



WELCOME

Welcome back, Chiefs! As we begin another exciting year at North Myrtle Beach High School, we're thrilled to see familiar faces and welcome new ones to our vibrant community. Let's make this year one of growth, achievement, and unforgettable memories. Whether you are stepping into your first day of high school or you're a seasoned senior, remember that every day is an opportunity to learn, lead, and make a difference.

We look forward to a very productive school year for all students. We encourage our parents to assist us in educating the students at NMBHS. Please feel free to contact our faculty, school counselors, or administrators to discuss concerns or questions that you may have about your student's educational experience. We anticipate this will be our best year yet and look forward to working with all stakeholders in Chief Nation. Go Chiefs!

Sincerely,
The Administration, Faculty, and Staff

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Graduation Requirements

Credits

English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	3
Social Studies	1
US History	1
Government/Economics	1
PE/NJROTC	1
Computer Tech	1
Foreign Language or Occupational Specialty	1
Electives	6.5
Personal Finance	0.5
TOTAL Credits	24

Grading Scale

A = 100-90
B = 89-80
C = 79-70
D = 69-60
F = 59 and below

Every grade and course counts towards the calculation of the students GPA.

Beginning August 2024, all NMBHS students must be College and/or Career Ready prior to their graduation date. Seniors wishing to receive early release must qualify before the start of their senior year. Please see the NMBH website for additional information.

Make-Up Work

Students who are absent from class shall be allowed to make up assignments due to the absences within 5 school days. Failure to make up missing assignments within 5 school days may result in a zero. Deviations from this policy must be approved by the teacher and an administrator.

Retest Policy

Students who do not master a major/unit test with a grade of 70 may retest. The following rules apply: (1) A student must retest within 10 school days of the original test. (2) A student must attend a minimum number of tutoring sessions as decided upon by the teacher. (3) The final unit test grade will be determined by weighting the original test grade as 1/3 and the retest grade as 2/3, not to exceed a 70. (4) Retesting on assignments other than major/unit tests is left to the discretion of the teacher. Deviations from this policy must be approved by the teacher and an administrator.



North Myrtle Beach High School

Student Guide

2025- 2026

3750 Sea Mountain Highway
Little River, South Carolina 29566
Phone: (843) 399-6171
Fax: (843) 399-6509

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Principal: Ansley Morrow

Assistant Principals

Carla McGaha, 9th grade

Michael DiMeglio, 10th grade

Tommy Britt, 11th grade

Kent Anderson, 12th grade

Instructional Coach: Tonya Kram

Athletic Director: Anthony Heilbronn

GUIDANCE SERVICES (843) 399-8564

9th - Erin Johnson	11th - Dominique
10th - Jennifer Craig	12th - Elizabeth Brown
Additional Supports/504s	Testing Coordinator - Susan Cardwell
Registrar - Doris Bessent	Secretary - Lisa Gabriel

Guidance services are available to all students. All matters concerning registration, course selection, credits, records, graduation, testing, counseling services, college applications, scholarships, financial aid, and job opportunities are processed through this office. Office hours for the guidance office are 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM. Students may make an appointment to see their grade-level counselor before and after school, during their lunch period, or with a pass from their subject teacher.

All information concerning career choices, college selection, financial aid, and scholarships may be obtained from the guidance office. Students may prepare college applications and resumes in the guidance office as well as use computer programs to determine career interests and opportunities. Parents are encouraged to visit the guidance office and work with the student and counselor in developing individual graduation plans.

ENROLLMENT/WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

New Students (Special needs students should have a current IEP.)

- Parent or legal guardian with whom the student resides must be present.
- Bring the following documents:

- Official withdrawal form from previous school
- Birth certificate and immunization record
- Most recent report card/transcript
- Name, address, and telephone number of previous school
- Proof of residence (with physical address)
- Discipline Records

During the registration process the student and parent will complete school registration, have a schedule made, pay fees, and take a tour of the building.

Returning Students

Pre-registration is held in the spring of each school year. Students are given a course selection guide. The four-year plan should be reviewed, and the course selection sheet filled out with the required signatures. A schedule of the upcoming school year will be given to the student before the new school year begins. At this time, students or parents should request a change within 5 school days if there is an issue.

Withdrawals

To withdraw a student must do the following:

- Bring a parent or legal guardian with whom the student resides to sign the withdrawal form
- Turn books in to the guidance secretary
- Turn PDL to Tech in media center

HCS Clear Bag Policy

ALL students who choose to carry a backpack must use a clear backpack. Bags that are not clear will be stored in a designated area during the school day and can be collected after the bell rings to release students.



BELL SCHEDULE

1st Block 8:15 - 9:50

2nd Block 10:00- 11:45

3rd Block 11:50 - 1:45 (lunch block)

4th Block 1:50 - 3:20

ATHLETICS

(843) 399-8586

PURPOSE: The aim of the athletic program is to provide athletic contests with neighboring schools which will promote friendly rivalry, new friendships, improved playing skills, better community relations, and good sportsmanship.

For the player, interscholastic athletic competition offers increased opportunities for improving playing skills, developing physical vigor, promoting friendship, learning good sportsmanship, and developing the understanding that rules of the game are similar to the rules in everyday living.

For the student body, the interscholastic athletic program provides opportunities for developing school morale, for being sportsmanlike hosts to visiting students, and for exercising the qualities of fair play and courtesy.

North Myrtle Beach High School is a member of the South Carolina High School League and Region 7AAAA.

ELIGIBILITY

To participate in interscholastic activities, students in grades 9 – 12 must achieve an overall passing average and either:

- Pass at least 4 academic courses, including each unit the student takes that is required for graduation; or
- Pass a total of 5 academic courses.

Student athletes must satisfy these academic requirements in the semester preceding participation in the interscholastic activity.

Block schedules (4 block, semester long classes)

- A student taking 1 or 2 full credit required courses must pass those full credit required courses in order to be eligible. If a student takes more than 2 full credit required courses, they must pass at least 2 of the full credit required courses.
- If no required courses are taken, then the student must pass at least 2 full credit elective courses. Or
- Pass a total of 3 full credit or 2.5 credit academic courses (required or electives)

Policies about athletics are found in the Student Athletic Handbook.

ATTENDANCE

The Horry County School District Attendance Policy is printed in its entirety in the District Student/Parent Handbook.

The school year consists of 180 days. Students who miss 3 consecutive, full-day, unexcused absences must have an Attendance Intervention Plan (AIP). Students who miss 5 or more full-day unexcused absences must have an AIP.

Principals may not excuse days. The SC-PA code will no longer be available.

Lawful Absences:

- Students who are ill and whose attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others, documented by a physician.
- Students who are absent due to court appearance, documented by their summons to appear in court or written proof.
- Students who are absent due to a recognized religious holiday of their faith.
- Students who have a parent note (only 3 per semester).
- Students who have a death in the immediate family

All excuses must be turned in to the attendance office no later than 3 days after the absence. Failure to do so may result in the absences not being excused.

Unlawful Absences:

Students who are absent without acceptable cause, with or without the knowledge of their parents, are considered to be unlawfully absent.

Signing In and Out:

Once on school grounds, students may not leave school unless properly signed out by parent or guardian. Students must be signed out prior to 2:30 pm.



ATTENDANCE cont.

Signing Out

Students are never allowed to leave school during the school day unless a phone call or other personal contact is made with a parent. If a student has an appointment during the school day, his or her parent should call the school informing the attendance clerk or the student should present a written note to be verified by the attendance clerk. All notes should be turned in to the attendance office by 8:05 AM.

Students are allowed to sign out of school only during the change of classes in order to prevent the disruption of an instructional period.

Signing In

Students arriving to school late must sign in at the attendance office. Only students who have professional documentation (doctor, dentist, attorney, etc.) will receive an excused tardy.

Attendance Procedures:

School officials are required to report a student to the attendance authorities in the Department of Education after three (3) consecutive unexcused absences. If the attendance office does not know why a student is not in school, the absence must be treated as unexcused. If there is prior knowledge that a student will be absent from school, the attendance clerk must be notified. On the day of return, the student must present a note to the attendance clerk before 8:05 AM.

Truancy

A student is considered truant after three (3) consecutive all-day absences, or five (5) cumulative all-day absences which are not excused by a medical doctor's written statement, proof of bereavement, or principal's approval. After a student reaches truancy status, the principal or his/her designee will immediately attempt to establish contact with the parent to arrange a conference. During this conference, the principal or his/her designee will develop a written plan (Attendance Intervention Plan). The plan will help to establish goals for regular school attendance and will be monitored to ensure compliance. Failure to comply with the plan may result in legal proceedings through family court.

Make-Up Attendance Procedures

Students are not allowed to miss more than 5 unlawful absences per class. If a student misses more than 5 unlawful days in a class, the student shall receive a final grade of "FA" (Failure due to attendance) until the excessive absences are made up.

Excessive absences must be made up with the individual teacher for whom the absence is recorded. In addition, students may also attend school-wide attendance recovery on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Saturday School on the specified dates. Attendance make up shall be documented by the teacher/supervisor and appropriate documentation should be submitted to Assistant Principal in charge.

Senior Early Release

Students must leave campus within 10 minutes of the conclusion of their final class. Students with after-school commitments must leave campus and return after school. Early release students may not remain on campus unless prior approval is obtained. Students are responsible for their transportation and obtaining all information distributed in PM announcements.

REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

The administration, faculty, and staff assume that secondary students are mature and responsible for their own proper behavior at school and that all discipline matters can be handled in a calm and reasonable manner. In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, certain standards of behavior are necessary. Each student is under the direct control of all classroom teachers and their substitutes. Standard procedures for disciplinary actions will be enforced fairly, promptly, and equitably to each student. In order for students and parents to know what standards of behavior are expected, the following information is provided.

PERSONALIZED DIGITAL LEARNING

Horry County Schools will continue to provide personalized digital learning devices to high school students in grades 9-12 for the upcoming school year. In addition to being able to use the device in all classes at school, students will have the option to take the device home each day. The take-home option will require a \$25 annual fee. If the device is broken an additional \$25 deductible will be charged that will cover the cost of one repair. Malicious damage and loss will require full replacement payment by the student and will not be covered by the insurance. More information is available on the Horry County Schools website (pdl.horrycountyschools.net).

Stolen devices must be reported within 48 hours, and a police report must be filed by the student or parent.

Chief Policies



LUNCH BREAK

No student is permitted to leave the campus for lunch break. Students are not to be in any part of the building with the exception of the commons area, library or guidance office during lunch break since classes will be continuing for most of the student body and teachers. The restrooms in the commons area are the only ones that may be used during this period.

The following regulations are necessary to ensure students are able to eat a good meal in a clean, comfortable environment.

◆ Students are to maintain a single-file line and not attempt to break line.

◆ Students are responsible for clearing everything from the tables and leaving the tables clean upon completing their meals. This includes trays, napkins, milk cartons, and other trash. Trays should be placed in the designated area and trash should be thrown in trash cans.

◆ Students are to be considerate of others at all times. (No throwing food, paper, or liquids.)

◆ Students should maintain inside voices at all times. Disruptive behaviors such as yelling, screaming, running, etc. will not be tolerated.

◆ LUNCH DELIVERIES ARE NOT PERMITTED.



COMMUNICATIONS

Parent Conferences

Parents are encouraged to schedule either individual teacher or group conferences as needed. Contact a designated counselor to schedule an appointment.

Telephone Calls

Parents are invited to call the school to obtain information or to discuss concerns. A message will be given to the appropriate person to return the call. Instructional time will not be interrupted for phone calls. **On-ly emergency messages will be delivered to students.**

Student Use of Telephones

Office phones can be used by students with permission from office personnel. **Arrangements for rides, pick-up after school, etc. should be made PRIOR to students coming to school.**

Visitors to the School

All visitors should sign in at attendance, and be screened by the School Check In System. You must present a current driver's license or picture ID card upon entering the school. Parents are invited to visit, but unauthorized visits by friends, relatives, or alumni are not allowed. No loitering or soliciting is allowed.

PowerSchool Parent Portal

Horry County Schools will continue posting Student Information through PowerSchool. The PowerSchool Parent Portal gives parents and students access to real-time information including attendance, grades and detailed assignment descriptions, school bulletins, lunch menus and even personal messages from the teacher. Everyone stays connected! Please stop by the guidance office to pick up a user guide.

Parent/Guardian Information

All NMBHS students, regardless of age, shall be required to give accurate and current information to school authorities concerning their legal guardian and residence. This information MUST include a telephone number at which parents or guardians can be reached during the school day. If there is no phone in the home, the number of a neighbor or relative will be required. Changes involving the adults legally responsible for the student, their residence, mailing address or

TARDY POLICY

Students are expected to be in the classroom prior to the ringing of the tardy bell. Tardiness to class means a loss of instructional time for the tardy student and an interruption to the teaching and learning activities for the other students.

Students are expected to be in class on time. Students who are tardy shall be assigned ISS or OSS as stated below. In addition, students who drive to school shall lose their driving privilege if they exceed 4 tardies to school.

1st Offense: Warning/Parent Contact

2nd Offense: Warning/Parent Contact

3rd Offense: 1 Block of ISS/Parent Contact

4th Offense: 1 Day of ISS/Parent Contact

5th Offense: 1 Day of ISS/Parent Contact

6th Offense: 1 Day of OSS/Parent Contact

7th+ Offense: OSS/Parent Conference



TRAFFIC FLOW

The bus parking lot is designated for bus traffic only. This area should not be used by parents to drop off and/or pick up students or for student parking.

All parents who drop off and pick up students in the morning/afternoon should use the main entrance. When picking students up parents are asked to pull completely up so that the entire loop may be utilized. Parking in the front circle along the curb is prohibited. These are drop-off/pick-up areas only.

AUTOMOBILE REGULATIONS

Parking a private vehicle on school property is a privilege and a courtesy extended to students and others by the Horry County School Board of Education. Permission to park on school property may be rescinded by the administration for any person who does not observe the regulations.

1. All school rules shall apply in all vehicles and parking areas.
2. Vehicles parked on campus without permit displayed from rear view mirror will be ticketed or towed at owner's expense. No warnings will be given.
3. Tardiness to school or leaving without permission will result in loss of driving privileges.
4. Taking other students off campus without permission from administration/attendance office will result in disciplinary consequences.
5. All cars are to be parked on the pavement within a parking space.
6. Students are to park in the student parking area only.
7. Always observe good driving habits especially the 5 MPH speed limit.
8. Respect and observe all directives of the NMBH faculty and security personnel.
9. Students are not allowed access to the student parking area during the school day. This will be considered an unauthorized area unless given permission by administration.
10. A student's car, which is found with alcohol, drugs, or weapons, may lose their driving privileges. A student will also lose their driving privileges if R.A.I.D. Corp. continues to alert on that vehicle.
11. No loitering. Upon arrival to school - park, lock, and enter the school building in a timely manner. Upon dismissal from school - students not participating in after school activities should leave the parking lot immediately.
12. No loud music or vulgar lyrics are allowed.
13. Athletic Avenue is ONE WAY from 3:20 PM to 3:45 PM.
14. If you lose your parking permit you must purchase another.
15. Parking passes are non-transferable including early graduation and withdrawals.
16. Failure to abide by all school and parking lot guidelines will result in loss of driving privileges and disciplinary action may be taken.

The administration will investigate violations of school rules involving the parking lots and/or automobiles including requiring the student to show the contents of the automobile. The school district shall assume no responsibility for damage to cars or for theft of cars or articles from cars.

The parking fee is \$30

BUS REGULATIONS

Regulations for bus riders and drivers are issued by the State Department and will be enforced by the bus supervisor. These rules are stated in the Horry County Schools Student/Parent Handbook. The bus supervisor for NMBHS may be reached at 399-8575.



Chief Policies



TRANSPORTATION TO THE ACADEMIES

School bus transportation will be furnished for students from their home schools to the academies. Students who drive, but wish to ride the bus are required to purchase a parking pass. Cars are to be parked in a parking spot with doors locked.

Students who attend the academies are responsible for obeying all NMBHS rules while on the NMBHS campus. This includes dress code, hall passes, and parking permits.

DEPARTURE FROM SCHOOL

At the end of the school day or at the designated time to leave campus with special permission or to attend another learning site, the student is to exit and not return to campus without a designated purpose such as athletic practice, tutoring, conferencing, media services, school meeting, etc. The building will be closed and locked at 4 PM each day.

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

The school building opens at 7:30 AM with the hallways opening at 8:00 AM. Students are to report directly to the commons area if they arrive before 8:00 AM. Students are not to loiter in the parking lots, on the front campus, or in the front hall upon arrival. Students are not allowed in the parking lots or on the front of the campus until school is dismissed unless they are leaving campus for the day as authorized.

CAMPUS OFF-LIMIT AREAS/ LOITERING

Parking Lot

Once a student arrives on campus, he/she is to report to class. No loitering or loud music is allowed in any parking lot at any time. Students will not be permitted to return to their cars once they have entered the building for any reason unless approved by administration.

Front Campus

Students are not allowed to loiter on the front campus during the instructional day.

Hallways/Stairwells

Students are not to be in the hallways during the instructional periods without a signed permission form issued by a staff member. The instructional hallways are off-limits during lunches. Stairwells should only be used when changing classes.

Wooded Areas

These are off-limits at all times. EXCEPION: The nature trail can only be used when students are with a teacher.

PE Locker Rooms

The locker rooms are off-limits to students unless they are dressing for physical education or athletic practice.

Doorways

Students are not to block any entrance to the school. Students are to stay out off doorways, stairwells, and cubbyhole areas.

Teacher Parking Lot, Loading Dock Area, Teachers' Lounge

These areas are off-limits to students at all times.

Front Circle Drive

There should be no loitering or loud music in the front of the school.

Athletic fields and area

These are off-limits unless in conjunction with physical education classes or athletics.

Bus Parking Lot

The bus parking lot is off-limits unless getting on or getting off buses.

Restrooms

Restrooms are to be used for its intended purpose only. No more than one person in a stall at any time.

Student who are off-limits or loitering are subject to disciplinary action to include one or a combination of the following: Verbal Warnings, In-School Suspension, and Out of School Suspension.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Substitute Teachers

A substitute teacher has the same authority as a regular classroom teacher. Students must accept responsibility for cooperating with a substitute teacher.

Textbooks

Textbooks are the property of the State Textbook Depository. Students are responsible for lost or damaged textbooks. If a student loses or damages a book, he/she should contact the bookkeeper for the replacement price and pay the bill to receive a new book. Textbooks should not be left in classrooms as they are not the responsibility of the teacher. All books must be turned in to avoid book fines.

GENERAL INFORMATION cont.

Medication at School

Prescription and non-prescription medication that students need to take during the school day are to be registered with the school nurse who manages the health program. Parents should contact the nurse, present a written request, and officially register the medication with the school. In the event the medications are changed, the parent must present a new written request and register the new medication. Any prescribed medication that is found in the possession of students will result in discipline sanctions up to and including expulsion procedures and notification of law enforcement. **Students with unauthorized medications in their possession are subject to school disciplinary and legal action.**

Health Room

Each student must have a pass to come to see the nurse for any reason (except extreme emergencies). All medications must be accompanied by a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian

The medications will be kept in the nurse's office for the duration of the school year. At the end of the school year, it is the parent's responsibility to pick up all medicines, or these medications will be disposed of. Medications cannot be sent home with students under any circumstances.

Valuables

Students are advised not to bring large sums of money or other valuable items to school because of the danger of theft or loss. The school will not be responsible for student losses.

If something valuable is brought to school inadvertently, students should report to the office to call a parent or guardian to pick up the valuable or turn the valuable in to the office for safekeeping during the school day. Valuables will not be kept in the office overnight. Under no circumstances should valuables be stored in book bags, lockers, or other insecure locations.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Emergency drills will be practiced at least once a month. Emergency evacuation routes are posted in each classroom. Other emergency codes will be announced at the beginning of the school year as needed. Follow the rules to ensure the health and safety of all.

Fire Drill

Leave the room and building in a single-file line at a normal pace; stand quietly in the designated area while roll is checked. Re-enter the building only after the all-clear signal is given.

Tornado Drill

Leave the room when instructed by the teacher; be seated in the designated area facing the walls. Books or coats should be used to shield the face from flying debris. Do not sit near glass windows. Remain quietly seated until the all clear signal is given.

Earthquake Drill

Get under a desk or chair and stay there until the quake (shaking) stops.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Student Council and Class Officers

Class officers are elected in the spring. Candidates are required to meet a set of guidelines as stated in the Student Council's Constitution. All officers are expected to work closely with their classmates and sponsors. The primary function of Student Council is to help unify the student body by being receptive to students' ideas, suggestions, and opinions concerning their school life and activities. Student Council sponsors programs for the students including dances and homecoming.

Clubs and Activities

Clubs and activities are an extension of the curricular purposes of the school. Each club and/or activity operates under the auspices of administrative approval and a designated faculty sponsor. Involvement in activities provides leadership, education, and social and emotional growth experiences. Activities play an important part in earning scholarships and acceptance to colleges. ***Academic eligibility is required for athletics, band, chorus, NJROTC, any club or group that competes between or among schools, and honor societies.**

The following are clubs and activities at NMBHS:

Academic Team	Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Art Club	Flag Drill Team
Band	Book Club
Senior Beta Club	Mu Alpha Theta
Chorus	National Honor Society
DECA	National Technical Honor Society
English Honor Society	NJROTC Drill/ Rifle Teams
NJROTC Orienteering Team	Tree Huggers Recycling Club
Dungeons and Dragons	Science Honor Society
Social Studies Honor Society: Rho Kappa	Student Council



STUDENT BEHAVIOR

The schools have legal custody of students during the school day and during hours of approved extracurricular activities. It is the implicit responsibility of the school administration to protect each student under the school's control. Student behavior should reflect respect and kindness toward faculty/staff, guests, peers, and himself/herself at all times.

If custody and/or arrest are involved and an official warrant has been issued, the principal shall assist the law enforcement officer in assuring that all procedural safeguards, as prescribed by law, are observed.

These rules, regulations, and due process procedures are designed to protect all members of the educational community in the exercise of their rights and responsibilities. These rules are effective during the following times and in the following places:

- On school grounds during, before, and after school hours
- On school grounds at any time when the school is being used by a school group
- Off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event
- En route to and from school on a school bus or other school vehicle

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW ALL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OUTLINED IN THE HCS PARENT STUDENT GUIDE.

Failure to adhere to the schools and districts policies and procedures could result in one or a combination of the following disciplinary actions:

Parent Conference

Meeting or conference between the parents and teachers/ principal of students to discuss a child's progress at school and find solutions to academic or behavioral problems.

Suspension

The power of suspension is delegated to the principal or his/her designees. When suspension of a student is contemplated, the administrator shall have a conference with the student and notify the parents.

In-School Suspension (ISS)

Students assigned to ISS will report to the ISS room no later than 8:15 AM on the day assigned. Student will need all materials necessary to complete assignments while in ISS. Students will not leave the room during the day, other than a restroom break and to get lunch, without permission of an administrator. The rules of ISS will be provided once the student enters the room. Violation of the rules will result in removal from ISS by an administrator and additional consequences to include more ISS or OSS. The student will be required to make up any missed time from ISS due to being removed for disorderly or disruptive conduct. Make up time must be done on the day he or she returns to school.

Out-Of-School Suspension (OSS)

OSS shall be defined as the exclusion of a student from attending any day or night school function, riding a school bus, and entering the school or school grounds, except for a pre-arranged conference with an administrator. Being on school grounds during an OSS could result in trespassing charges being filed against the student.

Recommendation for Expulsion

Expulsion shall be applied in cases involving serious misconduct as specified in the suspension policy and continued misconduct after other reasonable disciplinary measures have failed to secure satisfactory results.

Students who are suspended out of school or expelled may not participate in or attend any school function or activities on or off campus during the time of the suspension or the expulsion. This includes, but is not limited to, the school prom, athletic events, and special programs at the school. Suspended or expelled students on school property without permission from an administrator, will be considered trespassing and subject to prosecution.



PLEASE REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY OR BEHAVIOR TO ANY FACULTY/ STAFF MEMBER

Chief Policies



S.C. SAFE SCHOOLS ACT

The South Carolina Safe Schools Act of 1990 makes it a criminal offense to distribute a controlled substance while in, on, or within a radius of one-half mile of the grounds of a public school. The penalty is a \$10,000 fine or 10 years imprisonment or both.

Carrying a weapon on school property is a felony which carries up to a \$5,000 fine and a maximum prison term of five years.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE CONCERNING WEAPONS, ILLEGAL DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND VIOLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS

Students or visitors who violate school district policy/ state board policy/state law with regard to weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol, and/or violent behavior at school or school activities may face the following action:

1. **OSS and/or EXPULSION:** The student will be suspended immediately and/or recommended for expulsion.
2. **ARREST AND PROSECUTION:** The law enforcement authority having jurisdiction over the school will be contacted.
3. **NOTIFICATION:** The Superintendent and Director of Student Affairs will be notified immediately.

THREATS

It is unlawful to threaten staff or their families in writing, verbally, or electronically. Further, it is unlawful to use physical violence against school personnel. Students who are in violation of this policy will be disciplined accordingly.

HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING & CYBER BULLING

In school, harassment, intimidation, or bullying (includes cyber bullying) are acts which means a gesture, an electronic communication, or a written, verbal, physical, or sexual act (1) that is reasonably perceived to have the effect of harming a student physically or emotionally or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage and /or (2) that insults or demeans a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in , or interference with, the orderly operation of the school environment, which is anywhere the school is responsible for the student.

Reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation (1) against a person who reports an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (includes cyber bullying) or (2) against a victim, witness, or a person with reliable information about an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (includes cyber bullying).

Falsey accusing another person of committing an act or acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (includes cyber bullying) will result in disciplinary actions as deemed by the principal or his/her designee.

Students involved in acts of harassment, intimidation, & bullying (includes cyber bullying) shall be dealt with in accordance to the HCS policy and procedures. Due process for all persons involved (victim, alleged and witnesses) shall be adhered to. Administration shall conduct a thorough investigation of the matter, collect and document all evidence, and will interview those who have knowledge about what occurred. The alleged and his/her parent/guardian shall be advised, verbally or in writing, of the accusations against him/ her. Disciplinary actions will be determined and supported by the evidence and will take into full consideration the impact of the student's involvement, educational environment, and safety or general welfare of all persons involved.

Any student who witnesses, or has reliable information that a student has been subjected to harassment, intimidation, or bullying (including cyber bullying) shall report the incident to the principal, the designated school contact person, or the Executive Director for Student Affairs. Reports may be anonymous; however, formal disciplinary action will not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and/or verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Anyone who participates in deliberate or unsolicited verbal comments, gestures, or physical contact of a sexual nature which is unwelcome is also engaging in sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment is unacceptable conduct; therefore, all students will avoid any action or conduct which could be viewed as sexual harassment. This includes verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment in or out of class. This policy shall not be used to bring frivolous or malicious charges against students.

Any student who feels that he/she has been subjected to sexual harassment should immediately notify an administrator, counselor or teacher. All allegations will be investigated promptly and confidentially. Any person found to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. This action may include but is not limited to out-of-school suspension, recommendation for expulsion, and the filing of criminal charges.

For sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, or bullying policy and the school's procedure, please see the Horry County School's Parent-Student Handbook.

ALCOHOL & DRUG POLICY

Sale, distribution, use, or possession of alcoholic beverages, inhalant controlled substances, illegal drugs, marijuana, or other dangerous substances are not permitted by students in school buildings, on school property, or at school functions. Also, the sale, distribution, or abusive use of prescription, patent, or imitation drugs is not permitted.

The definitions of terms described below are to be used throughout the drug/substance use regulations:

Illegal or Dangerous Substances: Any substance that will, or is represented as one that will, alter a person's ability to function normally on a mental or physical task. These substances include, but are not limited to, alcohol, look-a-like or imitation substances, marijuana, inhalants (glue, paint, white-out, Rush, etc.) or materials expressly prohibited by federal, state, or local laws.

Possession: Possession of an identifiable quantity of alcohol, narcotics, hallucinogenic drugs, look-alike drugs, or non-controlled drugs represented as controlled drugs, or any other illegal substance in school buildings, on school campuses, in vehicles on school grounds, on school buses, or at any school-sponsored activity on or off campus.

Use: Consumption in **ANY AMOUNT** of an illegal or dangerous substance or any prescription drug without appropriate authorization.

Look-A-Like or Imitation Substance: Physical appearance of the finished product is substantially similar to a specific controlled substance, or if in a tablet or capsule dosage form as a finished product is similar in color, shape, and size to any controlled substances dosage form.

Periodic, unannounced visits to the schools and other district property will be made by the HCPD drug dog. Random searches may be conducted at any time both inside and outside the school building (lockers, cars, etc.)

CONSEQUENCES

Student may be recommended for expulsion for the remainder of the school year.

OBSCENITY & PROFANITY

Obscene materials including, but not limited to illustrations (drawings, paintings, photographs, etc.) and oral, auditory or written materials (books, letters, poems, videos, music, etc.) which are commercially or student produced are prohibited during and at school sponsored activities. Students must choose their words carefully and consciously. **Students using obscenities or profanities will be subject to ISS or OSS.**

TOBACCO/ VAPES

The possession or use of tobacco products including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes, vaporizers, smokeless tobacco or snuff is prohibited on District and/or school property, school buses and/or at District-sponsored or school-sponsored activities, whether on or off District property. This also applies to after school sponsored activities.

Students in violation of this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with State law and District policies.

SCHOOL RULES APPLY AT ANY SCHOOL EVENT REGARDLESS OF ITS TIME OR LOCATION.

GRIEVANCES & PROCEDURES

A grievance is a claim by a student, parent or other community member of a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of a provision of district policies, regulations, and/or rules as it relates to or affects the grievant.

Situations may arise in the operation of the district which is of concern to students, parents, or other community members. The district has established a grievance procedure as a formal method for the positive and productive resolution of concerning the treatment of students by district personnel. Grievances may consist of violations of district policies or legal rights including, but not limited to, harassment or discrimination based on age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.

Concerns should be resolved at the lowest possible level or decision making by the individuals closest to the concern; therefore, concerns are best dealt with through communication with the appropriate staff members, such as teachers, principals, and administrators.

For information on the procedures for filing grievances, refer to the Horry County Student-Parent Handbook.

**Once a Chief,
Always a Chief**