

# Hopewell High School

## 2025-2026 Student Handbook



11530 Beatties Ford Road  
Huntersville, NC 28078  
(980) 343-5988 Phone  
(980) 343 5990 Fax

### **School Mission:**

To provide every Hopewell Titan with an engaging learning atmosphere rich with high expectations and school pride that will cultivate success beyond high school.

### **School Vision:**

To be a student-centered high school committed to helping students reach their full potential.

### **The Titan Creed: As a Hopewell Titan Student...**

I will be Respectful, Responsible, Reflective, and Resilient

I will be a courageous learner determined to achieve success

I will be an engaged learner who shows school pride and goes above and beyond at all times

James Vanosdall – Principal

Frank Zaremba – Assistant Principal (A-C)

Tabitha Stormer – Assistant Principal (D--H)

Laura Bouldin – Assistant Principal (I-M)

Sarah Ferdon - Assistant Principal (N-S)

Fyniss Nixon - Dean of Students (T-Z)

Patrick Brust - Dean of Instruction (Cambridge)

Arthur Malorzo – Athletic Director

*In compliance with Federal Law, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools administers all education programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability*

Students and Families:

Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year! We are excited for another year of learning and growth with our Titan Students. Great things are ahead for the upcoming school year. As your Principal, I remain committed to a safe and orderly environment that allows students to grow, both academically, socially and emotionally. Our school consists of approximately 1,900 students and over 150 staff members. We are diverse and pride ourselves on this! Families are critical to the success of our goals and mission. We cannot do this work without you. I ask for your partnership and involvement as we work to make Hopewell High School the absolute best place to be! Our theme for the year is: **One Titan - One Team - United Together!**

Hopewell High School hours are 6:45 a.m. until 2:15 p.m. The tardy bell rings promptly at 7:15 a.m. Students may not be dropped off prior to 6:45 a.m. as staff members are not on duty and there is no supervision. Students are expected to be in their homeroom or class when the tardy bell rings. You can review a copy of our bell schedule here: <https://bit.ly/3Qdv8Nc> Early dismissal will not occur after 1:45 p.m. If you need your child for an appointment, they must be picked up prior to 1:45 p.m. to avoid a disruption to our school day. We ask that you do your best to keep appointments before or after school, on workdays/holidays; or at other times that do not disrupt learning. In order for attendance to be accurately reflected, please bring a note for our documentation.

To uphold our commitment to safety and security, visitors are limited at Hopewell. All visitors must check in by buzzing the front door and if admitted, complete the sign in process at the kiosk. Please note that we do not buzz visitors in during class changes or if the office is full. All visitors will go through our Evolv Scanner system. We encourage all families to register as a volunteer as this involvement is vital to the success of our school. Registration can be completed at this link: <https://bit.ly/46vYUVH> Please note that this process must be completed EACH school year.

Each student will be assigned a Chromebook and charger that they will take home with them on a daily basis. Distribution will not begin until after the start of school. Parents will be required to complete a technology waiver and there are fees for damaged, lost, or stolen items. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child's Chromebook is charged each day for learning.

Please note that your child will receive all information for transportation and Homeroom electronically this year. Students can receive this information at Open House or on the first day of school by reporting to their homeroom. Homeroom lists will be posted throughout the school. It is extremely important that your child carefully read all of the information in this letter with you. Please keep it on file for future reference. If you have questions regarding any of the information enclosed, please call our school at (980) 343-5988. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff at Hopewell High School, I wish each of you a wonderful school year. Enjoy the remaining days of summer and I look forward to seeing all students on the first day of school by 7:15 a.m. on Monday, August 25.

Go Titans!



Jim Vanosdall, Principal

### **Late Morning Arrival**

Students who arrive to class after 7:15 will receive an unexcused tardy and will report to a designated area to receive an unexcused pass to class. Students who arrive after 7:15 with valid documentation, such as a doctor's note, will need to check in at the front office for an excused tardy pass. Please note that any student missing more than half of a class period (45 minutes) will be marked absent for that period.

### **Evolv Scanners**

All students are required to go through a body scanner each morning prior to entering the building. Any student in possession of prohibited items per the Student Code of Conduct is subject to disciplinary action and/or law enforcement. Note that metal 3 ring binders are prohibited at any CMS school.

### **School Dismissal**

School is dismissed at 2:15pm. Students are expected to remain in class until dismissed by the bell. Students remaining after school must be with a staff member. Students not supervised by a staff member are subject to disciplinary consequences

### **Early Dismissal**

Students can be dismissed early from school by persons listed in Infinite Campus with proper identification. Students who drive can also be dismissed early with written request and confirmation. Parents should sign out students prior to or after his or her lunch time. This will allow staff to locate students more efficiently. Parents may sign out students for early dismissals prior to 1:30 pm. It is important to the safety of the school to limit end of day transitions; thus, students are not released after 1:30PM.

### **Senior Early Release**

An early release card will be given to seniors who have been granted early release. Students with early release must immediately leave campus once their classes are released. If attending lunch, early release students must attend A-lunch and leave immediately after. Early release students cannot leave campus and return unless involved in a school related activity. If a student with Early Release fails to leave campus, he or she may receive an alternate schedule.

### **Lunch**

Students are not permitted to leave campus during lunch, including going to their cars. Students are only allowed in authorized areas during lunch (cafeteria, cafeteria lobby, media center and cafeteria amphitheater outdoors). Students in unauthorized areas will be subject to consequences outlined in the Code of Conduct Student's Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. Students are expected to show respect and responsibility during lunch. Students are expected to assist in keeping the designated areas clean (extending the common courtesy of cleaning space after eating and disposing items in trash cans). Food should not be consumed in a classroom unless authorized by the teacher. In maintaining a safe school environment. **Food delivery from a commercial establishment during the school day is not permitted. Students are not permitted to order food from delivery services (DoorDash, Uber Eats, etc) during school hours.** *Food Offered in Competition with School Nutrition Program State Board of Education Policy #CNU-000 and NC General Statute 115-C-264 prohibits food sold or served to students by anyone other than Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' School Nutrition Program from 12:01 am through 30 minutes after the dismissal bell rings. Violation of these regulations at any time during the instructional day, at any location on the school campus, will result in repayment of funds to the School Nutrition Program from the operating account of the school found to be in violation of the regulations. Examples of events that are in violation if held during the school day are BBQs, Spring Flings, Pizza Parties, etc. School vending machines may not be used by students until 30 minutes after the dismissal bell rings.*

### **Class Transitions**

Students are expected to attend all classes outlined on their schedule. Students will have 6-minutes between classes. A one-minute warning bell will ring alerting students to be in their designated classroom. Students are expected to be in class on time ready for instruction prior to the ringing of the bell. **Students who are not in the classroom by the bell and do not have an excused pass from a staff/faculty member are considered tardy. Students arriving to class more than 10 mins late without a pass will be considered as skipping and must report to Room 642.** Teachers will record student attendance and tardy status appropriately in PowerSchool and Educators Handbook.

**Off Limit Areas:** The following areas are off limits to students during the school day: Parking lots, the woods around the school, the neighborhood near school, athletic fields, driveways around the school, halls and restrooms during instructional time without permission, staff workrooms, gymnasium (unless assigned class), and vehicles (vehicles are cars and busses parked on campus). Students found in these off limit areas are subject to consequences outlined in the CMS Student Code of Conduct.

### **PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY:**

North Carolina House Bill 959 was passed on July 1, 2025, restricting the use of Personal Technology Devices during instructional time.

*Personal Technology Devices* are defined as cell phones, smart watches, personal laptops, earbuds, digital cameras and similar electronic devices that have not been provided by CMS for student instruction use.

*Instructional Time* is defined as the time from when you enter class until the time you exit the class.

*Restricted* means OFF and AWAY.

#### **What does this mean for students at Hopewell High School?**

Students may use their PTD up until 7:15 a.m.

Students may use their PTD during class changes.

Students may use their PTD during lunch.

Students **may not** use their PTD during restroom breaks during instructional blocks.

Students will be asked to turn in their phone daily at the teacher's door and placed into a bin where it is turned OFF/silent.

If a student does not turn in their phone and it is seen or heard, they will receive consequences as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

Cell phones may only be used if it is a component of the students IEP/504.

Cell phones may only be used in a documented medical plan.

Cell phones may only be used in an emergency\*\*

An emergency is defined as a life, safety or medical emergency (police, fire, medic).

In an actual lockdown event, after the threat is mitigated teachers may return cell phones so students are able to text their parent/guardian to let them know they are ok. However, if the threat is still imminent, texting would be discouraged.

Students using cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, digital cameras and similar electronic devices, or other functions on electronic devices in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, from within or from outside the classroom, or violates the rights of others, including, but not limited to: using the device in violation of our academic honesty policy, violating school conduct rules, harassing or bullying staff or students, photographing or video

recording or using their device for unlawful purposes will be subject to more severe disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and/or expulsion and may, if applicable, be reported to the law enforcement.

### **Cell Phone Policy**

The respectful, non-disruptive use of cell phones is permitted up until 7:15 a.m. in the common areas of the school, during class changes, and during lunch. As soon as the instructional threshold of a classroom including the gym is crossed cell phones must be turned in to the teacher. Violation of the cell phone rule as stated above will result in the confiscation of the device according to the following ladder of disciplinary action:

\*It should be noted that refusal to surrender a cell phone or other electronic device when directed to do so by a school staff member, teacher or administrator is a violation of our school's Code of Conduct (Insubordination, disrespect, technology violation). Insubordinate behavior is punishable by suspension, exclusion from school events, inclusive of after school events, and graduation.

### **Policy Bullet Points:**

- Cell phones and earbuds are prohibited from use in classrooms and any other area in which academic work is being done. Cell phones will be collected upon students entering any instructional space.
- Cell phones and other devices are not permitted to be charged during the instructional block.
- Headphones and other Bluetooth enabled devices are not permitted to be worn in class and must be put away securely by the student in any academic area.
- Cell phones and earbuds are not to be used in bathrooms during instructional blocks. Cell phones and earbuds will remain in the classroom during student restroom breaks.
- Once inside an instructional setting, teachers will collect cell phones, headphones and earbuds, to be stored in a secure location during the block.
- If a cell phone/electronic device rings, vibrates, or is used for any reason in the classroom or is visible anytime during class time or if you are caught using it on campus during class time, a staff member may confiscate the device. Under no circumstance is photographing or video recording allowed anywhere on the school premise without prior consent.
- Texting and cell phone use is permitted in halls during class change and during the lunch period in the cafeteria.
- All cell phone use must be respectful and non-disruptive to students and staff.
- Students are prohibited from recording staff and other students without their permission. Doing so will result in consequences under the Code of Conduct (Insubordination, disrespect, technology violation). Insubordinate behavior is punishable by suspension, exclusion from school events, inclusive of after school events, and graduation.
- Phones must remain on silent at all times throughout the school day.
- The school and any of its employees are not responsible for the loss or damage to any student's phone or electronic device whether that device is in the student's possession or confiscated by the staff. It is the responsibility of the student to adhere to this policy and to secure their belongings at all times. Classes and or instruction will not be stopped to deal with or search for lost phones/devices.

**Parents/Guardians Responsibilities:** Please do not contact your child via their cell phone during instructional blocks. Our main office is always staffed during the school day and parents can call the main line if an urgent message needs to be delivered to their child during instructional time. Hopewell's main office phone number is 980-343-5988. The staff of Hopewell High School requests your FULL cooperation with our policy. This policy is not optional. North Carolina House Bill 959 was passed on July 1, 2025, restricting the use of Personal Technology Devices during instructional time. If you need to discuss an issue with a cell phone policy violation, please leave a message for an administrator to follow up with you, which will be done outside of instructional time.

***CMS will not be responsible or liable for theft, loss, data loss, damage to any personal electronic device brought to school.***

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

#### **CMS-Hopewell High School Honor Code**

Hopewell High School is committed to the academic, social, and ethical development of all students. Plagiarism and cheating do not allow for a student to maximize their learning and compromises trust between student and teacher. It is the expectation that all students will demonstrate responsibility and integrity. Responsible students take ownership for their learning and their actions at all times. When students show integrity they do the right thing when no one else is looking. Hopewell High School abides by the CMS Student Honor Code. Any student caught cheating, copying, recording, using translators, or any method to use work that is not their own, will be found in violation of the Honor Code. Any honor code violation will result in consequences and may result in disqualification from extra-curricular activities.

#### **Student Academic Honesty Pledge:**

"I will not cheat or help others cheat; will take pride in my school and how I represent it; and will be responsible for my actions. I understand that violating the Honor Code compromises my integrity as a student. I will follow this honor code and help others do the same."

My signature reflects my commitment: [see addendum pages at end]

***Violation of the Honor Code can have an effect on students serving in leadership roles and participating in extracurricular activities.***

### **BULLYING and Title IX:**

#### **Bullying**

Bullying and/or harassing behavior are strictly prohibited. Students are expected to use appropriate language and conduct towards one another. Any manner of bullying that occurs off campus may violate the Code of Conduct if it has a direct impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the school or the safety of individuals in the school environment. Bullying is defined as a physical act or gesture of verbal, written, or electronically communicated or expressed directly at one or more persons. Students who feel bullied or witness bullying can contact any school employee or use the anonymous reporting system on the CMS website.

#### **Title IX**

Any student who believes that he or she has been subjected to sexual or gender-based harassment, any parent or guardian of such a student, or any student who believes that another student is being subjected to sexual or gender-based harassment is encouraged to report the harassment to CMS, specifically the Principal (or any administrator) and to the District's Title IX

Coordinator. One way of reporting is to submit a form, which can be found on the CMS website (Handbooks). A report can also be made to any staff member via writing or in person.  
Hopewell Title IX Liaison/Administrator - Ms. Stormer.

### **Hopewell DRESS CODE POLICY:**

Dress Code: At Hopewell High School, we expect all students to adhere to the intent of the dress code policy as well as the specific wording. We believe it is not necessary to enter into debates with students about whether a specific article of clothing is acceptable or not. If a student has any doubt whether an article of clothing is in violation of the policy, it probably is in violation and should not be worn to school.

In accordance with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, the following dress code for students has been established:

1. All clothing must be worn in an appropriate and tasteful manner.
2. Students are required to wear shoes at all times for health and safety reasons.
3. Students are required to wear shirts at all times.
4. Abusive, sexually suggestive or profane language, symbols of illegal drugs or alcohol, pictures or slogans related to weapons or any other words, symbols, or slogans that disrupt the learning environment may not be worn on clothing or as jewelry.
5. The following items will NOT be worn at school:
  - Pajamas, bedroom shoes/slippers, or blankets.
  - Spaghetti straps, halter tops, strapless and open back tops exposing any part of the back area or chest area.
  - Shirts, rompers and dresses should not be worn if they are excessively short, tight, “see through” or low-cut.
  - Hoods on shirts/jackets should be down inside the building (this includes classrooms)

Anything not listed, but deemed disruptive to the learning environment can be addressed individually by any staff member.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. It is the policy of Hopewell High School that student behavior, including conduct that constitutes a violation of criminal law, board policy and/or school rules, shall be considered in determining eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities at Hopewell High School. Examples of extracurricular activities include (but are not limited to): student government, interscholastic athletics, service clubs, language clubs, field trips, music department activities outside of the regular school day and other activities.

A student at Hopewell High School shall be ineligible from participation in extracurricular activities during an out of school suspension or if they are found in violation of the

CMS/Hopewell Code of Conduct and the Principal or Principal's Designee deems the suspension from the activity necessary.

**FIELD TRIPS:**

Students that are given the opportunity to attend field trips must be in good academic and disciplinary standing and prior approval granted from ALL teachers before going on the field trip. This includes teachers classes that you may not miss. Parent/guardian permission must also be given. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain missed academic work due to the absence for the field trip. The Principal and/or designee has sole discretion over field trip attendance or procedures.

**PARKING:**

Student parking is a privilege granted by the school administration at Hopewell High School. When you and your parents sign the signature block at the end of the application, you are documenting that both parent(s) and student have read, understand and agree to abide by all Hopewell High School's rules and guidelines as detailed in the Parking Policy and Student Code of Conduct. Infractions of these rules may result in the permanent loss of parking privileges. Additional consequences may be invoked by an administrator if deemed appropriate. You must have a parking permit to drive on the first day of school. The Hopewell High School JROTC program manages Student Parking. [Hopewell Parking Website](#)

[CMS 2025-2026 Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Hopewell 2025-2026 Discipline Matrix](#)

