G.W. Carver A+ Arts Magnet School

525 Milton L. Taylor St.
Kannapolis, NC 28083
704-932-4161 * 704-938-4010 (Fax)



ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Mr. Jason Irving - Principal
Mrs. Natasha Sifford - Assistant Principal

Start Time 8:35 am
Students Enter Building 8:05 am
Tardy 8:35 am
Dismissal 3:30 pm
Office Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Teacher Hours 8:00 am - 4:00pm

MISSION STATEMENT

Cultivate growth.
Embrace differences.
Inspire creativity.

School Colors

Blue & Green

School Mascot

Eagle

BELIEF STATEMENTS

WE BELIEVE IN:

Cultivating academic and personal growth for all students.
Arts-infused learning centered on exploration, innovation, creativity, and empowerment.
Collaboration and life-long learning for all students and staff.

SAFE SCHOOLS

Please help us keep our school safe by following the *Safe School Rules* when you visit.

Please sign in using our Lobby Guard program. You will need your ID to do so. A visitor pass will be provided for you to wear while on campus. Preschoolers do not need to wear a visitor's pass. Small kiddie stickers are provided for them.

ATTENDANCE

We emphasize school attendance in Kannapolis City Schools. As parents and teachers, we know there is a clear relationship between good attendance and school achievement. Our goal is to encourage students to strive for perfect attendance!

We know that all children will not attain this goal, yet it is still our hope to instill the importance of good school attendance. North Carolina Compulsory Attendance Law (GS115C-378) states parents and guardians are responsible for seeing that their children attend school each day it is in session (180 days). A student must be in attendance at least 3 hours 20 minutes during the official school day to be counted present.

School personnel may request that a law enforcement officer accompany him or her if a home visit is necessary. If, after ten accumulated unexcused absences in a school year, the principal or his/her designee determines that the parent/guardian has **not** made a good faith effort to comply with the law, school personnel may file a truancy petition in the county where the student resides.

If the principal or his/her designee determines that the parent/guardian has **not** made a good faith effort to comply with the law, the principal may file a complaint with the juvenile court counselor that the child is habitually absent from school without a valid cause. Documentation that demonstrates that the parents/guardians were notified and that the child has accumulated ten absences which cannot be justified under the established attendance policies shall constitute parent responsibility for absences.

According to NC law, trips or vacations are considered unexcused absences unless prior approval is received from the principal. If you are planning a trip and believe the absences should be excused, please obtain an "Opportunity for Education" form from the school office or download one from our website. This form will need to be returned back to school at least two weeks before the absences begin. Please note that no forms will be accepted **after** the trip has been taken. **No trips of any nature will be approved as excused absences during the End of Grade Tests for grades 3-5.**

Absences

1. Excused

- Absences from school will be excused for the following reasons:
- Illness of the student.
- Quarantine.
- Death in the immediate family.
- Religious holidays approved by the school system.
- Education opportunities with prior approval from the principal**. *(maximum of 5 days/year)**
- Court or Administrative proceedings.
- The school may request a doctor's statement for frequent or lengthy absences for illness.

2. Unexcused

Unexcused absences will be considered truant.
When a student has accumulated between three and six unexcused absences, parents will be notified by the school/principal that they may be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law. After ten unexcused absences, the principal or designee may have a conference with the parents.

3. Notes

When a child returns to school after being absent, the parent or guardian is expected to send a note within five days of the absence with the following information:

- The date of the note
- The date of the absence
- The specific reason for the absence
- Parent signature

Written notes, email messages and ParentSquare messages should always be sent even when there has been verbal communication.

4. Returning after sickness

The child must be free from diarrhea, vomiting and fever for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.

5. Tardies/Early Check-Outs

Kannapolis City Schools has a policy regarding tardiness and early check-outs. A student is considered tardy when he/she arrives at school after the main doors close at 8:35am. The only exception to this is those students who ride a bus that is late. If a student has missed more than 4 hours of instructional time due to tardiness he/she will not be eligible for perfect attendance. Upon the 10th tardy, a referral for school social work/counseling services will be made. There are no early check-outs past 3:00pm to ensure the afternoon dismissal flows smoothly and safely.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

It is important for each of us to cooperate and follow directions when bringing or picking up children. Safety is our main priority. Parents need to avoid getting out of their cars and crossing the drop-off lane; this slows the flow of

traffic and causes delays. When picking up children use the single lane until directed by staff to use both lanes at the car rider overhang.

Morning Arrival
On occasion, parents will need to see their child's teacher before the school day begins or after school. Parents should park in the visitor parking area. **The adult supervision provided by staff should make it unnecessary for parents to walk their children to class on a regular basis**. Parents **should not park** in the student drop-off lane or bus driveway in front of school.
Car riders may be dropped off in the designated area only.

Before School Care
If elementary families need to drop off students before 8:05am, they may use the before-school care that will be offered. Parents that need before school care prior to 7:00am may use other child care providers in the area.

Early drop off will run from 7:00am to 8:05am each school day. The cost for each child will be $80 a month. Families will not be charged for teacher work days or holidays. However, they will have to pay if their child is enrolled in the program and absent from school. On inclement weather days when school is canceled or delayed, Kannapolis City Schools will also cancel or delay its before school care service.

Afternoon Dismissal
3:30pm – Students will be dismissed.

All car riders will be picked up at the designated area. Parents are requested not to leave cars unattended. Car tags must be clearly displayed in vehicles to expedite the car line. If you don't have your car tag you will need to park and come into the front office to pick up students. Our car rider line ends by 3:45pm, at that point parents will need to park with students needing to be picked up in the front office.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGE FROM NORMAL PROCEDURE HOME IN THE AFTERNOON
It is necessary that you send a note or a ParentSquare message to the teacher concerning any change from normal procedure of transportation home in the afternoon. Children often get excited or confused and give incorrect information. Do not send an email to the teacher during the day you wish to make changes. Teachers may not check their email until after dismissal. A call can be made to the front office as well prior to 3:00pm. We also cannot guarantee the regular means of transportation has not already been followed for your child.

Bus Riders

Each eligible student is assigned to a morning bus run and afternoon bus run. Students may not ride any bus other than the assigned morning and afternoon bus.

EARLY DISMISSAL

If a parent comes to school to pick up his/her child during the school day, the parent must come by the school office first to sign the student out of school. Office personnel will call your child to the office for dismissal. Early dismissals should be kept to a minimum. **We request that parents arrive before 3:00pm to check out a child early**. We also request that the teacher be notified in writing when a child is to be picked up early and who will be picking up the child. School personnel will require identification for anyone picking up a child. Please have a picture ID ready. Any child **leaving prior to 12:00pm** will be marked absent for the day.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The district superintendent decides when schools require closing. Parents should listen to the radio, watch local TV channels, or visit Kannapolis City Schools website for information concerning school closings. Phone messages and social media posts are also sent.

A form will be sent home at the beginning of the year for parents to indicate what their child is to do when school closes early due to inclement weather.

MAKING UP MISSED WORK

If your child is absent for more than two days, make-up work may be picked up from the front office **at the end of the day**. Please notify the office by 9:15am in order for teachers to have work ready for pickup. When a student returns, teachers will have make-up work ready. It is not always possible to prepare work ahead of time.

This is considered a courtesy to parents when a teacher is able to get items ready ahead of time. Asking the teacher to prepare work for your child ahead of time is not always practical since the teacher would be in the middle of instructional time.

RELEASING CHILDREN TO CUSTODIAL PARENTS

A child must be released by the school to either parent unless legal papers have been presented to the principal showing custody. This applies even if a child is living with only one parent. If you have custody of your child and do not wish for him/her to be taken from school by his/her other parent, you must present your legal paper to the principal. **PLEASE REVIEW YOUR LEGAL PAPERS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SCHOOL TERM TO BE SURE THEY REFLECT THE MOST RECENT COURT DECISION.**

KEEPING INFORMATION CURRENT

It is important to keep the school office informed of contact information.

Please notify the school immediately if there is a change in status during the school year:

- Address, Phone Number (home, work & mobile), Email Address
- Employment
- Emergency Contact Information
- Other information that could be helpful to the school and your child.

CAFETERIA

Breakfast: We are pleased to offer a free breakfast program for our students.

Lunch: Balanced lunches, which provide 1/3 of the daily food requirements for children are served in the cafeteria at no cost. A copy of the month's menu is available online.

LUNCH GUIDELINES

Kannapolis City Schools is committed to promoting student health, reducing childhood obesity, providing a variety of nutritional foods, and promoting lifelong healthy eating habits. Parents are encouraged to include healthy choices in lunches brought from home and should not include soda, energy drinks, fast food items, or candy. When visiting the school to eat a meal with your child, you are encouraged to purchase a school-prepared lunch and set a healthy example for your child. Foods brought into the school with fast food, or other restaurant packaging are discouraged. Please consider re-wrapping restaurant food in Ziploc baggies or plain foil and placing it in plain brown or white bags before entering the school. Outside food cannot be shared with any students besides your own. For parents coming to visit during lunch, there are specific tables for you to have lunch with **ONLY** your child. There is also outdoor eating at tables in the courtyard when weather permits.

Please help us keep our school safe by following the *Safe School Rules* when you visit for lunch.

- **Report to the main office** first.
- **Complete a name tag and wear it**. Preschoolers do not need an identification tag.
- **Always wait in the Eagle's Nest area for your student**. Going into the classroom or waiting in the halls is not a part of a safe school and can interrupt the instructional day.

FOOD POLICY FOR STUDENT PARTIES OR TREATS

All foods provided for students are to be pre-wrapped or packaged. These foods may come from a supermarket, bakery or caterer. **Homemade items are not allowed** for student consumption.

This precautionary guideline assures the school staff that foods are sanitary. It provides school personnel with a "contents label" to protect students with specific food allergies.

This policy applies to students only.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

No invitations to birthday parties are allowed at school. These are not items that can be distributed on the school campus or bus.

Many parents like to send a treat for each child in the class on their child's birthday. **Sending a small treat, which can be incorporated in the students' lunch period or at the end of the day does this best**.

For example:

- a pre-wrapped oatmeal cookie for each child.
- a box of bakery cookies or pastries (enough for each child to have one)
- a pre-wrapped Rice Krispy Treat

Be sure to speak with your child's teacher before making any birthday treat arrangements so that conflicts or misunderstandings can be avoided.

No flowers or balloons should be sent to your child during school; these items cannot be sent to your child's class or home on the school bus.

INTERRUPTIONS

Classroom interruptions are discouraged. We strongly believe that they interfere with the learning process of all students. Please try to schedule doctor appointments, trips, calls to teacher and conferences before or after the school day so your child will not miss valuable educational instruction. Any call to the teacher during the instructional day will be sent to voicemail so there is no interruption to instruction.

APPOINTMENTS WITH STAFF

Please call to set an appointment with all Administrative Staff, Counselors, and Teachers. Scheduling ahead of time allows us to fully address you or your child's needs, a walk up meeting may require lengthy wait times.

VOLUNTEERING

We encourage parents and guardians to be involved in their child's schools. NC General Statute 99-28.3 allows for parents or guardians to take four hours of unpaid leave from their jobs every year in order to volunteer in their child's school. For the safety of our students all volunteers are required to have THIS background check completed. The background check forms are also available at the school front office.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

Students are expected to abide by all student rules and policies of both the School and the Kannapolis City Board of Education.

KANNAPOLIS CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS OBJECTS POLICY

It is the policy of the Kannapolis City Board of Education ("Board") that no employee or student shall possess or carry (whether openly or concealed) any gun, rifle, pistol, dynamite, cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, power explosive as defined in NC Gen. Stat. 14-284.1, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles or any other weapon of like kind, not used solely for instructional or school sanctioned ceremonial purposes, in any school building or bus, on any school campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field, or other property owned, used or operated by the Board of Education.

SCHOOL WIDE RULES

G.W. Carver Elementary is implementing school wide rules and expectations. Please see the rules and expectations for all areas of our school.

Voice Levels:
Level 0- No talking, no sounds
Level 1- Whisper
Level 2- Normal speaking voice
Level 3- Outside voice

ELEMENTARY	Self-control!	Own a Positive Attitude!	Act Responsibly!	Respect Yours & Others!
Hallways	I will... • Keep hands by my side. • Keep a safe distance.	I will... • Use a silent wave. • Be a good example to others.	I will... • Keep Carver hallways clean. • Walk directly back to class.	I will... • Walk quietly and carefully. • Walk on the right s the hallway.
Restrooms	I will... • Be quiet.	I will... • Be quick.	I will... • Be sure to flush and wash my hands.	I will... • Be clean.
Cafeteria	I will... • Walk at all times. • Stay seated.	I will... • Speak kindly with my friends. • Use manners.	I will... • Walk carefully with food trays. • Clean up my eating area.	I will... • Keep my hands an feet to myself. • Follow directions.
Playground	I will... • Stay in the designated areas. • Take turns.	I will... • Invite others to play. • Use kind words.	I will... • Line up at the teacher's signal. • Bring in all belongings.	I will... • Keep my hands an feet to myself. • Use equipment correctly.
Bus	I will... • Sit in my assigned seat.	I will... • Use kind words in a Level 1 voice.	I will... • Follow directions.	I will... • Keep my hands an feet to myself.
Virtual	I will... • Complete work each day. • Be on time.	I will... • Be kind to others. • Take turns talking.	I will... • Participate in discussion and assignments. • Follow all directions.	I will... • Do my best work. • Stay on topic.

BUS EXPECTATIONS

Kannapolis City Schools expects students to demonstrate appropriate behavior on the school bus. Students are expected to follow bus rules and follow discipline guidelines within the KCS Bus Matrix. It is a privilege to ride the bus in the state of North Carolina. Students who misbehave on the bus and receive referrals are subject to suspension and expulsion from the bus. Administration will determine the appropriate consequence for students receiving a bus referral.

PLAYGROUND SAFETY

During the school day only students and staff are allowed on the playground. **Students are not allowed to bring recess equipment to school from home. All equipment (basketball, soccer ball, etc.) will be provided by the school.** The playground areas are unsupervised after school hours. Do not allow children to return to playground areas without adult supervision. Please report any existing playground safety concerns to the office. Thank you for your cooperation in taking proper precautions to prevent injuries from occurring.

FIELD TRIPS

Parents will be given advance notice of any field trip their child will be attending. Depending on the location, parents may be invited to attend and must provide their own transportation. **Many trips restrict the number of adults per class. In these situations, the classroom teachers will invite different parents on each trip to share the chaperoning duties among as many parents as possible.**

Some field trips are NON-REFUNDABLE. Siblings are not permitted to attend field trips with a parent.

Since field trips are educational, all students in a class should go on the field trip unless there are unusual circumstances.

If parents want to take their child home directly from the field trip site, they must see the teacher and sign out the student.

POLICY REGARDING BULLYING

Bullying and/or harassing are strictly prohibited. The repeated pattern of intimidation may be real or threatened. There are 3 types of bullying: physical, emotional, and relational. Bullying may include, but not limited to, verbal taunts, name calling, implied or stated threats, and exclusion from peer groups. Bullying can occur in person, or through social networking sites, texting, blogging, and the internet. Students who feel bullied, harassed or intimidated at school by an adult or another student should report the concern to a teacher, administrator or other staff member at school. Kannapolis City Schools has policies prohibiting bullying, harassment and discrimination.

SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS

To ensure staff and students are prepared in the event of an emergency school/ district and state drills are conducted. Set drills that are conducted are as follows:

- Fire Drill (monthly)
- Tornado Drill (by semester)
- Lockdown Drill (by semester)

In the event of a drill or real case scenario, parents will be asked to follow all directives by school personnel to ensure the safety of others while on campus.

SOLICITATIONS

Students are not allowed to sell items or collect money for any organizations. All fundraisers, PTO events, etc. are through the parents, not the students.

HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN:
ALCOHOL, VAPES AND/OR DRUGS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

If a student in grades K-5 is in possession of alcohol, vapes or drugs, the following guidelines will be followed:

- Each case or occurrence will be dealt with individually.
- Students who are in possession of alcohol, vapes or drugs not prescribed by a doctor or are under the influence of the same will be removed from class and may be suspended from school. In either case, a parent conference will be required before the student returns to class.
- The principal will get all of the facts concerning the case and confer with the assistant superintendent, and an appropriate plan of action shall be set in motion.
- It will be a joint decision of the principal and assistant superintendent before calling in any outside agencies.
- The plan of action will be written and signed by the principal and assistant superintendent.
- Law enforcement will be called in, as appropriate.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION
DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If your child must have medication of any type during school hours, including over-the-counter drugs, you have the following choices:

- You may come to school and give the medication to your child at the appropriate time(s).
- You may obtain a copy of a medication form from the school nurse. Take the form to your child's doctor and have him/her complete the form by listing the medication(s) needed, dosage, and number of times per day it is to be administered. This form must be completed by the physician for **both prescription and over-the-counter drugs.**
- You may discuss with your child's doctor an alternative schedule for administering medication (e.g., outside of school hours.)
- If your child is subject to unusual health hazards such as allergy to bee stings, and/or requires special medical intervention (e.g., asthma, diabetes, etc.), please notify the principal and school nurse.
- **The school does not assume responsibility for students who administer medication to themselves (self-medicate).**

- At the conclusion of a student's treatment, the unused medication must be removed from the school by the parent.

School personnel will not administer any medication to students unless they have received a medication form properly completed and signed by the doctor, and the medication has been received in an appropriately labeled container. Medication must be brought in by a parent and given to school nurse. Office staff will not accept medications. In fairness to those giving the medication and to protect the safety of your child, there will be no exception to this policy.

If you have any questions about this policy or other issues related to the administration of medication in the schools, please contact the school nurse.

PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Exceptional Children: We have special programs with specialized teachers to meet the needs of exceptional children. The following special programs will be offered to those students who qualify:

- Academically/Intellectually Gifted
- Learning Disabled
- Mentally Handicapped
- Speech and Hearing Impaired
- Physically Handicapped
- Behaviorally/Emotionally Disabled
- Other Health Impaired
- Autistic
- Visually Impaired

TELEPHONES

Students will be allowed to make phone calls for sickness if the school nurse sees appropriate. **Children will not be allowed to call home for homework, library books, etc**.

Teachers will only be called to the phone for emergencies. Our school has a voice mail system. The system will pick up before and after school hours and in some instances during busy times while school is in session.

Cell Phones

Students are not to have a cell phone out at any time during the school day, this includes the classroom, playground, hallways, bathrooms and buses. If a cell phone is out the teacher will ask for it to be put away and the parent may be contacted. If a cell phone is out for a second time it will be confiscated by the teacher or administration and parent may be contacted. A third violation could result in a parent needing to come to school to get the phone.

PICTURES

Individual pictures of each student will be taken in the fall and spring with class group pictures in the spring as well.

The date and prices of pictures will be announced in advance.

YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks are also available at the end of the year. The date and price will be announced in advance.

REPORT CARDS & GRADING

Kannapolis City Schools utilizes a standards-based grading system for all students in grades K-5. The approach allows teachers to communicate students' level or proficiency on each academic standard using the following scale:

- L = Limited Progress
- P = Progressing
- M = Meets
- E = Exceeds

Teachers will also report students' Character & Career Readiness Skills, these statements will be on report cards sent home quarterly.

Additional information regarding standards-based report cards can be found online at www.kcs.k12.nc.us

Progress reports will be sent home midway through the quarter. Report Cards will be sent home at the end of the quarter.

UNIFORM DRESS CODE

Please review this policy with your child. Parents will be called to bring appropriate clothing for their child.

Students in Kannapolis City Schools must follow the uniform dress code policy found below. This is a link directly to the KCS Dress Code Policy.

1. **Shirts/Tops:**

- All shirts and blouses must be collared.
- Pullover shirts, known as golf or polo shirts, turtlenecks, and button-down shirts, or "oxford" shirts, are acceptable.
- Shirts may be short or long sleeved.
- Shirts and blouses may be any solid color (K-5).
- Shirts and blouses may bear a thumb size or smaller brand logo; school logo shirts or shirts with the "Kannapolis K" may be worn any day of the week..
- All shirts must cover the chest area and be buttoned as such.
- Undergarments may not be worn as outer garments.

2. Bottom Wear

Students may wear shorts, cargo shorts, or pants, skirts or jumpers. Pants and bottom wear with more than one color are not allowed. **Yoga pants, leggings, jeggings, or other form fitting attire are not considered pants for the purpose of this policy and should not be worn to school.**

The length of shorts and skirts must be at least as long as the student's longest fingertip when holding both arms straight down by the side. The policy also requires pants, shorts, skirts, and skorts to be made of a twill-like material (no jeans). The bottom wear (pants, shorts, skorts, and skirts) colors for our school are black, navy blue, and khaki, **jeans are NOT permitted at any time unless communicated in advance by the school for special events or dates.**

3. Sweaters and Sweatshirts
Sweaters and sweatshirts may be worn as needed, hoodie sweatshirts are permitted with the hood **not** up covering the head while in school or on the bus.

4. Jackets
Jackets must be appropriately sized and may not be baggy or oversized. Anything with a hood may be worn to school. The hooded jacket should be taken off after entering the building prior to the start of school. If a jacket is needed to be worn in the building at no time shall the hood of the jacket be worn on the head while on the bus or in a school building.

5. Headwear
Headwear—including bandanas, rags, headbands, scarves, hats and combs—may not be worn in school. However, on cold days it will be fine for students to wear toboggans or hats as they arrive and leave school as well as during recess.

If a student refuses to comply with the removal of a hood/ piece of headwear while inside the building due to personal appearance concerns (such as a haircut) the school will respond on a case by case basis with empathy while maintaining consistent expectations of policy. This will start with supportive conversations/ a temporary exception with parents then becoming involved to support the situation.

6. Shoes
Shoes may not have open toes or open heels, and they must be tied or properly fastened at all times. Crocs that have the closed toe and heel strap will be permitted.

Any article of clothing, accessory, or shoes that cause a distraction to the educational environment will not be permitted. Your child may be told not to wear the item back to school.

Please review this policy with your child. **Again, parents will be called to bring appropriate clothing for any student not following the district student uniform dress code policy.**

EXTRA MONEY AND VALUABLES AT SCHOOL

It is requested that children NOT make a practice of bringing money and valuables to school. For your younger students, parents are requested to put lunch money, fees, etc., in an envelope with the child's name, teacher's name, the amount of money enclosed, and the purpose for the money written on the outside.

No toys are allowed at school at any time outside of when communicated by the teacher.

LOST AND FOUND

The school keeps a special Lost and Found area. Should items inadvertently be left, the custodians check the school at the end of the school day and place items in the Lost and Found area for student pick up. All items left will be packed and given to charity each month. We encourage parents and students to put names in outerwear and on lunch bags to assist students in properly identifying their belongings. When small items like jewelry or money are found, they may be turned in to the office and claimed there.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

The parent-teacher conference is a very important method of ensuring good communication between the home and school. The conference allows parents to discuss the progress and expectations of their child, while the teacher can learn more effective ways to work with the child.

Parent-teacher conferences will be arranged by your child's teacher at the end of the first nine weeks of school. It is extremely important that you take advantage of this opportunity to discuss your child's progress. Your child's teacher will advise you when the conference will be held.

If you wish to have a conference with your child's teacher at any time during the school year, please contact the teacher by note, email or telephone. Conferences can be arranged before school, during teacher planning time, or after school.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework refers to an assignment to be completed during a period of supervised study outside of class, or at home. Grade levels will establish weekly homework expectations with students and families after the first few weeks of school. If there is ever a question regarding homework, please contact your child's teacher.

INTERNET USE

Internet access is available to students and staff in the Kannapolis City Schools. The Board provides this service in the belief that the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique educational resources and in the hopes of promoting educational excellence through resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The Internet is a vast collection of interconnected computer networks involving millions of computers and users around the world. It is a

collaboration of private, public, educational, governmental, and industrial sponsored networks whose operators cooperate to maintain the network infrastructure. Through the Internet, students and staff have access to:

- Electronic mail communication with people all over the world;
- Public domain software and shareware;
- Discussion groups on a plethora of topics

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered of educational value in the school setting. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires schools and libraries to have an Internet safety policy in place. The Internet Use Agreement is a component of the KCS Internet Safety Policy. The Kannapolis City Schools will make every effort to restrict student access to inappropriate materials on the Internet through the use of active monitoring of student activity, the use of filtering devices, software, and directing students toward sites that support current curriculum objectives. The Kannapolis City Schools cannot guarantee that students will not encounter text, pictures, or references that are objectionable, however. If such an incident occurs, students should immediately report the website's URL (address) to the supervising staff member so that the URL can be added to the list of blocked Internet sites maintained on our Internet filtering device.

CIPA also mandates that minor students shall be instructed about correct online behavior. These behaviors include but are not limited to:

- Having an awareness of cyber bullying;
- Knowing how to respond correctly to a cyber-bullying incident;
- Interacting appropriately with other individuals on social networking sites;
- Responding appropriately in chat rooms; and
- Communicating responsibly during other direct electronic communication such as email.

All users must adhere to strict guidelines for proper online conduct. In general, these guidelines require efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources to support the curriculum. If a user violates any of these provisions, the student's Internet access privileges may be revoked and disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. If in using the school's Internet a student uses any service for which a cost is involved, the student will be responsible for any cost incurred.

All students will be provided a user ID and password to gain access to the Internet unless the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) send written notification to the Superintendent's office that they do not want their child to use the Internet for educational purposes. Absent such written notification, parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be

deemed to have granted permission for their child to use the Internet.

Kannapolis City School users will take full responsibility for their use of the Internet. Each will acknowledge that they have read and understand the applicable Board policies, that they will comply with these policies, and that they understand the consequences for violation of these policies.

It is important that you and your student read and discuss the Student Acceptable Use Policy. We ask your assistance in developing responsible attitudes, reinforcing appropriate behaviors, and observing security practices on the network.

TECHNOLOGY / INSTRUCTIONAL FEES

Kannapolis City Schools' policy requires a $25.00 technology/ instructional fee from all elementary students. This covers the expenses for the various components of our technology and also instructional supplies, arts supplies, and Cabarrus Arts field trips. These fees, totaling $25.00 are payable at the beginning of the school year, when the student registers and can also be paid with smaller installments.

Parents should check with their child's teacher for the particular materials students should have before buying school supplies. You may pick up a supply list in the office for any grade level and it is also located on Class Dojo and our school website.

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

The PTO is extremely active and supportive. Parents are encouraged to join this organization in August and to participate in the organization's activities as much as possible. This organization contributes time to support the children and raises funds for instructional equipment and supplies. Please help make a positive impact – JOIN PTO!

Acknowledgement Form

Please use this form to acknowledge that you have received and reviewed this digital copy of the GWC Student/ Parent Handbook.