention of the principal/assistant principal.

Unless otherwise specified, and/or with the exception of a Class V violation as later defined, this code shall apply to all students in the system before, during, and after school hours while at school, in any school building, and on any school premises; on any school-owned vehicle or in any other vehicle used to transport students to and from any school or school activities; bus stops; off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event, or function, including athletics; and during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel; to include conduct which occurs off school property which has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.

In assigning appropriate disciplinary consequences under this Code of Conduct, eligible students will be given all rights as provided by the IDEA, Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, and the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act. Procedures for implementing requirements for students with disabilities are found in Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities and Section 504 Procedures and Guidelines handbook.

During the period a student is suspended the student is prohibited from entering the grounds of any school in the Bladen County Schools system or from attending any school-related functions, including graduation, without the express permission of the building principal.

## Grades Five-Eight

### Level One Violations

**Level One Offenses** are behaviors that do not significantly violate the rights of others and do not appear chronic.

| 1 <sup>st</sup> Violation              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Violation   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Violation   |
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| 1 day ISS or 1 day OSS, Parent contact | 3 days ISS or 3 days OSS, parent contact, and possible referral to school counselor/mental health services. | 5 days OSS, parent contact, and possible referral to school counselor/mental health services.<br><br>Continued violations will result in 10 days OSS. |

### Level Two Violations

**Level Two Offenses** are behaviors that violate the rights of others or put others at risk or harm.

| 1 <sup>st</sup> Violation   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Violation  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Violation  |
|---|--|--|
| 3 days ISS or 3 day OSS, parent contact, and referral to school counselor/mental health services. | 5 days ISS or 5 days OSS, parent contact, and referral to school/mental health services. | 10 days OSS or referral to ALP, parent contact, and referral to school counselor/mental health services.<br><br>Continued violations will result in 10 days OSS and recommendation for long-term suspension. |

### Level Three Violations

**Level Three Offenses** are behaviors that significantly violate the rights of others or put others at risk of harm.

| 1 <sup>st</sup> Violation  | Subsequent Violations   |
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| 5 days OSS, parent contact, referral to school counselor/mental health services. | 10 days OSS with possible recommendation for long-term suspension. Parent contact, referral to school counselor/mental health services. |

#### **Level Four Violations**

**Level Four Offenses** significantly compromise the safety and welfare of others. This includes any student subject to sex offender registration pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 14-208.

| <b>Any Violation</b>  |
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| 10 days OSS, parent contact, referral to ALP, and a recommendation for long-term suspension based upon the presence of any aggravating factors. Also, at the discretion of the Principal, criminal charges or a juvenile petition may be pursued. Students will also be referred to counselors and/or mental health services. |

#### **Level Five Violations**

**Level Five Offenses** are behaviors that significantly compromise the safety and welfare of others and warrant a recommendation for long-term suspension and/or require a suspension of a specific length under the North Carolina law.

**Felony Notification:** Any student, who has been charged with a felony and is waiting for the disposition of the case by the court, will be automatically suspended. If the suspension exceeds 10 days, the student will be placed in remote learning or on APEX until the case has been settled. Students are suspended from the public school until the case has been settled.

\*\*\*The principal or designee has the authority to determine when a short-term suspension is an appropriate consequence and to impose the suspension, so long as all relevant board policies are followed. In accordance with G.S. 115C-390.6(e) and 115C-45(c)(1), a student is not entitled to appeal the principal's decision to impose a short-term suspension to either the superintendent or the Board of Education and its members.

| <b>Any Violation</b>   |
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| 10 day out of school suspension, parent contact, and a recommendation for long-term suspension or expulsion. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-390.11, students who are fourteen (14) years of age or older who engage in Level 5 violations and whose behavior indicates that their continued presence in school constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students and/or school staff may be suspended for 365 days. Additionally, any student who is a registered sex offender under N.C. General Statutes 14-208 may be expelled. |

## CODE OF CONDUCT OFFENSES

| LEVEL ONE OFFENSES               |        |  |
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| Being in an Unauthorized Area    | 059-UB | The wrongful breaking or entering of any school building, school-owned vehicle, or secured property of the Bladen County Board of Education at any time is prohibited. This includes the BCS network, computers, systems, and programs.  |
| Cell Phone Use                   | 060-UB | Cell phones may not be utilized during the school day unless for supervised instruction. Inappropriate use of cell phones may result in the loss of cell phone privileges at school.   |
| Cutting Class                    | 074-UB | This behavior may be used when a student is found to have been absent from class in violation of the student code of conduct.  |
| Dress Code Violation             | 031-UB | The dress code violation includes wearing, decorating, or adorning clothing that is inappropriate to the learning process. Clothing that reveals undergarments, chest, breasts, navel, buttocks or any private body part will be considered inappropriate for the school setting. Any article that displays, suggests, promotes, or reveals a lewd, vulgar, unsafe, violent, or sexual message through language, images, and/or symbols is prohibited. |
| Excessive Tardiness              | 064-UB | This behavior type may be used when a student has an excessive number of school tardies in violation of the student code of conduct.   |
| Falsification of Information     | 035-UB | Falsification of information is a false statement meant to deceive or give a wrong impression.   |
| Honor Code (Dishonest Acts)      | 028-UB | Cheating, plagiarism, dishonesty, falsification of assignments and signatures, violation of software regulations or copyright laws, and inappropriate computer access are considered honor code violations. Also, selling merchandise, magazines, newspapers, or other property on school grounds, unless the same is an approved school activity, is considered private enterprise and an honor code violation  |
| Inappropriate Behavior           | 114-UB | This behavior may be used when an offender engages in behavior that is deemed inappropriate. Examples of inappropriate behavior are (but not limited to) aggressive verbal or written communications, unwanted attention or touching, excessive talking or communications, disrespect to school personnel or students, lewd, and being disruptive  |
| Late to Class                    | 078-UB | This behavior type may be used when a student is late to class in violation of the student code of conduct.  |
| Leaving Class without Permission | 066-UB | This behavior type may be used when a student leaves class without permission in violation of the student code of conduct.   |
| Other                            | 069-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that violates the student code of conduct.   |
| Other School Defined Offense     | 058-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that violates the student code of conduct.   |
| Skippping School                 | 075-UB | This behavior type may be used when a student is absent from school in violation of the student code of conduct.   |

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| Truancy                           | 030-UB | Each student will be assigned a school schedule and must adhere to that schedule except when excused by the principal or a teacher authorized to excuse a student.  |
| <b>LEVEL TWO OFFENSES</b>         |        |   |
| Disrespect of Faculty/Staff       | 061-UB | This behavior type may be used when the offender engages in behaviors such as (but not limited to) name-calling, humiliation, taunting, or using disrespectful language directed toward school personnel.   |
| Disruptive Behavior               | 042-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender engages in behaviors that are disruptive to teaching, learning, and order. These behaviors may include (but not limited to) running through the school building or classroom, throwing objects, excessive and loud talking or noise, horseplay, and leaving the classroom or event without permission.  |
| Gambling                          | 034-UB | Gambling means to bet money or wager anything on the outcome of a game, contest, or other event.  |
| Inappropriate Language/Disrespect | 032-UB | Any communication used to degrade, disrespect, or that is abusive in nature, whether by signs, symbols, or gestures is prohibited in the school environment.  |
| Leaving School without Permission | 067-UB | This behavior type may be used when a student leaves school without permission in violation of the student code of conduct.   |
| Misuse of School Technology       | 091-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender is found to have used school technology inappropriately or in violation of the student code of conduct or school rules. School technology may be defined as the school-issued computers and electronic devices, personal devices subject to school use policies under Bring Your Own Device, school internet or wireless networks, school electronic communication networks or systems, and school telephone systems. Misuse of school technology may include (but not limited to) behaviors such as: hacking; unauthorized use or access; using another person's sign on information/credentials; unauthorized sharing or distribution of school technology or sign on information/credentials; accessing, displaying, or sending inappropriate, threatening, or harassing communications, images, or materials; intentionally harming, damaging, compromising, or corrupting software, applications, hardware, networks, data, or systems; and using technology in violation of state or federal law. |
| Other                             | 069-UB | <p>This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school related or sponsored trip that is in violation of the student code of conduct.</p> <p>This behavior code may be used to document verbal instigation and/or promoting conflict: A student who encourages or pressures others to fight by spreading rumors, making provoking statements, and/or uses their phone to record a verbal or physical altercation and shares it with others with the intention of embarrassing, provoking, or escalating tensions between students.</p>  |
| Other School Defined Offense      | 058-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school related or sponsored trip that is in violation of the student code of conduct.  |
| Property Damage                   | 039-UB | Damage is intentionally damaging, or attempting to damage, any school property or private property while under school jurisdiction.   |

| <b>LEVEL THREE OFFENSES</b>              |        |  |
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| Affray (G.S. 14-33)                      | 021-UB | An affray is a fight between three or more students on school property or at a school-related activity.  |
| Aggressive Behavior                      | 027-UB | This attempted assault occurs when a student behaves in such a manner as could reasonably cause physical injury to any student or staff member. This definition also includes the accidental striking of an adult while attempting to break up a fight.  |
| Assault on a Non-Student w/o a Weapon    | 071-UB | This behavior type may be used when the assault occurred on a non-student victim, the assault resulted in minor injuries, the offender did not use a weapon or firearm and the assault does not meet the definition for the reportable offense of "Assault on School Personnel".   |
| Assault on a Student w/o a Weapon        | 072-UB | This behavior type may be used when the assault occurred on a student, the assault resulted in minor injuries and the offender did not use a weapon or firearm.  |
| Assault on Student                       | 044-UB | Attempted or actual hitting, striking, emitting bodily fluids, utilizing any foreign substance, or other use of force upon a student.  |
| Bullying                                 | 052-UB | Bullying is a form of harassment. Bullying means the repeated intimidation of others by the real or threatened infliction of physical, verbal, written, electronically transmitted, or emotional abuse or through destruction or theft of property of another. Bullying may include, but is not limited to, verbal taunts, name-calling, put-downs, rumor spreading, extortion of money or possessions, implied or stated threats, and exclusion from peer groups.   |
| Communicating Threats (G.S. 14-277.1)    | 019-UB | Threatening actions include language that reasonably threatens force of violence and any sign or action that reasonably constitutes a threat of force or violence toward another individual.   |
| Cyberbullying                            | 094-UB | Cyberbullying includes but is not limited to the following misuses of any school or non-school technology resources or networks: harassing, threatening, teasing, intimidating, humiliating, embarrassing, terrorizing another student or school employee by sending or posting such inappropriate or hurtful email messages, instant messages, text messages, text/digital pictures or images, or through social media websites and blogs.  |
| Disorderly Conduct (G.S. 14-288.4(a)(6)) | 022-UB | Disorderly conduct is any action that disrupts the peace and order of the school. Trespassing/Loitering is also included as a part of disorderly conduct. Trespassing to include loitering is the presence of any student on the campus of another school in the Bladen County School system without the knowledge and consent of the officials of the school he/she is visiting. Any student who has been suspended from school will be considered trespassing if he/she appears on school property during the suspension period without the express permission of the principal. |
| Extortion                                | 023-UB | Extortion is the use of one's position or power to obtain property, funds, or patronage.   |
| False Fire Alarm                         | 029-UB | Students will not initiate a false fire alarm on any school premises.  |
| Fighting                                 | 024-UB | Fighting is the act of two or more persons involved in a physical conflict such as hitting or kicking another student or other person. A student who is attacked may use reasonable force in self-defense, but only to the extent to free himself/herself from the attack and notifying proper school authorities. A student who exceeds this reasonable force may be disciplined even though he/she may not have provoked the fight.  |



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| Harassment—<br>Disability                    | 102-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on the student’s actual or perceived disability—such as a physical, developmental, intellectual, emotional, or sensory disability. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—<br>Gender Identity               | 137-RB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on the student’s actual or perceived gender identity. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—<br>Religious<br>Affiliation      | 110-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on actual or perceived religion. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—<br>Sexual                        | 038-UB | Sexual harassment may consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexually harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to, deliberate, unwelcome touching that has sexual connotations or is of a sexual nature, suggestions or demands for sexual involvement accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment or threats, pressure for sexual activity, continued or repeated offensive sexual flirtations, advances or propositions, continued or repeated verbal remarks about an individual’s body, sexually degrading words used toward an individual or to describe an individual, sexual assault, sexual violence, or the display of sexually suggestive drawings, objects, pictures or written materials. Acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex, but not involving sexual activity or language, may be combined with incidents of sexually harassing conduct to determine if the incidents of sexually harassing conduct are sufficiently serious to create a sexually hostile environment. |
| Harassment—<br>Sexual<br>Orientation         | 109-UB | Gender-based harassment is also a type of harassment. Gender-based harassment may include acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.   |
| Harassment—<br>Verbal                        | 025-UB | Verbal harassment means to worry, torment, trouble, verbally attack, or irritate persistently any student, school employee, or any other person.   |
| Harassment—<br>Racial                        | 101-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on actual or perceived race, color, or national origin. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.   |
| Hazing                                       | 026-UB | To annoy any student by playing abusive or ridiculous tricks upon him, to frighten, scold, or harass him, or to subject him to personal indignity is hazing.   |
| Inappropriate<br>Items on School<br>Property | 040-UB | Any device disruptive to the school environment to include electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, tablets, digital cameras, and laser devices, will not be displayed or utilized while on the school bus or school premises during the school day unless utilized for educational purposes as approved by the school administration.  |



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| Insubordination                            | 033-UB | Refusal to comply with all appropriate or reasonable directions of principals, teachers, School Resource Officers, substitute teachers, student teachers, teacher assistants, bus drivers, volunteers, and all other school personnel who are authorized to give such directions during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of such school personnel. |
| Mutual Sexual Contact Between Two Students | 068-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender engages in consensual sexual contact or a sexual act in violation of the student code of conduct.   |
| Other                                      | 069-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that violates the student code of conduct.  |
| Other School Defined Offense               | 058-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that violates the student code of conduct.  |
| Pornographic and/or Profane Material       | 124    | This behavior may be used when an offender is in possession of or accesses pornographic, profane, or sexually explicit material. These materials can include, but are not limited to, pictures, magazines, drawings, websites, digital images, email, and text messages.  |
| Possession of Counterfeit Items            | 046-UB | Possessing any false item, which, without authorization, bears a trademark, trade name, or other identifying marks, imprint, number, or device to include currency, is prohibited.  |
| Possession of Graphically Violent Material | 125-UB | This behavior may be used when an offender is in possession of or accesses graphically violent material. These materials can include, but are not limited to, pictures, magazines, drawings, websites, digital images, email, text messages, and documents concerning the creation and/or use of a weapon.  |
| Possession of Tobacco                      | 041-UB | Possession of tobacco or tobacco paraphernalia such as paper or cigarette lighters is prohibited. This includes possession at any time in any school building or school vehicle on the school premises (including extra-curricular activities).   |
| Possession of Vaping (Non-Tobacco) Device  | 116-UB | The behavior type may be used when an offender is found to possess a vapor product such as electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, and electronic pipe.   |
| Possession of Vaping Device—Cannabinoid    | 135-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender is found in possession of a vaping device such as an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, and electronic pipe and the substance within the vapor product contains a legal cannabinoid substance.   |
| Possession of Vaping Device—CS/THC         | 131-RO | Possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law as defined in G.S. 90-86 and 90-113.8.   |
| Possession of Vaping Device—Tobacco        | 133-RB | Possession or use of tobacco products as defined in G.S. 14-313.  |
| Theft                                      | 036-UB | Theft is stealing, attempting to steal, or possessing stolen property having reason to know it was stolen.  |
| Under the Influence of Alcohol             | 095-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender is found to be under the influence of alcohol.  |

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| Under the Influence of Controlled Substances | 096-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender is found to be under the influence of a controlled substance.   |
| Use of Counterfeit Items                     | 047-UB | Use of any counterfeit item, which the person thereof obtains, or attempts to obtain, money, property, services, or something of value is prohibited.   |
| Use of Narcotics                             | 050-RO | The behavior type may be used when an offender is found to use narcotics.   |
| Use of Tobacco                               | 070-UB | The behavior type may be used when an offender is found to use tobacco.   |
| Use of Vaping (Non-Tobacco) Device           | 117-UB | The behavior type may be used when an offender is found to use a vapor product such as an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, and electronic pipe.  |
| Use of Vaping Device—Cannabinoid             | 136-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender is found in possession of a vaping device such as an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, and electronic pipe and the substance within the vapor product contains a legal cannabinoid substance.   |
| Use of Vaping Device—CS/THC                  | 132-RO | Possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law as defined in G.S. 90-86 through 90-113.8.   |
| Use of Vaping Device—Tobacco                 | 134-RB | Possession or use of tobacco products as defined in G.S. 14-313.  |
| <b>LEVEL FOUR OFFENSES</b>                   |        |   |
| Alcohol Possession (G.S. 18B)                | 020-RO | Any student possessing any malt beverages, fortified or unfortified wine, or spirituous liquor, in any amount or form to include any alcoholic beverage on school property owned or leased by the local Board of Education, school bus stop or at any school-sponsored event is prohibited.   |
| Assault on School Personnel, Not Serious     | 003-RO | Attempted or actual hitting, striking, emitting bodily fluids, utilizing any foreign substance, or other use of force upon a school official, employee, or school volunteer who is not a student.   |
| Assault Resulting in a Serious Injury        | 001-PD | An intentional act or attempt by force or violence to do injury to the person of another that causes reasonable apprehension of immediate bodily harm resulting in one of the following: (1) substantial risk of death, (2) serious permanent disfigurement, (3) a coma, (4) a permanent or protracted condition that causes extreme pain, (5) permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or (6) that results in prolonged hospitalization.  |
| Assault—Other                                | 045-UB | Attempted or actual hitting, striking, emitting bodily fluids, utilizing any foreign substance, or other use of force upon a non-student or non-school employee.  |
| Excessive Display of Affection               | 063-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender engages in consensual sexual behavior that is overly affectionate.  |
| Gang Activity                                | 079-UB | Gang activity shall be defined as any act(s) that further promotes gangs or gang-related activities or which threatens or intimidates another person or disrupts the educational environment on school premises or during any school-sponsored activity which includes, but is not limited to: (1) communicating either verbally or non-verbally (hand signs, gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc.), to convey membership or affiliation with a gang; (2) defacing school or personal property with gang-related graffiti, symbols or slogans; (3) requiring payment of protection, insurance, or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity; (4) inciting other students to intimidate or to act with physical violence upon any other person related to gang activity; (5) soliciting others for gang membership; (6) committing any other illegal act or other violation of the Bladen County Schools' policies that relate to gang activity e.g. gang-related assault on student. |

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| Harassment—<br>Disability                        | 102-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on the student's actual or perceived disability—such as a physical, developmental, intellectual, emotional, or sensory disability. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—<br>Gender Identity                   | 137-RB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on the student's actual or perceived gender identity. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—<br>Religious<br>Affiliation          | 110-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on actual or perceived religion. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—<br>Sexual                            | 038-UB | Sexual harassment may consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexually harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to, deliberate, unwelcome touching that has sexual connotations or is of a sexual nature, suggestions or demands for sexual involvement accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment or threats, pressure for sexual activity, continued or repeated offensive sexual flirtations, advances or propositions, continued or repeated verbal remarks about an individual's body, sexually degrading words used toward an individual or to describe an individual, sexual assault, sexual violence, or the display of sexually suggestive drawings, objects, pictures or written materials. Acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex, but not involving sexual activity or language, may be combined with incidents of sexually harassing conduct to determine if the incidents of sexually harassing conduct are sufficiently serious to create a sexually hostile environment. |
| Harassment—<br>Sexual<br>Orientation             | 109-UB | Gender-based harassment is also a type of harassment. Gender-based harassment may include acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.   |
| Harassment—<br>Verbal                            | 025-UB | Verbal harassment means to worry, torment, trouble, verbally attack, or irritate persistently any student, school employee, or any other person.   |
| Harassment—<br>Racial                            | 101-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on actual or perceived race, color, or national origin. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.   |
| Indecent<br>Exposure                             | 115-UB | This behavior type may be used when the offender intentionally exposes private body parts, such as the buttocks or breasts.  |
| Mutual Sexual<br>Contact Between<br>Two Students | 068-UB | This behavior type may be used when an offender engages in consensual sexual contact or a sexual act in violation of the student code of conduct   |

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| Other   | 069-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that violates the student code of conduct.  |
| Other School Defined Offense                                    | 058-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that violates the student code of conduct.  |
| Pornographic and/or Profane Material                            | 124-UB | This behavior may be used when an offender is in possession of or accesses pornographic, profane, or sexually explicit material. These materials can include, but are not limited to, pictures, magazines, drawings, websites, digital images, email, and text messages.  |
| Possession of a Weapon (Excluding Firearm, Powerful Explosives) | 008-RO | Possessing, handling, transferring, bringing, or storing whether openly or concealed, without educational permission or consent, any BB gun, stun gun, air rifle, air pistol, facsimile of a gun, ammunition, knife, ice pick, dagger, slingshot, loaded cane, loaded cane, sword cane, machete, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razors, and razor blades, or any other object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or dangerous instrument.   |
| Possession of Another Person's Prescription                     | 087-RO | It is unlawful for a person to possess or have in his/her immediate control any of the following: Marijuana, Heroin, LSD, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, or any other drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I - VI of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act. (G.S. §90-89 through 90-94.)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unauthorized possession of a prescription drug is included under this offense.</li> <li>• The principal should confer with law enforcement personnel if there is doubt as to whether or not a certain drug is considered a controlled substance.</li> </ul> |
| Possession of Chemical or Drug Paraphernalia                    | 051-UB | Possession or delivery of drug paraphernalia or any other item used for inhaling/ingesting any controlled substance, narcotic, alcohol, or chemical.  |
| Possession of Controlled Substance—Cocaine                      | 005-RO | It is unlawful for a person to possess or have in his/her immediate control any of the following: Marijuana, Heroin, LSD, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, or any other drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I - VI of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act. (G.S. §90-89 through 90-94.)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unauthorized possession of a prescription drug is included under this offense.</li> <li>• The principal should confer with law enforcement personnel if there is doubt as to whether or not a certain drug is considered a controlled substance.</li> </ul> |
| Possession of Controlled Substance—Other                        | 017-RO | It is unlawful for a person to possess or have in his/her immediate control any of the following: Marijuana, Heroin, LSD, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, or any other drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I - VI of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act. (G.S. §90-89 through 90-94.)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unauthorized possession of a prescription drug is included under this offense.</li> <li>• The principal should confer with law enforcement personnel if there is doubt as to whether or not a certain drug is considered a controlled substance.</li> </ul> |
| Possession of Controlled Substance—Ritalin                      | 007-RO | It is unlawful for a person to possess or have in his/her immediate control any of the following: Marijuana, Heroin, LSD, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, or any other drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I - VI of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act. (G.S. §90-89 through 90-94.)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unauthorized possession of a prescription drug is included under this offense.</li> <li>• The principal should confer with law enforcement personnel if there is doubt as to whether or not a certain drug is considered a controlled substance.</li> </ul> |

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| Possession of Controlled Substance—Opioid    | 118-RO   | It is unlawful for a person to possess or have in his/her immediate control any of the following: Marijuana, Heroin, LSD, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, or any other drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I - VI of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act. (G.S. §90-89 through 90-94.)<br>• The unauthorized possession of a prescription drug is included under this offense. • The principal should confer with law enforcement personnel if there is doubt as to whether or not a certain drug is considered a controlled substance. |
| Possession of Graphically Violent Material   | 125-UB   | This behavior may be used when an offender is in possession of or accesses graphically violent material. These materials can include, but are not limited to, pictures, magazines, drawings, websites, digital images, email, text messages, and documents concerning the creation and/or use of a weapon.   |
| Possession of Marijuana                      | 006-RO   | It is unlawful for a person to possess or have in his/her immediate control any of the following: Marijuana, Heroin, LSD, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, or any other drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I - VI of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act. (G.S. §90-89 through 90-94.)<br>• The unauthorized possession of a prescription drug is included under this offense. • The principal should confer with law enforcement personnel if there is doubt as to whether or not a certain drug is considered a controlled substance. |
| Possession of Student's Own Prescriptions    | 086-UB   | This behavior type may be used when an offender is found to be in possession of their own prescription drug in violation of the Student Code of Conduct.   |
| Robbery without a Weapon                     | 093-UB   | The taking or attempting to take anything of value from another's person, by force, or by an act threatening force or violence, which puts a victim in fear, without the use of a weapon. The stealing of someone's property without the use of force or from a source other than the victim's person is not included in this offense. If the taking from the person involves the use of a dangerous weapon the incident is reported under Robbery With a Dangerous Weapon   |
| Threat of a Physical Attack without a Weapon | 107-UB   | This behavior type should be used when the threat to physically injure a person. The threat is made in person. Using words that refer to a weapon or firearm, but no weapon or firearm is displayed, brandished, or discharged, would be considered a threat of physical attack without a weapon.  |
| Use of Alcoholic Beverages                   | 048-RO   | Any student found to be using any malt beverages, fortified or unfortified wine, or spirituous liquor, in any amount or form to include any alcoholic beverage on school property owned or leased by the local Board of Education, school bus stop, or at any school-sponsored event is prohibited.  |
| <b>LEVEL FIVE OFFENSES</b>                   |          |  |
| Assault Involving the Use of a Weapon        | 002-PD   | An intentional offer or attempt by force or violence to the person of another that causes reasonable apprehension of immediate bodily harm through the use of any firearm or other dangerous weapon, implement or means, any explosive or incendiary device or material, or discharges or attempts to discharge a firearm into occupied property, from within an enclosure to incite fear, or from an enclosure toward a person(s) outside enclosure as part of gang activity.   |
| Bomb Threat                                  | 043-RO   | Communicating a report, while knowing or having reason to know the report is false, that there is located on any school premises a device designed to cause damage or destruction by explosion, blasting, or burning. Placing on any school premises with the intent of perpetrating a hoax, any device that would appear to a reasonable person to be a bomb or similar instrument capable of causing injury and/or damage.   |
| Burning of a School Building (G.S. 14-60)    | 053-RO   | Any person who maliciously and willfully sets fire to, burns, or causes to be burned i.e. aids, directs, or procures the burning of any school building owned, leased, or used by the public schools.  |
| Distribution of a Prescription Drug          | 088 - RO | This behavior code should be used when a student is found to be distributing prescription drugs.   |



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| False Threat of Mass Violence    | 127-UB | This behavior may be used when an offender “who, but any means of communication to any person or groups of persons, makes a report, knowing or having reason to know the report is false, that an act of mass violence is going to occur on educational property or at a curricular or extracurricular activity sponsored by a school” (G.S. §14-277.6). Mass violence is defined as “physical injury that a reasonable person would conclude could lead to permanent injury (including mental or emotional injury) or death or two or more people.” (G.S. §14-277.5)  |
| Harassment—Disability            | 102-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on the student’s actual or perceived disability—such as a physical, developmental, intellectual, emotional, or sensory disability. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—Gender Identity       | 137-RB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on the student’s actual or perceived gender identity. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—Religious Affiliation | 110-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on actual or perceived religion. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.  |
| Harassment—Sexual                | 038-UB | Sexual harassment may consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexually harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to, deliberate, unwelcome touching that has sexual connotations or is of a sexual nature, suggestions or demands for sexual involvement accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment or threats, pressure for sexual activity, continued or repeated offensive sexual flirtations, advances or propositions, continued or repeated verbal remarks about an individual’s body, sexually degrading words used toward an individual or to describe an individual, sexual assault, sexual violence, or the display of sexually suggestive drawings, objects, pictures or written materials. Acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex, but not involving sexual activity or language, may be combined with incidents of sexually harassing conduct to determine if the incidents of sexually harassing conduct are sufficiently serious to create a sexually hostile environment. |
| Harassment—Sexual Orientation    | 109-UB | Gender-based harassment is also a type of harassment. Gender-based harassment may include acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping but not involving conduct of a sexual nature.   |
| Harassment—Verbal                | 025-UB | Verbal harassment means to worry, torment, trouble, verbally attack, or irritate persistently any student, school employee, or any other person.   |
| Harassment—Racial                | 101-UB | Refers to intimidation or abusive behavior toward a student based on actual or perceived race, color, or national origin. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as non-verbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. The conduct can be carried out by school employees, other students, and non-employee third parties.   |

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| Homicide   | 004-PD | A murder which is perpetrated by one of the following means: (1) nuclear, biological, or chemical weapon of mass destruction, (2) poison, (3) lying in wait, (4) imprisonment, (5) starving, (6) torture, (7) any other kind of willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing, (8) during the perpetration or attempted perpetration of arson, rape, sex offense, robbery, kidnapping, burglary, or other felony committed or attempted with the use of a deadly weapon, (9) the unlawful distribution of opium, opiate, or opioid or any other synthetic or natural salt, compound, derivative, or preparation of opium, cocaine or other substance described in G.S. §90-90(1)d., Methamphetamine, or a depressant described in G.S. 90-92(a)(1) and ingestion by the user results in, or (10) all other types of murder. |
| Kidnapping   | 016-PD | Confining, restraining, or removing from one place to another a person, without his/her or the victim's or a minor victim's parents' consent, for the purpose of committing a felony; or holding a victim as a hostage or for ransom, or for use as a shield. A parent taking a child in violation of a court order, although it may be a crime, is not kidnapping for this purpose.  |
| Other  | 069-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that violates the student code of conduct.  |
| Other School Defined Offense                       | 058-UB | This behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school-related or sponsored trip that is in violation of the student code of conduct.  |
| Physical Attack with a Firearm or Explosive Device | 104-PD | This behavior code should be used when the threat to physically injure a person involves the use of a firearm. The threat is made in person and the firearm is displayed, brandished, or discharged. Using words that refer to a weapon or firearm, but no weapon or firearm is displayed, brandished, or discharged, would be — 51— Return to Table of Contents considered a threat of physical attack without a weapon, not a threat of physical attack with a firearm.   |
| Pornographic and/or Profane Material               | 124-UB | This behavior may be used when an offender is in possession of or accesses pornographic, profane, or sexually explicit material. These materials can include, but are not limited to, pictures, magazines, drawings, websites, digital images, email, and text messages.  |
| Possession of a Firearm or Powerful Explosive      | 009-RO | Bringing or possessing a firearm or an explosive device on educational property or to a school-sponsored event off of educational property, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, or any firearm muffler or firearm silencer. An explosive device is a bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, device similar to those above. The term shall not include an inoperable antique firearm, a BB gun, stun gun, air rifle, or air pistol   |
| Possession of Graphically Violent Material         | 125-UB | This behavior may be used when an offender is in possession of or accesses graphically violent material. These materials can include, but are not limited to, pictures, magazines, drawings, websites, digital images, email, text messages, and documents concerning the creation and/or use of a weapon.  |
| Rape   | 012-PD | Rape may be statutory or forcible. Forcible Rape is committed by force and without the consent of the victim, regardless of age. Statutory Rape is committed on a child under the age of 16 by a person who is at least 12 years old and at least four years older than the victim, regardless of whether the victim consented.   |



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| Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon                     | 010-PD   | This includes theft or attempted theft of anything of value from the person of another, or from the area under the immediate bodily control of the other, by using a dangerous weapon or by an act threatening the use of a dangerous weapon. A dangerous weapon is any article, instrument, or substance that is likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Forcible theft or attempted theft from a person without the use of a dangerous weapon should be reported under Robbery Without a Dangerous Weapon.                           |
| Robbery with a Firearm or Explosive Device          | 103-PD   | Any person or persons who, having in possession or with the use or threatened use of any firearms or other dangerous weapon, implement or means, whereby the life of a person is endangered or threatened, unlawfully takes or attempts to take personal property from another or any place of business, residence, or banking institution or any other place where there is a person or persons in attendance, at any time, either day or night, or who aids or abets any such person or persons in the commission of such crime.           |
| Sale of Controlled Substance                        | 119-RO   | This behavior code should be used when a student is found to be conducting the sale of a controlled substance.   |
| Sale of Controlled Substance—Cocaine                | 054 - RO | This behavior code should be used when a student is found to be conducting the sale of a controlled substance-cocaine.   |
| Sale of Controlled Substance—Marijuana              | 055-RO   | This behavior code should be used when a student is found to be conducting the sale of a controlled substance-marijuana.   |
| Sale of Controlled Substance—Other                  | 057- RO  | This behavior code should be used when a student is found to be conducting the sale of a controlled substance-other.   |
| Sale of Controlled Substance—Ritalin                | 056- RO  | This behavior code should be used when a student is found to be conducting the sale of a controlled substance-Ritalin.   |
| Sexual Activity/ Pretext Medical Treatment          | 122-PD   | Sexual activity, battery, contact and penetration under pretext of medical treatment as defined in G.S. 14-31 through 33.  |
| Sexual Assault Not Involving Rape or Sexual Offense | 014-PD   | A person is guilty of sexual assault if he/she, for the purpose of sexual arousal, sexual gratification, or sexual abuse, engages in sexual contact with another person by force and against the will of the other person, or if the person being assaulted is mentally disabled, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless and the person performing the act knows or should reasonably know that the other person is mentally disabled, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless.   |
| Sexual Offense                                      | 013-PD   | Sexual Offense may be forcible or statutory. Forcible Sexual Offense is committed by force and without the consent of the victim. Statutory Sexual Offense is a sexual act committed on a child under the age of 16 by a person who is at least 12 years old and more than four years older than the victim, regardless of whether the victim consented. Statutory Sexual Offense is also sexual acts committed on a person who is mentally handicapped or incapacitated or physically helpless, regardless of whether the victim consented. |

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| Taking Indecent Liberties with a Minor          | 015-PD           | Taking indecent liberties with children: A person is guilty of taking indecent liberties with a child if, being 16 years of age or more and at least five years older than the child in question, he/she either: (1) willfully takes or attempts to take any immoral, improper, or indecent liberties with any child of either sex under the age of 16 years for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire, or (2) willfully commits or attempts to commit any lewd or lascivious act upon or with the body or any part or member of the body of any child of either sex under the age of 16 years. Indecent liberties between children: A person who is under the age of 16 years is guilty of taking indecent liberties with children if the person either: (1) willfully takes or attempts to take any immoral, improper, or indecent liberties with any child of either sex who is at least three years younger than the defendant for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire, or (2) willfully commits or attempts to commit any lewd or lascivious act upon or with the body or any part or member of the body of any child of either sex who is at least three years younger. |
| Threat of Mass Violence                         | 126-UB           | This behavior may be used when an offender “who, by any means of communication to any person or groups of persons, threatens to commit an act of mass violence on educational property or at a curricular or extracurricular activity sponsored by a school.” (G.S. §14-277.6). Mass violence is defined as “physical injury that a reasonable person would conclude could lead to permanent injury (including mental or emotional injury) or death to two or more people.” (G.S. §14-277.5)  |
| Threat of Physical Attack with a Firearm        | 105-UB<br>105-PD | A person who (1) willfully threatens to physically injure the person or that person’s child, sibling, spouse, or dependent or willfully threatens to damage the property of another; (2) the threat is communicated to the other person, orally, in writing, or by any other means; (3) the threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out; and (4) the person threatened believes that the threat will be carried out.  |
| Threat of Physical Attack with a Weapon         | 106-UB<br>106-PD | A person who (1) willfully threatens to physically injure the person or that person’s child, sibling, spouse, or dependent or willfully threatens to damage the property of another; (2) the threat is communicated to the other person, orally, in writing, or by any other means; (3) the threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out; and (4) the person threatened believes that the threat will be carried out.  |
| Unlawfully Setting a Fire                       | 018-UB           | Intentionally starting a fire or attempting to start a fire or aiding and abetting in the starting or attempting to start a fire without educational permission or consent is prohibited.   |
| Violent Assault Not Resulting in Serious Injury | 090-UB           | An intentional physical attack — 129— Return to Table of Contents resulting in pain and/or fear of severe harm for the victim but resulting in an injury less severe than that described in the definition of Assault Resulting in Serious Injury.  |

## ADDITIONAL OFFENSES

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| No Immunizations  | 065-UB | G.S. §130A-155 requires that parents or guardians submit proof of immunization for any child enrolled in public schools at the time of enrollment. If the certification of immunization is not presented on the first day of attendance, parents or guardians have 30 days from the first day of attendance to obtain the required immunization. Additional days may be allowed for immunizations which are administered in a series of doses given at medically approved intervals beyond the 30 days. At the end of the 30 days or the extended period if the required immunization has not been obtained principal or operators shall not permit the student to attend the school or facility until the proof of immunization has been presented. This behavior code may be used at the end of the 30 days or the extended period if the required proof of immunization has not been obtained. The behavior code should be used along with the action code of "135 OSS Medical Reasons". These incidents are not considered out-of-school suspensions and are excluded from reporting. |
| Physical Exam   | 077-UB | G.S. §130A-440 requires that parents or guardians submit proof of health assessment for any child presented for admission into public schools for the first time. If the health assessment transmittal form is not presented on the first day of attendance, parents or guardians have 30 days from the first day of attendance to submit the form. At the end of the 30 days, if the required form has not been presented, the principal or operators shall not permit the student to attend the school or facility until the form is presented. This behavior code may be used at the end of the 30 days if the required form has not been presented. The behavior code should be used along with the action code of "135 OSS Medical Reasons". These incidents are not considered out-of-school suspensions and are excluded from reporting. Continuation of Disciplinary Action from Previous School Year.  |
| Repeat Offender   | 092-UB | This behavior code may be used when an offender is found to willfully and repeatedly violate school rules or the Student Code of conduct. This behavior code will most often be entered along with another additional behavior code.  |
| Continuation of Disciplinary Action from Previous School Year | 121    | When student discipline carries over from one school year into the next school year, in the second year, use the behavior type "121: Continuation of Disciplinary Action from Previous School Year" when recording the disciplinary action that occurs during the second year.  |

## BUS CONDUCT

*School transportation service is a privilege, not a right.* At all times, students riding the bus will observe the directives of the school bus driver and all other rules outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Repeated discipline infractions on the bus may result in the loss of riding privileges.

The school bus, including bus stops, is an extension of the school. Therefore, the Student Code of Conduct is applicable to incidents occurring on the school bus and at the bus stop area. While riding a school bus, students shall at all times comply with the directives of the school bus driver and all other rules outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Discipline on the school bus is the responsibility of the principal/assistant principal of the school where the student is assigned. The bus driver has the responsibility and authority for the safe operation of the bus and will refer all students who violate any directives or rules to the principal/assistant principal.

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| Bus Misbehavior | 037-UB | This behavior type may be used when the offender displays any behavior on school transportation that violates the student code of conduct. |
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### **Conduct and Safety Rules for School Bus Passengers**

1. Behavior and Safety at the Bus Stop—The behavior and the safety of the passenger are the responsibility of the parent/guardian until the student boards the bus and after the student exits the bus at his or her scheduled bus stop. (Safety concerns should be reported to the school principal or appropriate law enforcement agency.)
2. Safe Route to Bus Stop—In walking to a bus stop, parents and passengers should decide the safest route. If there is no sidewalk, passengers should walk to the left of the street or highway on the road shoulder facing traffic.
3. Being on Time—Passengers must be on time and at the bus stop. The driver has a schedule to follow and cannot wait on tardy passengers. The driver is not obligated to blow the horn or wait for passengers not in sight.
4. At the Bus Stop—A passenger must stay 10 feet off the street or roadway. A child should never approach a school bus until the bus is completely stopped, all red lights are flashing, the stop sign is out, the walk arm extended and the driver has motioned it is safe. Then the passenger must check to make sure all vehicles are stopped.
5. Entering the Bus—While boarding the bus the passenger should use the handrail and watch his/her step.
6. Taking a Seat—When a passenger enters the school bus he/she should take their assigned seat immediately and remain seated. Absolutely, no moving around on the bus while the bus is in motion.
7. Opening Windows—A passenger must ask permission if the window needs to be opened. A passenger must never hang any part of his/her body from the school bus window.
8. Throwing Objects, Shouting—Objects should never be thrown about in the bus or out the windows. A passenger should not shout and wave to pedestrians or occupants of other vehicles from the bus windows. Passengers should talk quietly.
9. Eating—A passenger should never eat or drink on the bus.
10. Keeping the Aisle Clear—Personal belongings should be kept on the lap or under the seat. Arms and legs must be kept out of the aisle.
11. Bullying—Passengers should never harass or abuse the driver or another passenger verbally or physically, this is a serious offense and will not be tolerated. Failure to comply may result in loss of bus privileges.
12. Profanity or Vulgar Language, Tobacco, Drugs, Alcohol, and Gang Activity—Passengers must never use profanity or vulgar language, tobacco, drugs, or alcoholic beverages while riding the bus. Gang colors, hand

gestures, or related activity shall not be displayed.

13. Known or fashioned as a weapon, any firearms, or any dangerous instrument that can cause bodily harm on a school bus.
14. Distracting the Driver—A passenger must never be disrespectful or distract the driver's attention in any way. Disruptive behavior constitutes any physical or verbal action, which reasonably could disrupt, disturb, or interfere with the peace, order, and/or discipline while on the bus.
15. Silence at Railroad Crossings—Passengers must maintain complete silence at all railroad crossings.
16. Care of the Bus—A passenger must never damage or deface the bus in any way. Vandalism of state property may result in the dismissal of bus privileges and reimbursement for the damage cost.
17. Emergency Equipment—Passengers must never tamper with the emergency door, emergency windows, roof hatches, fire extinguishers, or video equipment. These features are put in place for safety purposes and should always be ready for use when needed.
18. Bus and Seat Assignment—Passengers shall never attempt to ride on a school bus unless assigned to it by the principal. It is unlawful for a person to ride on a school bus without prior assignment. (G.S. 115-184(a).) A parent must request any change of bus assignment in written form to the principal. Bus drivers shall assign seats and passengers must sit in assigned seats.
19. Inappropriate Items— Any device disruptive to the bus ride to include electronic devices, including but not limited to pagers, cell phones, and laser devices will not be displayed or utilized while on the school bus.
20. Code of Conduct—All Code of Conduct rules and consequences apply to incidents on the bus or at the bus stop.
21. Authority—The driver of a school bus subject to the direction of the principal shall have complete authority over and the responsibility for the operation of the bus and the maintaining of good order and conduct upon such bus, and shall report promptly to the principal any misconduct upon such bus or disregard or violation of the driver's instruction by any person riding upon such bus. (GS.115C-245(b).)

#### **Policies and Procedures for the Use of Video Cameras on School Buses**

The use of video cameras on school buses is aimed at increasing overall bus safety. Video cameras will function to prevent discipline problems from occurring, but are not to serve as a threat to normal behavior. Video cameras will be used on school buses transporting to and from school or extra-curricular activities.

1. Only school personnel as determined by the superintendent will review videos.
2. Staff, students, and employees of the school system are prohibited from tampering or otherwise interfering with the video camera equipment.
3. Video footage will be stored for ten (10) school days after initial recordings, then recordings will be recorded over. Video recordings held for review of student incidents or for other purposes deemed appropriate by the principal may be downloaded to the principal or bus manager's school computer pending resolution.
4. Viewing will be permitted only at school-related sites including the transportation office, school buildings, or central administrative offices.
5. Copies of video or pictures saved from video shall not be released to individuals or permitted for viewing outside of these locations unless subpoenaed as evidence for the court system's official use. The release of all information shall be approved by the superintendent.

## PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (PED)

To foster a safe and distraction-free learning environment, Bladen County Schools has implemented the following procedures and requirements regarding student PED usage during the school day. Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs): This term includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, laptops, earbuds, headphones, and other similar devices that can send, receive, record, or store data or communicate electronically.

### *Additional Notes:*

- Students are encouraged not to bring PEDs to school if they are unwilling to comply with these expectations. . . .
- Schools are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.
- Exceptions may be made for documented medical or emergency needs, as approved by the principal.

| <b>K-8 PED Procedures and Expectations</b> |   |
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| Phone Collection                           | Students in grades K-8 are required to turn in their cell phones to their homeroom teacher at the beginning of the school day.  |
| Phone Storage                              | Phones will be securely stored in the classroom or designated area during instructional hours.  |
| Phone Return                               | Phones will be returned to students at the end of the school day in their homeroom class.   |
| Other PED Expectations                     | Other (PEDs), including but not limited to, smartwatches, tablets, and earbuds, are not to be used during instructional time. Devices should remain silenced and stored in throughout the class period. |

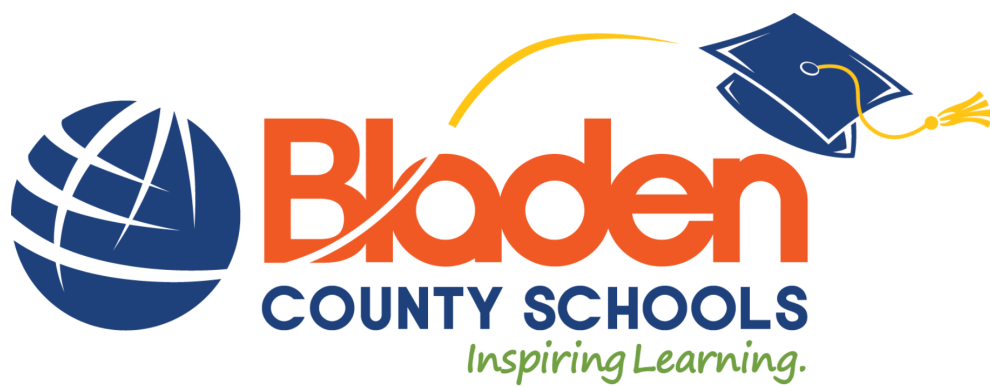
| <b>9-12 PED Procedures and Expectations</b> |   |
|---|---|
| Collection                                  | Students in grades 9-12 are required to turn in their phones to the classroom teacher at the beginning of each class period.  |
| Storage                                     | Teachers will store phones in a secure, designated location during the class period.  |
| Return                                      | Phones will be returned at the end of each class period.  |
| Other PED Expectations                      | Other (PEDs), including but not limited to, smartwatches, tablets, and earbuds, are not to be used during instructional time. Devices should remain silenced and stored in throughout the class period. |

| <b>Violations</b>         |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Violation | Verbal warning and parent/guardian contact by school staff.  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Violation | Phone confiscated and held in the main office; parent/guardian must retrieve it in person with proper photo ID. Student assigned 3 days of In-School Suspension (ISS) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS).                               |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Violation | Phone confiscated and held in the main office; parent/guardian must retrieve it in person with proper photo ID. Student assigned 5 days OSS.   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Violation | Phone confiscated and held in the main office; parent/guardian must retrieve it in person with proper photo ID. Student assigned 10 days OSS.  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Violation | Phone confiscated and held in the main office; parent/guardian must retrieve it in person with proper photo ID. Student assigned 10 days OSS and recommendation for long-term suspension for intentional defiance and insubordination. |









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