

W. J. Keenan
High School

Welcome Back! Raider Nation 101

General Information

2025-2026

Cultivating a Culture of Excellence

What is Raider Nation 101?

RN 101 are lessons designed around our expectations for a successful WJKHS school year. These lessons will focus on...

- **General School Procedures**
- **Academics and College and Career Readiness**
- **Student Expectations for Learning and Conduct**

Vision Statement

Our vision is to create a nationally known high school that is highly regarded for its **academic excellence, leadership in cutting edge technology, science, environmental, and career - based programs.** A high school that builds strong relationships with all stakeholders and continues a culture where the expectation is to **lead, set the example, and raise standards for all to follow.**

Mission Statement

The mission of W. J. Keenan High School is to provide engaging educational opportunities through a **rigorous curriculum, cutting edge technology, and partnerships** to extend to our diverse community and produce first class citizens who will contribute to the present and excel in the future. **WE ARE KEENAN!**

#RaiderMindset



WJKHS Leadership Team



Mr. Jabar K. Hankins
Principal



Mr. William Motley
Assistant Principal of Instruction



Dr. Marylin Frederick
Assistant Principal



Mrs. Andrea Jamison
Assistant Principal



Mr. Tyler Meschwitz
Assistant Principal



Mrs. Deidra Pompey
Graduation Coach



Mr. Sean Gilley
Athletic Director



Ms. Dalphine Humphrey
Director of School Counseling



Mr. Curtis Gilmore
Building Coordinator



Mr. Jabar K. Hankins

Principal

WJ Keenan High School





Dr. Marylin Frederick

Assistant Principal

Raider Freshman Academy Administrator

9th Grade





Mr. Tyler Meschwitz

Assistant Principal
Facilities and Operations
Grades 10 & 11





Mr. William Motley

Assistant Principal
Curriculum and Instruction
11th Grade





Mrs. Andrea Jamison

Assistant Principal
MTSS Chair
12th Grade

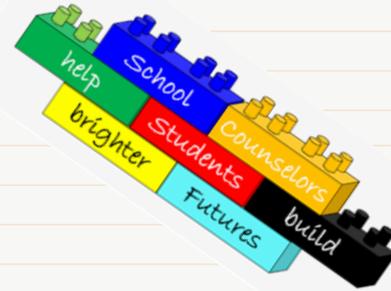


School Counseling

Ms. Humphrey A-E

Ms. Cooper F-N

Ms. Donaldson O-Z



School Counseling
Staff

School Counselor caseloads
are organized by last name.



Success Criteria

We are successful when we can:

- Identify the attributes of a successful Raider
- Understand the need for school rules and school safety
- Build a connection between attendance and academic success

Learning Intention

Today, we will learn the key components to student success.



Profile of a WJ Keenan Raider...

R—resilient

A—accountable

I—inquisitive, intelligent, ingenuous

D—determined

E—engaged, encouraged

R—respectful, resourceful, and ready



TEN ESSENTIAL CHARACTER EDUCATION TRAITS

The following character traits are essential for students to prepare for greatness. These traits should be modeled and maintained by both adults and students.

TRAIT	DEFINITION
Respect	To show high regard for authority, other people, self, and country
Honesty	To always be fair and straightforward in conduct
Cooperation	To play together or work well with others to accomplish a common goal
Citizenship	To be actively engaged in demonstrating pride and responsibility in self, school, community, and country
Responsibility	To be held accountable for your own actions
Self-Discipline	To demonstrate the ability to control yourself in all situations
Caring	To demonstrate concern through kindness and acceptance while meeting the needs of self and others
Kindness	To be considerate, courteous, helpful, and understanding of others' feelings
Fairness	To play by the rules, to be open-minded to the viewpoints of others
Dependability	To be counted on and trusted

Basic Student Responsibilities

- Dress appropriately
- Develop a sense of accountability for the decisions that YOU make
- Be respectful
- Attend school regularly
- Arrive on time and have the materials necessary for each class that you will attend
- Follow the Code of Conduct as regulated by Richland School District One and WJK
- Comply with any staff member's reasonable request to obey school and bus rules
- Demonstrate school pride!
- Do your BEST! It will pay off!



Why do we have rules in school?

Brainstorm- Think/Pair/Share



Take 1 minute to think (Feel free to jot ideas down).

Take 1 minute to turn to your neighbor and talk.

Take 1 minute to share ideas with whole group.



Basic School Information

School begins at 7:50 a.m.

Have your materials ready to go prior to the bell ringing.

Take care of personal needs prior to going to class in the morning (restroom, breakfast, etc...)

Be prepared to be seated in first block by 8:00 a.m.

If you are not in class prior to the bell ringing, you will be considered tardy.

Be prepared to work when you enter the room. There will be a bell ringer or do now activity posted in your class.



Reading Your Schedule

1st Block



2nd Block



3rd Block



4th Block



Attendance By Class																
Exp	Last Week					This Week					Course	Q1	E1	Q2	S1	
	M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W	H	F						
1-2(A-B)											- English 3 H Alston-Smith, Stephanie - Rm: B 204					
1-2(A-B)											- Personal Health McLain, Reggie - Rm: G 165	[i]				
1-2(A-B)											- Personal Finance Castro, Irena - Rm: E 110					
3-4(A-B)											JAG 1 Wiggins, Brittany - Rm: C 103	[i]				
3-4(A-B)											- DRAW I Watkins, Jay - Rm: D 102					
5-6(A-B)											- Modern and World History H Anglin, Tameika E - Rm: B 106	[i]				
5-6(A-B)											- DRIVE AND TRAFF Norris, Zachary E - Rm: E 107					
7-8(A-B)											- CHEMISTRY I H Balakrishnan, Sathiyaraj - Rm: B 202	[i]				
7-8(A-B)											- Algebra 2 H Bakshi, Charu - Rm: C 106					

Tardy Policy

2025 - 2026 W. J. Keenan High School Tardy Management Plan *Cultivating a Culture of Excellence*



The W. J. Keenan High School tardy policy is designed to ensure students arrive to class and at school on time while minimizing interruptions to the instructional environment in each classroom.

Types of Tardies

- ★ **Excused Tardies:** Students arriving at school or class with proper documentation for medical, court appointments, late bus, etc.
- ★ **Unexcused Tardies:** Students arriving late to school or class without proper documentation.

*** Parents are not allowed to sign students in to avoid obtaining a documented tardy unless students have proper documentation. ***

Tardy Consequences

# of Tardies Accrued Per Block	Consequence	# of Tardies Accrued Per Block	Consequence
1- 2	Verbal Warning by Teacher and/or Administrator. Parent contact, documentation in ABE (Note).	6-8	Referral written in ABE by Teacher. Full day ISS or OSS assigned by an Administrator.
3-5	Referral written in ABE by Teacher. Two (2) hours of detention or a Block of ISS assigned by an Administrator.	9+	Student will be assigned a one (2) day Out-of-School Suspension by an Administrator and referred to MTSS Team. Progressive steps of discipline will be taken by School Administration in the form of increased intervals of Out-of-School Suspension. (3-days, 5-days, 7-days, 10-days, Hearing Board.)

School begins at 8:00 a.m. students that arrive after this time are considered tardy. If a student arrives to school in excess of 45 minutes late, the student will report to ISS Room after signing in at the Attendance Office. Student will remain in ISS Room until the next bell rings and then report to class. Students attempting to enter class 5 minutes or more beyond tardy bell must obtain a tardy pass from an Administrator or Mrs. Suber in Attendance Office.

Hallway Activities

While in the halls, you should make sure that you are aware of personal space of others

Remain to the right side of the hall

No horseplay

Do not loiter or stand against the walls/lockers

Move swiftly to your next destination

Be sure to use positive language and keep the volume of your voice at a low level



Lunch

**11:45 AM-12:10
PM**

**1st Lunch (1st Floor B, D,
and E Halls) Based of 3rd
Block class**

**1:15 PM-1:40
PM**

**2nd Lunch (2nd Floor B, 1
and 2 C Halls) Based of
3rd Block Class**



- **Lunch should be eaten in the cafeteria or outside patio only**
- **Clean up after yourself, properly throw out all trash**
- **Lunch will stop being served 5 minutes before bell, get in line early**

A Pass and a Purpose- The 20/20 Rule

Students will not be allowed out of class during the first twenty minutes of class and the last twenty minutes of class to preserve instructional time.



At the appropriate time, teachers may grant a student access to restrooms while class is in session. At this time, students will need to observe the PASS & PURPOSE rule. Without a hall pass, you will be redirected back to class by a staff member.





Free To Focus

What is Free to Focus?

Free to Focus SC is a statewide initiative led by the South Carolina Department of Education that promotes a phone-free school environment. Its goal is to create learning spaces that support:

- Focused instruction
- Increased student engagement
- Personal and academic growth



By limiting access to personal electronic devices





Devices Not Allowed During the School Day

The following personal electronic devices must not be used during school hours:

- Cell phones (smartphones and basic phones)
- Electronic tablets & handheld gaming devices
- AirPods, earbuds, and Bluetooth headphones
- Smartwatches & internet-enabled fitness trackers



FIRST OFFENSE - WARNING



SECOND OFFENSE

In School
Suspension



THIRD OFFENSE

In School
Suspension



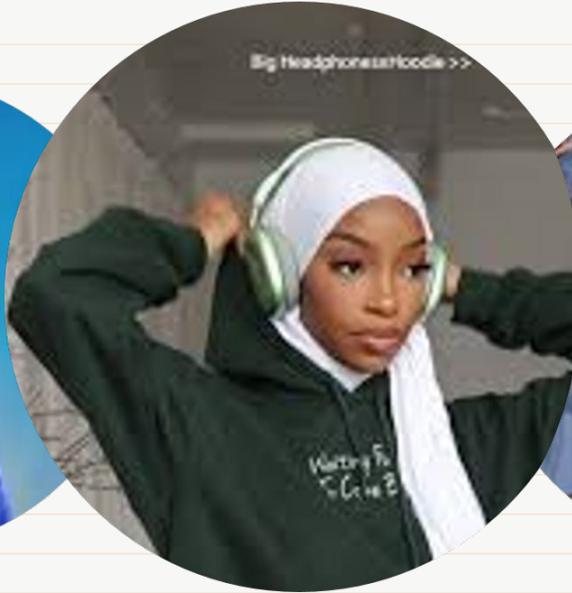
FOURTH OFFENSE



FIFTH OFFENSE











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Attendance Policy & Seat Time Regulations



South Carolina

Law requires a minimum of:



Seat Time

120 hours
60 hours



Carnegie Units

- are Credits awarded for successful completion of high school courses.
- **24 Carnegie Units** must be earned to graduate from high school.

Carnegie Units

One (1) credit class
Half (1/2) credit class

Attendance Policy & Seat Time Regulations

180
DAYS

SCHOOL YEAR

90
DAYS

1st Semester
August-December

90
DAYS

2nd Semester
January-May



Attendance Policy & Seat Time Regulations

W. J. Keenan High School 2025-2026

Attendance Policy & Seat Time Regulations

State law requires a minimum of 120 hours of seat time for a one-credit class and 60 hours of seat time for a half-credit class.

Accordingly, a student is allowed five (5) absences in a one-credit unit course and three (3) absences if the course is for one-half unit of credit.

If the number of absences exceeds 5 per 1 Carnegie unit course or 3 per $\frac{1}{2}$ Carnegie unit course, students must recapture days of attendance to receive credit. There are limited opportunities to recapture attendance.

Excessive Absences for 180-day School Term

Students who exceed more than five (5) unlawful absences in a yearlong class and/or three (3) unlawful absences in a semester class will NOT receive credit unless all absences over the state mandated limit are recaptured. Students may recapture three (3) blocks per course.

Each block recaptured will total 90 minutes. Students who have nine (9) or more unlawful absences in a semester course will NOT receive credit for the course(s). Students who have seven (7) or more unlawful absences in a quarter course will NOT receive credit for the course(s). Recapture is not an option, and the course(s) must be retaken if credit is required for graduation.

Attendance Policy & Seat Time Regulations

Clarifying Points:

- Students cannot recover more than 3 class blocks. If unlawful absences exceed the maximum allowed, a student must retake the entire course for graduation credit.
- If a student receives FA (failure due to absence), it will remain on the official transcript even if course is retaken.
- Recaptured blocks (attendance recovery) must be 90 minutes in length.
- For absences to be coded correctly, medical excuses and parent notes must be submitted to WJKHS Attendance office within 48 hours of the student's absence. Parent notes are limited to full day absences and five (5) parent notes are allowed per semester.

Athletics Requirements

To meet the athletic participation requirements in Richland One, students must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Eligibility Rules:** Students must meet both SCHSL and RCSD1 requirements, including maintaining a minimum academic course load and being in attendance during school hours.
- Grade Point Average (GPA):** A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all courses in the preceding semester is required for participation in competitive co-curricular activities.
- Age Requirements:** There are maximum age requirements for participation on both middle school and high school teams.
- Transfer Policies:** Students must be eligible to represent their middle school to participate on high school sports teams.



Means of Communication

At WJ Keenan, we will communicate with parents, students, community members and stakeholders through:

- Telephone calls
- Emails
- Newsletters/flyers
- School website
- School messenger (phone and email)
- Social media (Instagram, Facebook, X [formerly Twitter])



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Have a wonderful year!!

