



Student Handbook
2025-2026

Table of Contents

OUR MISSION
OUR STUDENT VISION
OUR SCHOOL/COMMUNITY VISION:
SCHOOL HOURS
CODE OF CONDUCT
CONDUCT
SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR PLAN
STUDENT PBIS INCENTIVES
DISCIPLINE
DISCIPLINE AND THE TEACHER
DISCIPLINE LADDER
MINOR INFRACTIONS
MAJOR INFRACTIONS
BUS DISCIPLINE
IN-SCHOOL DETENTION
PROPERTY DAMAGE
SUSPENSIONS/EXPULSIONS
TERRORIZING THREATS
MINOR INFRACTION REPORT PAPER
CORPORAL PUNISHMENT
SCHOOL POLICIES
DRESS CODE
LIBRARY CHECK-OUT POLICIES
ACCELERATED READER CODE OF CONDUCT
ACCELERATED READER CODE OF CONDUCT
CONSEQUENCES
ANNUAL/YEARBOOK
ANNOUNCEMENTS OR ADVERTISING
ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS
EARLY CHECK OUT
TARDINESS
TYPES OF ABSENCES
EMERGENCY CHECK OUT
EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES
MAKE-UP WORK
CAFETERIA
CAR DROP OFF AND PICK UP
MONEY
SCHOOL FEES

TEXTBOOKS
CHROMEBOOKS
COMPUTER USE
CONFERENCES
CELL PHONE POLICY
PDF EXPLAINING STUDENT USE OF CELL PHONES/OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES
STUDENT USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY
FIELD TRIPS -
SES FIELD TRIP POLICY:
FIRE, TORNADO, AND OTHER DRILLS
GRADES
GRADE REQUIREMENTS
HOLD BACK REQUESTS FROM PARENTS
HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS
HONORS AND AWARDS
LEAP 2025
SCHOOL NURSE
MEDICATIONS
PARTIES
PHONE CALLS
PHOTOGRAPHS/INTERNET PHOTOS/VIDEOS
PTO
SEXUAL HARASSMENT
VISITORS
OPSB POLICIES WEBSITE
PARENTAL/STUDENTS AND FORMER STUDENTS (AGE OF MAJORITY)
NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE DESTRUCTION OF EDUCATIONAL RECORDS ENROLLMENT: (BULLETIN 741, SECTION 341)
NOTE: A HOMELESS CHILD
FERPA CONTACT INFORMATION
POLICY STATEMENT SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE
TITLE VI, TITLE IX, THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA),
AND SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE
FINAL OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOLS VISION, MISSION, BELIEFS

Our Mission:

Ignite a passion for lifelong learning while inspiring students to make a positive impact in our community and encouraging every student to improve each day.

Our Student Vision:

Ignite learning, Inspire students, Impact our community, Be That Panther!

Our School/Community Vision:

Positive Panthers are here to ignite learning, inspire others, and impact our community. I can Be That Panther!

SCHOOL HOURS

School hours are 7:15 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. There are NO teachers on duty until 7:15 A.M., so car riders must remain in their car until 7:15. If students plan to eat breakfast, they must arrive at school prior to 7:30. Students arriving at the cafeteria after 7:30 will be sent to class. School dismisses at 2:55 P.M. The buses will begin loading at 2:55 P.M. Car pick up will dismiss at 3:00. Parents, please do not come to pick your child up BEFORE 2:55 P.M. Teachers are instructed NOT to dismiss the children early. Come by the office if you need to pick up your child before 3:00 P.M. The child will be called to the office.

Code of Conduct

Students at Sterlington Elementary display conduct that reflects good citizenship.

Sterlington Elementary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality, sex, age, handicapping condition, or veteran status.

CONDUCT

All students at Sterlington Elementary shall be courteous to teacher and their fellow classmates and shall conduct themselves in school and everywhere as ladies and gentlemen. Although the ultimate responsibility for students' conduct rests with the students and his/her parents, it is the daily responsibility of school personnel to see that no single person interferes with the total learning environment of other students. Failure to follow this policy will result in the school taking disciplinary action.

School-Wide Positive Behavior Plan

The Sterlington Elementary School-Wide Positive Behavior Plan sets up the use of Panther Den's to encourage students to demonstrate positive behavior. The students earn paw points for their house color throughout the school year by showing kindness or helping someone in need. The school will host Den Parties where character traits will be discussed, and games played. At the end of the nine weeks, the den with the most points will win a party. At the den party, the students will receive a donut as a reward. At the end of the school year, the den with the most points will win a big party.

STUDENT PBIS INCENTIVES

Students who model positive behaviors will earn points for their den colors. The winning den color will be recognized and will be eligible for special events. These events will vary every 9 weeks (subject to the determination of the PBIS team), but may include popcorn/movie party, extended recess, popsicle party, etc.

DISCIPLINE

It is the policy of Sterlington Elementary that this Disciplinary Plan will assist in providing a safer, healthier, and happier atmosphere for your child to learn. Education is a parental responsibility, only part of which is delegated to the school. In order to help create an atmosphere which encourages learning according to our school philosophy, it is necessary that certain levels of conduct and discipline be maintained.

The principal or designee shall be the final interpreter. Disciplinary action will be administered by the homeroom teacher, duty teacher, and/or principal. The type of discipline administered will be determined by the seriousness of the offenses, the individual child, and the number of offenses against him/her. Consequences for breaking school or class rules:

1. Time-out
3. Loss of privileges
4. Counseling
5. Recess detention
6. Paddling
7. Parent Conference
8. Minor Infraction
9. In-school suspension
10. Suspension from school
11. Expulsion if warranted

The definition of self-defense is as follows: the right of an individual to respond to force with force, only so long as it is necessary to protect oneself; when the danger is past, resorting to violence is no longer sanctioned. Thus, the school recognizes self-protection, not retaliation.

Note: Since the school always has a responsible adult on duty whenever the students are under the supervision of the school, Sterlington Elementary believes the opportunity for a student to have to resort to the doctrine of self-defense to protect himself/herself will be for all practical purposes NON-EXISTENT.

DISCIPLINE AND THE TEACHER

1. Discipline problems, when possible, must be handled by the classroom teacher. Major discipline problems that require consideration of suspension or possible expulsion must be referred to the administrative team.
2. Teachers are to insist that students follow school rules and district policies.

Teachers will use the following to minimize discipline problems:

1. Teach expectations, routines, and procedures.
2. Follow through on those expectations
3. Be professional with comments and actions.
4. Present consequences as a choice.

DISCIPLINE LADDER

Students who choose to exhibit behaviors that are not positive are subject to the following:

1st Step – Warning, then classroom consequence

2nd Step – Parental Contact

3rd Step – Minor Infractions

4th Step – Major Infraction

MINOR INFRACTIONS

(These are to be handled by the teacher.)

- Refusal/failure to work
- Inappropriate Language
- Defiance/Disrespect (teacher or student)
- Talking that is not related to the lesson
- Rough-Housing
- Sleeping/Head on desk in class
- Disruptive
- Out of seat without permission
- Electronics out of backpack
- Theft
- Excessive conduct marks
- Cheating

The consequences for receiving Minor Infraction Forms are as follows:

1st/2nd Minor Infraction Form will result in the deduction of a minimum of 15 points from weekly conduct grade.

3rd Minor Infraction Form will result in a conference with the principal.

4th Minor Infraction Form will become a major infraction and will result in a suspension.

Minor infractions are kept by the teacher in a binder after being signed each time by the parent. The administration will receive a copy of the form on the day the Minor Infraction form is written to keep for their records. The consequences for minor infractions are at the discretion of the teacher.

MAJOR INFRACTIONS

Requires a referral to the office immediately and will then be handled by the administrative team/designee.

- Possession of illegal or dangerous substances
- Leaving the classroom or school without permission
- Disrespect of authority
- Striking a teacher or other school personnel
- Fighting
- Theft
- Vandalism of school property
- Habitual violation of minor rules (4 minor infractions)
- Bullying, threatening, or harassing another student
- Committing immoral practices
- Violation of Internet Contract

*A Major Discipline Report constitutes a *minus 15 points from conduct grade for the week.*

*The student must be accompanied to the office with a complete state office referral form. (For multiple minor infractions, a copy of the student's conduct sheet, and documentation of parental contact must also be attached.)

*The administration/designee will determine the proper form of discipline. Any of the following measures may be taken:

Conference with student

- Referral to School Counselor
- In-school Detention
- Remedial work assigned
- Referral to social worker
- Behavior management plan modified/developed
- IEP conference
- Student reprimanded
- Parent conference
- Suspension
- Expulsion

BUS DISCIPLINE

All discipline problems which develop on a school bus traveling to and from school will be handled by the Principal/Designee. The bus is an extension of Sterlington Elementary and all problems will be handled as if they were in the classroom at the school. Problems that have definite penalties at school, such as disrespect, fighting, cursing, bullying, etc. will carry the same penalties on the bus. Riding the bus is a privilege.

The following actions will be considered severe behavior and students may be suspended from school and/or bus at the discretion of the principal/designees.

1. Fighting
3. Possession of alcohol or drugs or any kind
4. Possession of any kind of weapon
5. Assault
6. Destruction of School Board property
7. Intentional disrespect (Example: cursing the driver)

The bus driver is in complete charge of the bus and its occupants at all times. Students riding the bus must comply with requests of the bus driver. As indicated before, school bus transportation is a privilege that may be withdrawn for inappropriate behavior.

IN-SCHOOL Detention

In-School Suspension (ISS) is used to address and resolve discipline problems without actually sending the child home. When a student has been assigned ISS, the student will be isolated from other students and monitored by faculty designee. The students will not be permitted recess time and will eat lunch in isolation. The student will not be allowed to attend any classes. No talking, playing, or sleeping will be permitted. Any student who does not follow ISS rules will be suspended. In-school suspension students will complete all class assignments, including tests. Students are marked "present" at school. Parents will be notified when their child has been assigned to in-school suspension.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Any student known to deface or destroy school property will be required to fully restore damaged property. Students found guilty of vandalism are subject to immediate suspension and may not be readmitted until full restitution has been made for such damages.

SUSPENSIONS/EXPULSIONS

The principal and/or designee has the authority on suspension and expulsions. We follow the Child Welfare and Attendance Discipline Manual.

TERRORIZING THREATS

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD TERRORIZING POLICY

I. **Definition of Terrorizing**

Terrorizing is the intentional communication of information that the commission of a crime of violence is imminent or in progress or that a circumstance dangerous to human life exists or is about to exist, with the intent of causing member of the general public to be in sustained fear for their safety; or causing evacuation of a building or public structure, or a facility of transportation; or causing other serious disruption to the general public.

II. **Reporting of Terrorizing**

Student – A student who comes into contact with a terrorizing threat will report it immediately to the near school employee.

Employee – Any school board employee who is exposed to a terrorizing threat shall immediately report the threat to an administrator of that school.

Administrator – School administrator will analyze the terrorizing threat and the contact the School

Board Office immediately and law enforcement as deemed necessary.

School Board – School Board contact – Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Safety Coordinator, or Director of Child Welfare will call law enforcement as deemed necessary, if not previously called by the school administrator.

III. **Handling a terrorizing threat – evidence**

Type of terrorizing threat:

Note – Written note will be secure in principal's office with as little physical contact as possible

Graffiti – Area is to be sealed off by administrator. Student/public exposure is to be held to a minimum if possible. Photographs are to be taken when possible. Graffiti is not to be removed until law enforcement has gathered evidence.

Verbal/gesture – Report of this type of terrorizing threat is to be investigated by school administrators and acted upon accordingly. This threat will include telephone, internet, and e-mail communication.

IV. **Communication**

Once a terrorizing threat is made, it will be dealt with accordingly:

Threat to a student:

Threatened students will be informed of the terrorizing threat immediately and maintained in a secure posture in an administrative office with a school employee. Parent(s) of threatened students will be informed immediately. Decisions to take students off-campus or allow students to remain in school will be made by parents.

Threat to an employee:

The employee is to be informed immediately.

V. **Law Enforcement**

Terrorizing is against the law as stated in RS 14:40:1. Therefore, a student may

be charged with this act of violence according to law enforcement procedure. This statute provides that whoever commits the offense of terrorizing shall be fined not more than fifteen thousand dollars or imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than fifteen years, or both.

Threats made to self/others will be assessed following guidelines set forth by OPSB.

Minor Infraction Report

****Give pink copy to Mrs. Hackler before sending home.****

Minor infractions are handled by the teacher. The fourth minor infraction automatically becomes a major infraction. The student must be accompanied to the office with this completed fourth minor infraction report, a copy of the child's conduct sheet, and documentation of parental contact. An administrator will complete a formal office referral.

Student Name	Date/Time	Grade	Referring Teacher	Homeroom Teacher
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Minor Infraction	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
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Incident Location: _____

Incident Type <input type="checkbox"/> Class Disturbance <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal/Failure to work <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Responsibility <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping/Head on Desk <input type="checkbox"/> Defiance/Disrespect to Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Disrespect to Student	Incident Type (continued) <input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate Behavior Outside of Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Rough-Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate Use of Electronics <input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate Language <input type="checkbox"/> Cheating <input type="checkbox"/> Theft <input type="checkbox"/> Other Minor Violation
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Incident Description:

Intervention <input type="checkbox"/> Reteach Expectation <input type="checkbox"/> Seat Change <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of Privilege <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Teacher Conference <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to Guidance Counselor <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Parent Contact (Required) <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call Date/Time _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Date/Time _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
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Comments:

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

SCHOOL POLICIES

1. All car drop off students entering through the 165 side will enter through the doors between the multipurpose room and cafeteria. All car drop off students entering through the Frenchman's Bend side will enter through the doors by the cafeteria. ALL students riding the bus will enter through the doors by the cafeteria. Office will be available for parents at 7:35am.
2. Upon arriving at school, students in grades K-5 will go to the cafeteria to eat breakfast if they choose or sit in the main hallway. Students will remain seated in the main hallway until they are dismissed to classes at 7:30. Our first bell rings at 7:40, and the tardy bell rings at 7:45. For students arriving inside the building after the tardy bell, a parent must walk their child into the office to fill out and obtain a tardy slip. Just to clarify, if you are on school grounds but not inside the building when the tardy bell rings (7:45), you are still tardy and will need to come to the office with a parent.
3. When students are to use a different way of leaving school at dismissal time, either by car or bus, the teacher and office must be NOTIFIED IN WRITING. If a child needs to ride a different bus, the parent needs to contact the bus driver and also let the teacher know.
4. If a student checks out before 11:30 A.M. he/she is considered absent one half day. If a student checks in after 11:30 A.M. he/she is also considered absent one half day.
5. If a student will miss school for a few days, email the teacher for missed assignments and picking up work. Assignments may be picked up in the office **after 2:00 P.M.**
6. Students are not allowed to bring toy guns, toys, radios, cameras, pagers, beepers, or electronic games to school as this upsets the educational setting. Any such item brought to school will be kept in the office until the last day of school. (See Ouachita Parish cell phone policy at opsbn.net)
7. No tackle games will be played on campus.
8. Any type of affection between students is not allowed such as holding hands, hugging, kissing, etc.
9. Students are not allowed to sell gum, candy, bracelets, etc. at school.
10. Students arriving on campus are officially here and cannot leave the campus until the end of the school day or until checked out by a parent.
11. If a child is found guilty of cheating on school work, the teacher shall collect the student's paper, and notify the parents and office immediately as to the action taken. Grades K-2 will receive conduct marks and review rules. Grades 3-5 will receive a 50F and minor infraction.

12. Students who are picked up after school by parents will go to the car pick up/drop off area by teachers. We will bring the children to the cars. In order to dismiss as safely and quickly as possible, parents please do not leave your car. At both car drop off (A.M.) and pick up (P.M.) please have your student(s) enter and exit from the passenger side of the car. All cars must have a school issued car tag for each child. Cars without a car tag will be asked to pick up students in the front office after showing appropriate identification. These students will be dismissed when car dismissal is complete.
13. We do not allow any food delivery services for students at SES, such as DoorDash.
14. Students may only bring plastic water bottles to school. (No Stanleys, aluminum, or stainless steel)

DRESS CODE

1. All students are expected to attend school clean and well-groomed.
2. Students will be expected to wear clothing that is not offensive and will not cause undue attention or be a disturbing or distracting factor to others at school.
3. No attire will be allowed that has obscenities, alcohol, or tobacco advertisements. No doom attire (skull and cross bones) will be allowed, including belts.
4. Midriffs, see-through garments, tight fitting clothing, barebacks, halter tops, low-cut blouses, and tank tops are prohibited (PK-5).
5. Shorts and skorts must be mid-thigh or longer. Skirts and dresses should be longer than mid-thigh (mid-thigh is defined as no more than five inches about the knee.) Principal or designee will make the final decision.
6. Pants or shorts must be worn at waist level, not below.
7. Hair styles must not cause a distraction. Students are not to have colored hair or colored braids. No mohawks are allowed because they cause a distraction. Principal or designee will make the final decision.
8. Each student shall wear shoes with a back and have them properly tied or buckled.
9. Hats, caps, etc. are not permitted except on designated "hat days".
10. Boys will not wear sleeveless shirts such as undershirts, tank shirts, or muscle shirts.
11. Students are not to wear clothes with holes or tears, including ripped jeans. (no skin should be seen through pants)
12. Sunglasses are not allowed.
13. For grades PK-2, when wearing leggings or tights, the shirts cover the entire buttocks even when arms are stretched in a T position out to the sides. For grades 3-5, no leggings.

Any student dressed in a manner that disrupts normal school procedure will be dismissed until attire is corrected. The principal and/or her designee shall be the final interpreter of the dress code.

Library Check-out Policies

Students in 1st-5th grade will check out library books. Please remind your child to keep his/her library book in a safe place - their school bag - so that he or she doesn't lose the library book and has the book on library day. Fines are not charged for overdue books; however, if a book checked out to your child is lost or damaged, he or she will have to pay for it. If your child owes for a lost book from last year or during this school year, your child will not be allowed to check out another book until the book is paid for. If a book is found after paying for it, the student may either keep the book or donate it back to the library.

ACCELERATED READER CODE OF CONDUCT

ACCELERATED READER PROGRAM 2024/2025

Accelerated Reader is a software tool that assesses a student's reading level, suggests titles of books at that level, and then assesses whether a student has completed reading the book by asking a series of comprehension questions in a quiz-like form on the computer. Sterlington Elementary students will have a username and password to get into the program at school and complete the quiz. They will be awarded points for correct answers to the questions and will be given an accuracy percentage. Students in 2nd through 5th grade will be given a pretest (STAR) and individual nine weeks' goals will be set according to their reading ability as indicated by the pretest.

SES 1st grade students will use a different goal model intended for the youngest readers. It is an engaging goal system that helps the students feel excited about their first time using the Accelerated Reader Program. When the 1st grade students read books and pass Reading Practice Quizzes, they earn tokens and character badges within the program to celebrate their reading. All first grade students will have an 8 badge goal (each with 6 tokens) to meet for the school year. (48 passed quizzes)

There will be rewards at the end of each nine weeks for all students who meet their individual nine weeks' reading point goals and book level goals while maintaining at least an 90% accuracy average of test questions answered correctly. All 2nd through 5th grade students who meet each of the nine weeks' goals for the year with at least a 90% average comprehension score will receive an award at Awards Day at the end of the year. All 1st grade students that meet the 48 passed quizzes goal for the school year will receive an award at the Awards Ceremony at the end of the year.

A "Million Word Reader" Club will recognize students who read at least a million words this year. These students will receive an award at the end of the year awards assembly.

ACCELERATED READER CODE OF CONDUCT

*The code of conduct sheet (located in the student's AR folder) must be signed before the student is allowed to attend any of the AR incentive parties.

The purpose of the Accelerated Reader program is to encourage reading and improve reading skills. With this in mind, students are expected to follow the rules described below:

1. Students may only take tests on books they have read or that someone has read to/with them.
2. Students may not take a test on a book which has been made into a movie unless they have read the book first.
3. Students may not take tests for other students.
4. Students may NOT discuss AR questions or answers with other students.
5. Students must not reveal their password to anyone other than a parent or teacher.
6. Students should NOT take the book they are testing on to the computer when they are ready to test.
7. Students should use their AR folder as their **"ticket to test"**. The quiz title and quiz number should be written down in the folder ahead of time to assist the student in logging into the AR website to test.
8. Students may not log in with another student's password.

Consequences

Students who break the rules will face the following consequences:

1. The test or tests involved in the cheating, by all involved, will be deleted from those students' AR records.
2. The total amount of points that were deleted from the records will be added to all involved students' nine weeks' point goals.
3. Parents will be contacted.
 - 1st offense-The students involved will not be able to attend the AR incentive party for the marking period that the cheating occurred.
 - 2nd offense-The students involved will not be able to attend any of the remaining AR party incentives for the year and will not be recognized at the award's ceremony.

ANNUAL/YEARBOOK

Sterlington Elementary offers each student the opportunity to purchase a school annual each year. A teacher sponsor prepares the annual. The annual contains pictures of students in all grades, faculty, clubs, and activities within the school. The cost of the annual will be determined by the company's cost to the school. If you request your students do not have pictures taken and posted, he/she will not be in the yearbook.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OR ADVERTISING

Anyone wanting to post announcements or advertisements on the wall or grounds of the school must obtain permission from the principal. This also includes all notes being sent home. The only types of advertising or announcement to be allowed sent home with the students will be those pertaining to Sterlington Schools, community events or programs.

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

Regular attendance is considered very necessary for maximum progress in school. Elementary children missing more than ten days will not be given credit for the year's work. The following policy was revised on September 12, 2023 by the Ouachita Parish School Board.

NEW ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH EIGHTH State law and Ouachita Parish School Board Policy requires that students have NO MORE than a total of ten (10) absences in a school year, excused and unexcused. *Any absence over number 10 for the year must be excused by Child Welfare/Attendance or the student will be in danger of being retained.

1. For absences number 1 through number 10, acceptable documentation must be turned in at the school to the appropriate person within 48 hours after the student returns to school after the absence. The school will see that the absence is marked as excused and file the documentation at the school.
2. For absences 11 and every absence after that, the parent must take the documentation to the Child Welfare/Attendance Office at the School Board for approval BEFORE turning it in at school

Parents and students are reminded that state law requires that all students be in school EVERY DAY that school is in session unless there is an acceptable excuse for being absent. State law also requires that students be in school for the DURATION OF TIME EACH DAY as required by the school and the local school board. This means that students are not to be checked in late or checked out early unless it is due to acceptable reasons as outlined by state law and school board policy. Students who are habitually absent, tardy, or checked out early will be turned into the Ouachita Parish Truancy officer.

EARLY CHECK OUT

The first bell for bus riders rings at 2:55. Students who are checked out earlier than 11:30, will be counted absent for a half day. Students checked out after 11:30 count as an early check-out. At 5 unexcused early check-outs and/or tardies, a student is considered truant. Parents must stop by the office and sign students out. The office staff will call students to the office for check out. Parents cannot go to a child's class to get them.

TARDINESS

Our first bell rings at 7:40, and the tardy bell rings at 7:45. For students arriving inside the building after the tardy bell, a parent must walk their child into the office to fill out and obtain a tardy slip. Just to clarify, if you are on school grounds but not inside the building when the tardy bell rings (7:45), you are still tardy and will need to come to the office with a parent. Continued unexcused tardies will result in a referral to the Ouachita Parish Truancy officer and will require a visit to the Child Welfare and Attendance office.

TYPES OF ABSENCES

The days to be counted as part of the justifiable absences for elementary and secondary school students shall include temporarily excused absences.

A. Temporarily Excused Absences

Students shall be considered temporarily excused from school for personal illness, serious illness in the family, death in the family (not to exceed one week), legal appointments, or for recognized religious holidays for the students own faith and shall be given the opportunity to make-up work.

B. Unexcused Absences

Students shall not be excused for any absence other than listed above. Students shall not be excused from school to work on any job including agricultural and domestic service, even in their own home or for their own parents or tutors.

C. Absences Due to Suspensions

Students missing school as a result of any suspension shall be counted as an unexcused absence.

D. Permanently Excused Absences

1. Students participating in school approved activities which necessitate their being away from school shall be considered to be present and shall be given the opportunity for make-up work.
2. Students missing five (5) or more consecutive days will be permanently excused under the following circumstances, and the days will count toward the twenty previously allocated.
 - a. Personal physical or emotional illness as verified by a physician
 - b. Hospital stay as verified by a physician
 - c. Recuperation from an accident as verified by a physician
 - d. Contagious disease within a family, as verified by a physician
 - e. Death in the family

EMERGENCY CHECK OUT

No student will be permitted to check out of Sterlington Elementary for any reason without the student's legal guardian/designee being present. The parent or guardian/designee must come to the office and check the student out.

All students who become ill will secure a pass to the nurse's office. The nurse or secretary will call for the parent to come and check the student out through the front office. If the parent cannot be reached the emergency contact will be called.

EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

- A. The only exception to the attendance regulation shall be the delineated extenuating circumstances that are verified by the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance.
 1. Extended personal physical or emotional illness as verified by a physician.
 2. Extended hospital stay as verified by a physician.
 3. Extended recuperation from an accident as verified by a physician.
 4. Extended contagious disease within a family as verified by a physician.
 5. Prior school system approved travel for education.
 6. Death in the family (not to exceed one week).
 7. Natural catastrophe and/or disaster.
 8. For any other extenuating circumstances parents must make a formal appeal in accordance with due process procedure established by the LEA.
- B. Students who are verified as meeting extenuating circumstances and therefore eligible to receive grades shall not receive those grades until they are able to complete make-up work to pass the course.

MAKE-UP WORK

1. The teacher is the best source for finding out what was covered and what homework needs to be done to make-up a missed class.
2. Parents must call the office before noon to request missed work for a sick child. Work will not be sent if requested after 2:00 P.M.
3. A reasonable attempt should be made when students have make-up work. If a child misses multiple days, the principal/designee will make the final decision as to how much make-up work needs to be completed.
4. Incomplete grades recorded at any six weeks period must be completed by the next six weeks period of the "I" (incomplete) will become at "F".

CAFETERIA

1. Students will sit with their classes as directed by their teachers.
2. Students are not allowed to leave the cafeteria with any cafeteria items.
3. A student leaving food, napkins, straws, or milk cartons on the table will be disciplined.
4. Please keep the noise down while in the cafeteria.
5. If a student's cafeteria balance is not paid regularly and the student accrues a substantial balance, the cafeteria has the authority to offer a meal substitute until the balance is paid in full. Meal substitutes will be provided once a student has an unpaid balance of \$15.
6. Visitors are allowed to eat in the cafeteria 5 times per year and must check in the office. These visits do not include special lunches. Ex: Thanksgiving/Christmas lunch.
7. Parents visiting for lunch and breakfast must check in the office before going to the cafeteria.
8. Outside food is not allowed in the cafeteria unless placed in different packaging. Cokes and energy drinks are not allowed in the cafeteria.

CAR DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Students who are picked up after school by parents will be sent to the car pick up/drop off area by teachers. We will bring the children to the cars. At both care drop off (A.M.) and pick up (P.M.) please have your student(s) enter and exit from the passenger side of the car. The duty teacher will enter your child's car tag number and it will notify the teacher to send your child to the carline you are in. You may choose any of the three car lines to pick up in.

***Parents and Guardians: For the safety of the children, all cars in the car pick up line must have a car tag for each child. Cars without a tag will be asked to drive around and pick up their child from the office. If you need to pick up children from school, please park in the parking lot and go to the main office to collect your child. PLEASE do not walk up to the children in the pick-up area.

MONEY

All money is collected through our online school payment system which can be found on our school website or by cash. SES no longer takes checks. Lunch money can be paid through My School Bucks or by sending cash to the cafeteria in a labeled envelope or zip-lock bag. Fees, fundraiser bills, etc. which are not paid will result in suspension of privileges in extra activities such as field trips. Field trip money is non-refundable. Please make sure all money is labeled in an envelope or zip-lock bag.

SCHOOL FEES

Each student is asked to pay school fees at the beginning of each year. This fee can be paid online or exact cash in your child's classroom during the first few weeks of school. (If you are unable to pay the total amount at the beginning of the year, please see Mrs. Wilkes, and she will work out a monthly payment plan for you.) The fees help cover the cost of printing, technology, classroom supplies for each classroom, and car tags. Students are not allowed to attend field trips until fees are paid.

TEXTBOOKS

Each student is held responsible for the textbook that he or she received and will have to pay for lost or damaged books.

CHROMEBOOKS

Please see the Chromebook Policy on our school website.

COMPUTER USE

Because computer and internet access are provided in Ouachita Parish School System schools as an educational resource, the following procedures and guidelines are used to help ensure appropriate, considerate, ethical, and responsible use of all technology at Ouachita Parish School System schools. All users should be aware that the inappropriate use of electronic information resources can be a violation of local, state, and federal laws. Violations can lead to prosecution. We require that all students abide by the following rules for acceptable user behavior:

1. Acceptable use

The use of an assigned account must be in support of educational goals and objectives of the Ouachita Parish School System. Students are not allowed to access email accounts other than those assigned by the teacher.

2. Network Etiquette

Communication on the internet may be scrutinized by the teacher of the System Administrator. Each internet user is expected to abide by the following generally accepted rules of user etiquette.

- a. Be polite
- b. Use appropriate language
- c. Use email in an appropriate manner

3. The following behaviors are not permitted:

- a. Sending or displaying ANY offensive messages or pictures
- b. Encrypting of any files
- c. Using obscene language
- d. Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
- e. Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks.
- f. Trespassing in another person's folders, work, or files

- g. Intentionally wasting limited resource, including the use of "chain letters" and messages broadcasted to mailing lists or individuals
- h. Employing the computer for commercial purposes
- i. Revealing the personal address or phone number of any other person
- j. Changing the default settings (desktop settings, screen saver, etc.) on the computer
- k. Installing ANY unauthorized or unlicensed software on school/school board computers
- l. Installing ANY unauthorized or unlicensed school/school board software on personal/home computers
- m. Using ANY outside media (diskettes, CD's, tapes, etc.)
- n. Any illegal activities, "hacking", or attempts to otherwise compromise system security

Inappropriate use of the computer and internet access may result in the temporary or permanent cancellation of that privilege. As with any other serious violation of school or district rules and regulations, consequences of violations include the possibility of suspension or expulsion from school. Should a student violate this policy, he/she may lose computer and internet access privileges. Users agree to report any misuse of electronic information.

Cell Phone Policy

FILE: JCDAE
Cf: GAMI

STUDENT USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES

The Ouachita Parish School Board shall prohibit, as outlined in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:239, students from using or operating cell phones, cameras, video tape recorders, digital recorders of any kind, or any electronic telecommunication device in public school buildings and on school buses used to transport public school students. Cell phone "use" is defined for this policy as the cell phone or device being in the "on" position or mode. Student cell phones or devices are required to be kept out of sight and turned off during school hours in a school building or on school grounds, or whenever on a school bus. This policy is inclusive of any such device as stipulated above in a student's possession.

No student shall possess, on his/her person, an electronic telecommunication device throughout the instructional day. If a student brings an electronic telecommunication device in any public elementary or secondary school building or on the grounds thereof during an instructional day, the electronic device shall either be turned off and properly stowed away for the duration of the instructional day or prohibited from being turned on and used during the instructional day. Electronic telecommunication devices shall include, but not be limited to, cellular telephones, personal computers, laptops, electronic instruments, iPads, iPods, tablet devices, e-readers, or similar devices.

These provisions shall not be applicable to a student whose Individualized Education Program, Individualized Accommodation Plan, Section 504 plan, or Individualized Health Plan requires the student's use of an electronic telecommunication device.

For detailed consequences of not following this policy, refer to the Ouachita Parish Schools district discipline manual.

EXCEPTION FOR EMERGENCIES

In the event of an emergency, any person may use any electronic device available. Emergency is defined as an actual or imminent threat to public health or safety which may result in loss of life, injury, or property damage.

Revised: July 13, 2021

Revised: February 13, 2024

Revised: July, 2024

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. ' ' 17:239, 17:416, 17:416.1; *Pupil Appraisal Handbook*, Bulletin 1508, Louisiana Department of Education, Board minutes, 5-22-07, 5-25-07, 6-17-08, 5-19-09, 7-13-21, 2-13-24.

Ouachita Parish School Board

Student Use of Cell Phones and other Electronic Communication Devices Policy

1st Offense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phone or other device will be taken. Parents will be notified and must pick up the phone prior to 3:00 P.M. ● Minor infraction will be given and must be signed by the parent. <p>** See refusal statement below.</p>
2nd Offense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phone or other device will be taken for 1 day. Parents will be notified and must pick up the phone prior to 3:00 P.M. on the next day. ● Minor infraction will be given and must be signed by parent. ● Parent will be notified next cell phone infraction will result in the phone being taken away for 3 days. <p>** See refusal statement below.</p>
3rd Offense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phone or other device will be taken for 3 days. Parent will be notified and must pick up phone prior to 3:00 P.M. after the 3rd day. ● Referral will be entered in the system with 1 day ISD or 1 day suspension. <p>** See refusal statement below.</p>
4th Offense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phone or other device will be taken for 5 days. Parent will be notified and must pick up phone prior to 3:00 P.M. after the 5th day. ● Referral will be entered in the system with 3 day suspension. ● Parent must conference with Child Welfare and Attendance Office before the student can return to school. ● Student will loose cell phone privileges at school for the remainder of the year. <p>** See refusal statement below.</p>
5th Offense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phone or other device will be taken and parent will be notified. ● Recommendation for Alternative Placement ● Student will loose cell phone privileges at school for the remainder of the year. <p>** See refusal statement below.</p>
Refusal Statement	<p>With any offense, if parent and/or student refuse the parent pick up option, the student shall receive 3 days suspension and will be responsible for all course work. The parent and the student will have a meeting with the Child Welfare and Attendance office and will be place on a contract. The student will no longer be allowed to have a cell phone at school for the remainder of the school year. Students identified by Section 504 or Bulletin 1508 will follow Special Education Guidelines regarding suspension days. The student and parent must have a hearing with the school team and 504/1508 Supervisor.</p>

FIELD TRIPS -

In order to maintain the safety of our students on field trips, and for liability purposes, the following rules must be adhered to:

1. Only parents or legal guardians of the student involved may attend a school field trip at the invitation/approval of the teacher.
2. Students must ride the bus to a field trip if that is the mode of transportation, but can be checked out by a parent to ride home.
3. Only school personnel and students may ride the buses – no other children may attend.
4. Only students who maintain a certain conduct grade (school wide policy below) may be allowed to attend a field trip. Students who cannot attend a field trip because of conduct grades or non-payment of school fees must come to school and will be placed in another class with classwork to complete for the day.
5. Students also may not be allowed to attend a field trip if any money (fundraiser, school fees, etc.) is owed.

SES Field Trip Policy:

- 85% or higher in Conduct for 4 weeks prior to the field trip permission letter being sent home
- No minor/major infractions (office referrals) for 4 weeks prior to the field trip permission letter being sent home
- Students must maintain the 85% the 2 weeks after the note is sent home while Field Trip money is being collected in order to participate.
- No major or minor behavior infractions during those 6 weeks
- Students will not be allowed to go on field trips if they have not made payments or paid in full their school fee or fundraiser money.
- Field trip money is non-refundable

FIRE, TORNADO, AND OTHER DRILLS

All drills will be practiced multiple times throughout the school year to ensure safety for all faculty and students in our building.

GRADES

The grading scale for grade K-5 is shown in the following chart:

A - 89.5 - 100

B - 79.5 - 89.4

C - 69.5 - 79.4

D - 59.5 - 69.4

F - 59.4 - below

GRADE REQUIREMENTS

K- Grade 2: Must pass reading skills, reading knowledge, & math with a final grade of C or higher.

Grades 3-5: Must pass reading/ELA, math, science, & social studies with a final grade of D or higher.

HOLD BACK REQUESTS FROM PARENTS

For students who have passed but parents are considering holding students back in their current grade:

- Parents must submit in writing their request to Mrs. Wilkes by **February 1, 2025**
- SBLC will meet and discuss the child's behavior, attitude, effort, conduct grade, attendance, tardies, age, etc. *See form below.
- SBLC will also look at the child's birthdate and if he/she previously repeated.
- Each student will be looked at individually, but it is SES's general policy that no student will repeat more than once in elementary school.
- SBLC will then use the form below to determine whether holdback **will** be granted. SBLC will then meet and discuss with parent input each individual child.
- Parents are then notified in writing. Holding back students is an SBLC decision, not a parent decision.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

The amount of homework is left to the discretion of the teacher. Students are expected to complete their homework each day. Students are to bring their homework, books, pencils, paper and other materials to class each day. If a child is out only one day, please do not call the school for assignments. For more than a 1 day absence, call the office before noon and pick up materials after 2:00 P.M.

HONORS AND AWARDS

End of the Year Awards for grades 1-5:

At the end of the school year, an Awards Assembly will be held for those students who maintained yearlong achievements. Students will be recognized for:

- **Principal's List:** This is the all A Trophy. This is not an average and means nothing lower than an "A" printed on the report card any six weeks.
- **Honor Roll:** This trophy is for students who made only A's and B's all year long.
- **A/B Average:** Students who ended the year with a final average of only A's and B's will receive a certificate. This means a child could have made lower than a B at some point on their report card, but he or she ended the year with an A or B final average.

***Note:** Pre-K and Kindergarten end of the year celebrations for all students that will include songs and the receiving of a certificate for completing Kindergarten. The certificate is in lieu of any trophies.

LEAP 2025

Students in 3rd-5th grade will take LEAP 2025. At the time of this printing, a fourth grade student must pass coursework in order to be promoted to fifth grade. LEAP 2025 for 3rd-5th grade students is a computer based assessment. SES will update parents with any changes as they are implemented from the state department.

SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse program continues to expand its services, and strives to fulfill mandated legislation. Their primary concern is for the health, safety, and welfare of the students. The school nurse is available as a resource person for any health-related concerns you may have. The nurse can provide preventative measures, health counseling and education, and can assist with medical problems. The nurse can help to promote understanding of chronic health problems and assist the student, family, and school personnel in the adjustment to those problems.

The school nurse conducts screening programs during the year as follows:

1. Mandated vision and hearing screenings per recommendations by the American Academy of Pediatric or by special request by parents, children, and school personnel. Screenings are primarily conducted in Kindergarten and odd grades through 9th grade.
2. Scoliosis screenings by request.
3. Pediculosis (head lice) checks on elementary students per parish protocol.
4. Personal hygiene classes taught to 5th grade.
5. General overall assessment of students which may include, but not limited to, vital signs, listening to heart and lung sounds, and visual assessments.
6. Review immunization records on all Pre-K and Kindergarten students to ensure compliance with the Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 17- Education RS 17:170 on Immunization Requirements.

Louisiana School Immunization Entry Requirements, by Grade¹		
Grades	Required Vaccinations	Doses Required
Starting at Kindergarten² entry and for entry into <u>all subsequent grades</u> thereafter	Diphtheria Tetanus Acellular Pertussis vaccine (DTaP) ³	5
	Poliovirus vaccine (IPV) ⁴	4
	Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine (MMR)	2
	Hepatitis B vaccine (HepB)	3
	Varicella vaccine (VAR)	2
Starting at 6th grade entry and for entry into <u>all subsequent grades</u> thereafter; or starting with any student 11 years of age in any grade	Tetanus Diphtheria Acellular Pertussis vaccine (Tdap)	1
	Meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY)	1
Starting at 11th grade entry and for entry into <u>all subsequent grades</u> thereafter; or a starting with any student 16 years of age in any grade	Meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY)	Second dose

IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE ABOVE, THEN YOU MUST LET THE SCHOOL NURSE KNOW IN WRITING WHEN REGISTERING YOUR CHILD. A SIGNED DISSENT FORM OR A WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM A PHYSICIAN MUST BE TURNED IN EVERY YEAR.

The school nurse needs to be notified of any changes that occur in your child's health condition. Please provide updated telephone numbers and address changes as quickly as possible to facilitate the care needs of the child. These health needs should be submitted in writing to your school nurse each school year. The school nurse makes weekly visits to her school.

MEDICATIONS

As a general principle, medications are not given at school. However, when circumstances arise in which a student develops a long-term health problem the following policy will be adhered to:

1. Any student who is required to take medication during school hours must have written orders from a physician detailing the name of the medicine, dosage, and exact time to be given on the proper Ouachita Parish medication order form. Parents must meet with the school nurse to sign medication forms before any medication can be administered at the school.
2. Medication must be brought to the school by the parent in a current container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy. No more than a 25 day supply will be accepted.
3. No "over the counter" medications will be given at school unless prescribed by a doctor or dentist with proper paperwork completed. (This means aspirin, Tylenol, cough syrup, cough drops, antacids, etc.) If a prescription is presented, the nurse will administer medication.
4. Students are not allowed to have any medication in their possession with the exception of an inhaler and epi-pen. Additional paperwork would need to be completed with these exceptions.
5. Parents may administer any medication at any time to their child without meeting any requirements in the front office.

PARTIES

Holiday parties will be planned by the teacher. Any party, celebration or other non-instructional activity must first be cleared by the principal. No birthday parties are allowed. Balloons are not to be delivered to the school.

- Class parties are limited to Christmas and Easter.
- No birthday party invitations may be delivered at school unless every child in the class receives one.

PHONE CALLS

Students should know how they are to get home in the afternoon BEFORE they leave for school in the morning. Call to get that information to the student SHALL BE MADE ONLY IN EMERGENCIES OR ON RARE OCCASIONS when something unexpected arises. Please help us limit classroom interruptions and protect academic time by making sure your child knows how he/she is to get home in the afternoon before school begins each day.

Students will not be allowed to use the phone except for illnesses or emergencies. They will be expected to bring all homework, supplies, projects, notes from parents, money, etc. with them then they come to school in the morning. Hopefully, this will help students learn to become more organized and responsible as well as keeping classroom interruptions to a minimum.

PHOTOGRAPHS/INTERNET PHOTOS/VIDEOS

From time to time we take pictures of activities during school. We would like your permission to use the pictures on our school website, bulletin boards, newspaper articles, SES Facebook Page, and the yearbook. We will never reference your child online by first and last name or provide any specific information regarding your child. However, we may publish his/her name in articles and in the yearbook.

PTO

PTO works throughout the year to aid in school functions. If you would like to be involved in Sterlington Elementary's PTO, please contact your child's teacher or the school office. Each classroom will have a room mom/dad to contact other parents about the activities and needs of the school. Sterlington Elementary appreciates all parental support from our families!

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is a serious matter that is prohibited by federal law. It is defined as unwanted and unwelcome sexual behavior that interferes with a person's life. All employees, students, and visitors are expected to treat everyone with respect and courtesy, and to encourage attitudes of respect for all persons. All are encouraged to express concerns about unwanted sexual behaviors to persons in authority.

VISITORS

Visitors are always welcome. We require that parents and visitors stop by the office to obtain an official pass before entering school. Classroom teachers are required to teach during classroom hours; therefore, parents may not conference with a teacher when students are present in her/his classroom. Conferences should be planned for a specific time when the teacher is not responsible for students.

OPSB POLICIES WEBSITE

FOR THE FOLLOWING POLICIES, PLEASE SEE OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD WEBSITE:
OPSB.NET

Parental/Students and Former Students (Age of Majority)
Notification Regarding the Destruction of Educational Records

This notification is intended to inform all parents, legal guardians, students, and former students of the school system policy regarding the destruction of educational records. All records of students served under the Individuals With Disabilities Education ACT (IDEA) in the Ouachita Parish School System will be destroyed in accordance with one of the following conditions. This policy is in addition to the Ouachita Parish School District policy regarding student records.

1. Students who reach the age of 25 and who have completed their education in some form in the Ouachita Parish School System.
2. When students transfer to a school district outside of Louisiana their records will be kept for an additional 3 years.
3. All records of students will be scanned in accordance with copyright law and therefore the district will retain a digital copy of IDEA evaluations and Individual Education Plans (IEP).

"Bridges of Ouachita, Homeless Education Program" "Bridges of Ouachita" Homeless Education Assistance Program abides by federally mandated policies to ensure that homeless children and youth have access to free, appropriate public education on the same basis as children and youth with established residences. Laws, regulations, practices, or policies should not act as barriers to the enrollment, attendance, or school success of homeless students. (Federal Law: Title VII-B; of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; 42 USC 11431 et seq.) (State Law: LA. RS. 17.238/Public Law 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001; BESE Policy: 1.012.00 — 1012.05 and 2.012.00 — 2.012.04. Definition of Homeless or "Highly Mobile" Individual... The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (P.L. 107-110) defines the term "homeless person" as one who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and who has a primary nighttime residence that is:

- Displaced due to a natural disaster
- A shelter/transitional housing
- The streets, cars, abandoned buildings, campgrounds, etc.
- An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized
- A residence with substandard living conditions (not fit for human habitation- no electricity, no heat, no running water, no windows/doors, holes in the roof/floor, no way to cook/store food)
- Two or more families living together in crowded or undesirable living conditions, (doubling/tripling up because they have no place of their own to live where they can safely and healthily meet their basic needs in privacy and with dignity
- Runaway children who have run away from home and live in a shelter or inadequate accommodations even if parents are willing to provide a home
- Unaccompanied youth

· In December 2001, Congress made the law protecting the educational rights of those children even stronger by passing the McKinney-Vento Act. It gives children and youth in homeless situations the right to stay in their "school of origin" even if they move; enroll in a new school without proof of residence, immunizations, school records or other papers; some transportation to school; go to preschool programs; get all the school services available; have disagreements with schools settled quickly

(Dispute Resolution Policy) and be enrolled in the school for the "best interest of the child" while disagreements are settled. Jerlyn D. Bobo, District Liaison Supervisor 701 St. John Street –Monroe, LA 71201 Phone: (318) 432-5330 Fax: (318) 432-5297 -23- Homeless Education Services: · Identify homeless and youth by utilization of the Residency Questionnaire · Immediate Enrollment Assistance, including obtaining birth and immunization records · Free lunch · Uniforms · School Supplies/some school fees · Medical/Dental /Housing/counseling referrals · Tutorials in shelters and schools · Connect students to summer programs/preschool programs/parenting education · Link to literacy, social, and life skills training · Pre-service case management

Enrollment: (Bulletin 741, Section 341)

In order to ensure homeless students are being identified and tracked appropriately in our school system, the following procedure is to be followed for enrolling any homeless child residing within our district:

1. The person who has the responsibility for enrolling a homeless child in school must see the District Liaison Supervisor at the OPSS Media Center to fill out a Louisiana Residency Questionnaire for eligibility required by law. *(Forms are also available at each school.)*
2. Upon completion of this interview process and signature of the District Liaison, all legal documents will accompany the student/guardian to the school where the child will be attending and completing the enrollment process. Student information will also be sent to the Food/Nutrition Supervisor, SIS Coordinator and Child Welfare and Attendance.
3. As a result of this procedure, copies of the enrollment process of any homeless child will be filed at the Media Center, the CWA office, school of attendance, SIS office, and Food/Nutrition office.

NOTE: A homeless child may or may not be in the custody of a legal parent or guardian. It is the responsibility of local LEAs to eliminate barriers that homeless youth may face, including revising local enrollment policies to accommodate unaccompanied youth. In the event of natural disasters, which may cause a sudden influx of homeless students located within our school district, we will make the enrollment of these youth an immediate priority and assist them and their caregivers in every way possible to make the enrollment process go as smoothly and quickly as possible.

Jerlyn D. Bobo, District Liaison Supervisor	State Coordinator
(318) 432-5330 (318) 432-5297	1-225-219-2949, 1-877-453-2721
Ouachita Parish Media Center	State of L.A. Department of Education
1600 North 7 th Street	1201 North Third Street
West Monroe, Louisiana 71291	Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):
 - School officials with legitimate educational interest;
 - Other schools to which a student is transferring;
 - Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
 - Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
 - Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
 - Accrediting organizations;
 - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
 - Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
 - State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.



POLICY STATEMENT
Section 504 Compliance

The policy of the Ouachita Parish School System is to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to each student within its jurisdiction, including students with disabilities, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability.

It is the responsibility of the Ouachita Parish School System to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

Due process rights of students with disabilities and their parents under Section 504 will be enforced.

**TITLE VI, TITLE IX, THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA),
AND SECTION 504 COMPLIANCE**

Title VI, Title IX, ADA, and Section 504 are federal laws which ensure that individuals will be free from discrimination based upon sex, race, national origin, or disabilities. The Ouachita Parish School Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

To resolve problems which students, employees, or applicants for employment may believe are the result of discriminatory practices, the Ouachita Parish School Board has established a grievance policy.



OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOLS

Vision: Building Bridges to the Future

Mission: As a community, Ouachita Parish Schools will connect learning to 21st Century skills needed for college and career ready students who will excel in a global society.

Beliefs:

Ouachita Parish students will learn at high levels.

Parents, students, teachers, and community matter.

Safe schools are a top priority.

Bridges connect past and present