

**J-E-T Middle School
Student Handbook
2026 - 2027**



1095 Columbia Road
Johnston, SC 29832
803-275-1997

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ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Patrick Newsome, Principal
Janelle Clark-Stevens, Assistant Principal

Athletic Director

Kelly Jo Gettys

Attendance Secretary

Sierra Washington

Bookkeeper

Erica Curry

Counselor

Brenna Lynn

Nurse

Lisa Turner

School Resource Officer

Sgt. Colin Bailey

Edgefield County School District Cabinet

(803-275-4601)

Dr. Kevin O’Gorman, Superintendent

David Fallaw, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Jason Holt, Director of Administration

Stephanie Wallace, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Ashley Hatcher-Davis, Director of Finance

Elesha Ellison, Director of Counseling Services

Jerrilyn Johnson, Director of Exceptional Children

Mike Rosier, Public Information Officer

Chris Ledbetter, Director of Maintenance and Operations

Melinda Taylor, Director of Technology

Edgefield County Board of Trustees

Mrs. Blair Massey, Chairman

J-E-T Middle School Creed



We are J-E-T.

We take **P**ersonal
Responsibility In
Developing **E**xcellence in
ourselves and our school.

We will be respectful,
responsible, and ready to
learn.

Together, we are family.



J-E-T MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

INSTRUCTION BEGINS AT 7:45!



FIRST BELL RINGS AT 7:40

6 TH GRADE		7 TH GRADE		8 TH GRADE	
1ST PERIOD	7:45 – 8:34	1ST PERIOD	7:45 – 8:34	1ST PERIOD	7:45 – 8:34
2ND PERIOD	8:37 – 9:21	2ND PERIOD	8:37 – 9:21	2ND PERIOD	8:37 – 9:21
3RD PERIOD	9:24 – 10:08	3RD PERIOD	9:24 – 10:08	3RD PERIOD	9:24 – 10:08
4TH PERIOD	10:11 – 10:55	4TH PERIOD	10:11 – 10:55	4TH PERIOD	10:11 – 10:55
 5TH PERIOD (LUNCH)	10:58 – 11:40	★ WIN TIME	10:58 – 11:18	5TH PERIOD	10:58 – 11:40
★ WIN TIME	11:40 – 12:00	 5TH PERIOD (LUNCH)	11:18 – 12:00	★ WIN TIME	11:40 – 12:00
6TH PERIOD	12:00 – 12:44	6TH PERIOD	12:00 – 12:44	 6TH PERIOD (LUNCH)	12:00 – 12:44
7TH PERIOD	12:47 – 1:31	7TH PERIOD	12:47 – 1:31	7TH PERIOD	12:47 – 1:31
8TH PERIOD	1:34 – 2:18	8TH PERIOD	1:34 – 2:18	8TH PERIOD	1:34 – 2:18
9TH PERIOD	2:21 – 3:10	9TH PERIOD	2:21 – 3:10	9TH PERIOD	2:21 – 3:10



BRING YOUR BEST TO THE EAGLES' NEST
2026-2027



The School District of Edgefield County

2026-2027 Year-Round Modified Academic Calendar

July 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

July, 2026		4 ...	Independence Day Observed
21-23 ...	Staff Development Days		
24/27 ...	Teacher Workdays		
28 ...	First Day of School		
August 2026		27 ...	Interim Reports
September 2026		4 ...	Student & Staff Holiday
7 ...	Labor Day Holiday		
8 ...	Staff Development Day		
October 2026		2 ...	Begin 2 nd Nine Weeks
5-6 ...	Potential Intercession Days		
5-9 ...	Fall Break (*Make-up Days)		
15 ...	Parent Conferences – ½ TWD (work until 7 pm)		
16 ...	Parent Conferences – ½ TWD (work until 12 pm)		
November 2026		3 ...	Election Day Holiday
12 ...	Interim Reports		
25-27 ...	Thanksgiving Holidays		
December 2026		18 ...	Begin 3 rd Nine Weeks
18 ...	½ Day for Students		
21-31 ...	Winter Break		
January 2027		1 ...	Winter Break
4 ...	Teacher Workday		
5 ...	Students Return		
11 ...	Report Cards Issued		
18 ...	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday		
February 2027		4 ...	Interim Reports
15 ...	President's Day Holiday (*Make-up Day)		
March 2027		5 ...	Staff Development Day
11 ...	Begin 4 th Nine Weeks		
17 ...	Report Cards Issued		
26 ...	Student / Staff Holiday (*Make-up Day)		
29-31 ...	Spring Break Intercession Days (*Make-up Days)		
April 2027		1-2 ...	Spring Break Intercession Days (*Make-up Days)
5-9 ...	Spring Break		
27 ...	Interim Reports		
May 2027		26-27 ...	½ days for Students
27 ...	Last Day of School / End 4 th Nine Weeks		
28 ...	Teacher Workday		
28 ...	Graduation		
31 ...	Memorial Day Holiday		
June 2027		240 Day Employees: Work 10/5-10/9 & 3/29-4/2 + 4 additional holidays	
		Beginning ~ Ending Dates	
		220 Day Employees: 07/01/2026 – 06/15/2027 + Spr. Intercession	
		210 Day Employees: 07/01/2026 – 06/14/2027	
		200 Day Employees: 07/14/2026 – 06/07/2027	
		190 Day Employees: 07/21/2026 – 05/29/2027	
		185 Day Employees: 07/27/2026 – 05/28/2027 (+3 TWDs)	
		182 Day Employees: 07/27/2026 – 05/28/2027	
		181 Day Employees: 07/27/2026 – 05/27/2027	
		*Inclement Weather Make-Up Days	
		Oct. 5-9, Feb. 15, Mar. 26-31, Apr. 1-2	

January 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

 Holidays	 Begin Nine Week	 Interim Reports
 Staff Development / TWD	 Report Card	 ½ Days



J-E-T MIDDLE SCHOOL

= SUPPLY LIST =

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

★ RESPECTFUL | RESPONSIBLE | READY TO LEARN ★

6TH GRADE



SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR MOST CLASSES

- ✓ 2 Composition notebooks
- ✓ Pencils
- ✓ Colored pencils or markers
- ✓ Glue sticks
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Loose leaf paper
- ✓ Earbuds (wired)
- ✓ Folder with pockets



ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES BY SUBJECT

ELA: 1" binder (3-ring)

Math: 2 folders with prongs and pockets, 1 pack dry erase markers

Science: 2 Composition notebooks

Social Studies: Index cards, Sticky Notes

7TH GRADE



SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR MOST CLASSES

- ✓ Vinyl 3-prong folder with pockets
- ✓ Pencil pouch
- ✓ Pencils
- ✓ Colored pencils
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Dry erase markers
- ✓ Earbuds (wired)
- ✓ Notebook paper



ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES BY SUBJECT

ELA: 1 1/2" three ring binder

Math: Composition notebook (sewn pages), 3-prong folder with pockets

Science: 3 ring binder (1 1/2"), 3x5 index cards, scissors

Social Studies: 3 Composition notebooks, 5 prong folders, Compass + magnifying glass

Read 180: 2 Composition notebooks, headphones with mic

8TH GRADE



SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR MOST CLASSES

- ✓ 1 1/2" 3-ring binder
- ✓ Loose leaf notebook paper
- ✓ Pencils
- ✓ Colored pencils
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Earbuds (wired)
- ✓ Pocket folders (various colors)
- ✓ Glue sticks
- ✓ Cap erasers



ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES BY SUBJECT

Science: 7 tab dividers

Social Studies: Index cards, Sticky Notes, Glue stick

Geometry: 2 Composition notebooks, 3-prong folder

Math: Scientific calculator (TI30XII), dry erase marker & eraser

Spanish I: Composition notebook, pocket folder, notebook paper

Fundamentals of Computing: 1.5" binder, scissors

SECTION I

GENERAL INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF HANDBOOK

The purpose of this handbook is to put in writing the general policies and procedures that apply to the students at Johnston-Edgefield-Trenton (J-E-T) Middle School. Revisions will be made when necessary through memorandum(s) from the principal. Additionally, teachers and students should also be aware of the rules and regulations governing the students in the *Edgefield County Student Code of Conduct* and the *Johnston-Edgefield-Trenton (J-E-T) Middle School Student Handbook*.

EDGEFIELD SCHOOL SYSTEM (ECSS) Purpose and Direction

Purpose

Growing World Class Citizens by Engaging, Empowering, and Enriching All Learners

Direction

"Creating World Class Citizens who are developing the thinking, personal and relational skills needed for continued success in a changing society"

The system direction is manifested in our graduates possessing the following traits. These traits are not information they know but rather competencies and characteristics that are part of who they are and that are automatically transferred when they are confronted with new challenges.

World Class Citizenship Skills

JOHNSTON-EDGEFIELD-TRENTON MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION AND BELIEFS

Engaging...Empowering...Enriching all Learners

Mission Statement

Johnston-Edgefield-Trenton (J-E-T) Middle School is a student-centered community that prepares learners for the future by providing an environment that develops them both academically and emotionally for high school.

Vision

Our vision at
J-E-T Middle School
is to create an
Engaging, Enriching, and Empowering environment where every student can thrive and reach their full potential.

School Colors: Navy , Silver, and White

Mascot: Eagle

Our School

Johnston-Edgefield-Trenton (J-E-T) Middle School is committed to providing a student-centered learning environment that prepares all learners for success in high school, college, careers, and life. Through our focus on the South Carolina Profile of the Graduate and the Edgefield County Profile of the Graduate, we strive to develop students who are academically prepared, socially responsible, and equipped with the skills necessary to thrive in an ever-changing world. At J-E-T, we promote PRIDE, Personal Responsibility in Developing Excellence, and encourage all students to demonstrate our core expectations of Respect, Responsibility, and Readiness to Learn. These values serve as the foundation of our school culture and guide our efforts to educate the whole child.

The 2025-2026 school year was one of significant growth and accomplishment. We are especially proud that all 32 certified teachers have committed to returning for the 2026-2027 school year, providing stability and continuity for our students and families. Our faculty and staff remain dedicated to creating meaningful learning experiences while building strong relationships that support student success.

Academically, J-E-T continues to expand opportunities for students. Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, students will have access to more high school credit courses than ever before, including English I, Geometry, Exploration of Veterinary Science and Animal Care, Art I, Fundamentals of Computing, and Spanish I. Additionally, students will have opportunities to begin advanced coursework earlier, helping them prepare for future academic success.

Student achievement extends well beyond the classroom. Our Mock Trial team captured the South Carolina State Championship, while our Beta Club members continued to excel in academics, leadership, and community service. Students also participated in Battle of the Books, where J-E-T earned first place in the district competition. Our fine arts programs continue to thrive, with students earning recognition in visual arts, band, and chorus, including All-Region honors in band. Athletically, our students demonstrated excellence through participation and competition in football, volleyball, basketball, and other extracurricular activities.

To support literacy and a lifelong love of learning, J-E-T recently completed a renovation of our school library, creating a welcoming space where students can explore self-selected reading materials, collaborate with peers, and engage in meaningful learning experiences. Students begin each week by setting personal and academic goals, helping them take ownership of their learning and growth.

School improvement efforts remain focused on high-quality instruction and continuous professional learning. Through our Eagle Learning Communities (ELCs), teachers collaborate regularly to analyze student data, strengthen instructional practices, implement writing across the curriculum, and refine interventions to meet the needs of all learners. Teachers also participate in ongoing professional development focused on curriculum implementation, literacy, mathematics, science, and student engagement.

Our commitment to students extends beyond academics. J-E-T continues to strengthen school safety through updated arrival and dismissal procedures and a strong partnership with the Edgefield County Sheriff's Office. We are also expanding opportunities for student leadership and character development through our Alpha Beta Holden Student Advisory group, partnering with our sister middle school to provide leadership opportunities and positive relationships.

The success of J-E-T Middle School is made possible through the support of our families, community partners, School Improvement Council, and Parent Teacher Organization. This year, local businesses, churches, organizations, and community members donated thousands of dollars in support of our students and staff. Our partnership with Strom Thurmond High School Beta Club has provided valuable tutoring, mentoring, and volunteer opportunities, while our collaboration with the University of South Carolina Aiken helps strengthen teacher recruitment and retention efforts. Additionally, nearly \$20,000 in grants were awarded to J-E-T teachers to enhance classroom learning experiences.

As we look toward the future, we remain focused on providing rigorous instruction, meaningful opportunities, and a positive school culture where every student is known, challenged, connected, and prepared. We are proud of the progress we have made and excited about the opportunities ahead as we continue building a school and community that our students, families, and staff can be proud of. We invite you to visit J-E-T Middle School and see firsthand the great things happening in the Eagles' Nest.

WELCOME TO J-E-T MIDDLE SCHOOL

I could not be more excited to start this year with each of you. Whether you're returning or joining us for the first time, you're part of the J-E-T family now, and around here, we take that seriously. This isn't just a building; it's a place where we work together to push our students toward success, academically, socially, and personally.

Our school is grounded in three simple but powerful expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Ready to Learn. You will hear those words a lot because they are not just rules, they are the foundation of the culture we're building every single day.

We also take PRIDE in what we do, that's Personal Responsibility In Developing Excellence, and that means holding ourselves and our students to high expectations. Every child who walks through our doors has potential, and it's our job, staff, families, and community together, to help them tap into that and rise to meet it.

We know middle school is a critical time, and students need more than just academics to succeed. That is why we will continue to support character resiliency through a Positive Behavior Intervention System with our school counseling department. Teaching kids how to manage their emotions, handle conflict, and build healthy relationships is just as important as preparing them for high school coursework.

But we can't do this alone. Your partnership matters. We need your voice, your involvement, and your support to help our students grow into capable, confident young people ready for the future.

This year's theme, "Bring Your Best to the Eagles' Nest," speaks to exactly that. We believe bringing our best effort, our best attitude, our best preparation, and our best commitment each day will result in success. We need your help with holding each other accountable to these expectations while supporting each other along the way. When every member of our school community brings their best, great things happen for kids.

We're ready to get to work. The most important school supplies your child needs this year are patience, determination, and a willingness to grow.

Let's make 2026-2027 a year of accountability, success, and PRIDE. If there's anything we can do to support you, just ask.

Welcome to the new school year!

**Patrick Newsome
Principal**

SECTION II

SCHOOL INFORMATION

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

- Be a responsible learner. Put forth your best effort!
- Respect yourself and others.
- Be prepared and come to school on time. Be regular in attendance.
- Be positive. Find good things to say about yourself, friends, teachers, and school.
- Be honest and fair.
- Be proud of your school!
- You are Your Own Game-Changer!

GENERAL SCHOOL-WIDE EXPECTATIONS

- Read and follow all handbook regulations and the Code of Conduct for Edgefield County.
- Review all handbook regulations and the Code of Conduct after every intersessional break.
- Walk on the right side of the hallway at all times.
- Be quiet in the halls and do not disturb others.
- Keep our school and grounds clean and free of litter and graffiti.
- Personal grooming is to be done in the restroom only.
- Food and drinks can only be consumed in the cafeteria or on the outside unless approved by the teacher.
- Only water will be allowed outside of the cafeteria.

Leave unnecessary items at home. Items will be confiscated and returned only to a parent (cell phones, toys, radios, music players, games, cards, large sums of money, etc.). The school is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items. Any item brought to school that is “illegal” or in violation of school policy will be confiscated and returned only to a parent.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Each student will be assigned to a team of teachers. Students in 7th and 8th grade will receive two periods of language arts and math each day and two periods of science and social studies every other day. In 6th grade, students will receive two periods of language arts and math, and one period of science and social studies each day. In addition to the core academics, students will be offered exploratory and/or elective courses. Additional academic assistance for qualifying students is offered during school, and after school programs will begin in late August.

GRADING

The same numerical grading system is consistently used throughout the district.

A= Excellent (90-100)

B= Above Average (80-89)

C= Average (70-79)

D= Passing but needs improvement (60-69)

F= Failing (59-and below)

ENGLISH I AND GEOMETRY

Recommended students, (based on grade average, teacher judgment, SCREADY scores, and iReady) may take English I and/or Geometry for high school credit in the 8th grade. Students have the first ten days to drop the course to avoid a negative impact on their GPAs. Students taking English I must read the assigned books. (When assigned)

i-READY

“The purpose of iReady is to provide personalized instruction and support for the needs of all learners.”
(iReady Curriculum Associates)

i-READY EXPECTATIONS

- All students must pass one-two reading and math lessons per week, depending on the length of the lesson. Read 180 students are exempt from the reading requirement as they use a different technology component.
- A maximum of 45 on-task minutes should be spent on My Path. This should only be done in the classroom.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE is required by the SC Department of Education.

It is our belief that the health and wellness of our students is of utmost importance. Consequently, ALL of our middle school students will take physical education classes. In addition to the classroom rules of the physical education classes, students must dress out for class and must be on their best behavior while in the locker room. Athletic shoes must be worn. No other shoes will be allowed on the gymnasium floor. The physical education teachers will give specific guidelines as to the proper type and length of clothes.

Intercession Week(s) and Summer School- **Attention Students:**

To ensure academic success and to help avoid the need for intercession weeks and summer school—which now come with costs—we strongly encourage all students to put forth 100% effort in their studies every day. By staying committed and working hard throughout the regular school year, you can achieve your goals without the extra financial burden.

Stay focused, stay motivated, and give it your all!

Intercession Fees for 2026-2027
Approximately \$100 per student

Summer School Fees for 2026-2027
Approximately \$200 per student

Announcements – Announcements are made first thing in the morning and the end of each day. Students are asked to stop where they are and LISTEN!!! The announcements are an important part of our daily function.

Sunday Afternoon Messages are sent out weekly using Parent Square. If for any reason you do not receive this message, please contact the school at (803) 275-1997

Extracurricular Activities- All Edgefield County Extra Curricular Activities follow the same discipline procedures as outlined in this handbook.

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

Regular attendance at school is necessary if a student is to make satisfactory educational progress. Therefore, students are expected and encouraged to attend school regularly. Students who are absent from school may not participate in extracurricular or school sponsored activities that day.

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

When a student is absent, an automated call and email will be sent to the number on file in PowerSchool. A note from a parent/guardian, physician, dentist, or other recognized licensed/certified medical practitioner or legal officer is required for each absence. The note shall be dated and shall include the date(s) of absence(s), the reason(s) for the absence(s), telephone number of the parent/guardian, and the required signature. Verifiable documentation must be received within three(3) days from the date of return to school and is defined as a written statement from an appropriate agency, physician, or dentist. The required parent notes are not considered documentation for absences above 10 days. After three unexcused absences, a letter will be mailed to the parent or guardian to determine the cause of the absences and as a reminder of the attendance regulations. After five(5) unexcused absences, the student's parents will be notified and a conference will be held to develop a plan to improve the student's future attendance. When the number of unlawful absences reaches seven(7), a referral will be made to the attendance truancy officer. If the attendance truancy officer cannot obtain documentation for these absences or does not receive an adequate response from the parents, a referral will be made to the court for truancy.

TRUANCY

Truancy will be dealt with according to district policy and state regulations.

MAKE-UP WORK FOR ABSENTEES

When students are ill and out of school, it is our desire that the students concentrate on rest and recuperation to achieve a speedy return to school. However, we do expect the students to do make-up work. When there is an absence, the school staff will gladly prepare and collect assignments for students at the parent's request. Contact the counselor and request the assignments as soon as possible in the morning. When students are absent the day before a test, they are not required to take the test the day they return. They will take the test the following day, unless they need more time to complete work in order to study for the test. It is up to the students to make arrangements to get all assignments and to make arrangements with the teachers to complete the assignments. Students who are suspended from school are allowed these same conditions.

HOMEBOUND

Students who cannot attend school because of extended illness, accident, or other health concerns are eligible for homebound or hospitalized instruction. A physician must certify that the student is unable to attend school but may profit from instruction given in the home or the hospital. The homebound teacher is required to meet the student four hours and ten minutes per week. Homebound instruction does not officially begin until the form is signed by a medical doctor and turned in to the attendance clerk.

TARDINESS

When a student reports to school late after 7:45 a.m, he/she must sign in at the office. A parent/guardian must come in with the student and explain the reason for the tardiness. If a child has a doctor's appointment, an excuse should be presented to the attendance clerk so the tardiness is excused. The same excuses used for absences are accepted for tardiness. Those students without an acceptable excuse will be credited with an unexcused tardy and will be subject to disciplinary action. Tardiness is a Level I Offense. Tardiness to class interrupts learning time for the entire class. Students should organize their material and use their time wisely before school, at lunch, and after school to keep trips to lockers and other stops to a minimum. All students should be seated in their seats and ready for instruction at the designated time for class to begin. Students tardy to class must get a pass from the teacher with whom they were in conference. This is the only excuse acceptable. Going to the nurse, locker, or restroom is not acceptable. If a student needs to go to the nurse or restroom, permission must be obtained from the teacher prior to going to avoid tardiness to class. The office will not write passes except for late arrivals to school. Those without passes, who are late to class, are credited with an unexcused tardy and assigned the proper Level 1 Consequence.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Students must enter the building through the designated door (private transportation-side gym door/ bus transportation-bus entrance) and report either to the cafeteria or to the grade level hallway. Private transportation students may go to breakfast as long as they arrive before 7:35 a.m. Bus transportation students may go to breakfast as soon as they arrive at school. After 7:45 a.m., all car riders must have an adult to sign them in at the front office. Students may take their band instruments to the band classroom before going to homeroom. Private transportation students need to arrive at school between 7:15 a.m. and 7:40 a.m.

BUS TRANSPORTATION DISCIPLINE CODE

The following rules and regulations have been adopted by Edgefield County District. It is hoped that these guidelines will help us to provide safe transportation to and from school for your student. Students should be at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to the scheduled time. As per SC law, “riding a school bus is a privilege, not a right.”

Bus Discipline Policy

Students who have the opportunity to ride district school buses may do so as long as they display behavior that is reasonable and safe. Choosing to engage in unacceptable behavior may result in loss of bus service. The bus driver is responsible for the safety and discipline of students on the bus. The school administrators are available to give assistance to the driver and will determine the consequences of misbehavior and the reinstatement of bus service for the offending students should a suspension become necessary. A suspension applies to all buses unless otherwise designated by school officials. The responsibility for student supervision by the District shall begin when the lights are activated on the bus in the morning and is retained until the child leaves the bus at the end of the day; or until released to the parent/guardian in a manner consistent with guidelines on release of students.

Transportation Of School Related/ Non Related Items

Under the Laws and Rules for the Operation of School Buses in the State of South Carolina, band instruments that will be allowed on the bus are those that are small enough to be held on the student’s lap. Instruments may not be in the aisle or take the space of a student. No rolling book bags that are larger than 24”s in height or 12”s in width will be allowed. No animals or any other objects of a dangerous or objectionable nature are transported in the school bus when children are being transported. All items carried on should be small enough in size to fit on the student’s lap. This is necessary to ensure that all items are kept under the control of the student at all times in case of an accident or an emergency.

Assigned Buses Only

Students are assigned to buses and bus stops. No change in either bus or stop is permitted without the Transportation Dept. authorization. Temporary changes may be made by school administrators for authorized emergencies only.

Level I - Behavioral Misconduct

Behavioral misconduct is defined as those activities which tend to impede orderly operation of a school vehicle. Repeated violations may lead to more serious disciplinary actions including suspension from the bus for an extended period of time including the remainder of the school year. Discipline records of violations are cumulative. Acts of behavioral misconduct with enforcement procedures or sanctions to be applied shall include, but are not limited to, the following depending upon severity. All final disciplinary actions are left to the discretion of the administration.

Level I Infractions and Consequences

Code	Infraction
340	Getting on or off bus at other than the designated stop
	Eating and/or drinking on the bus

	Littering on the bus
	Minor violation of any safety procedures (standing, sitting improperly, etc.)
	Riding a different bus without permission from administration
	Making loud noises - yelling, etc.
	Pushing, tripping, or general horseplay
	Encouraging misbehavior
	Using unauthorized electronic devices

Level of Offense	Primary Consequence
1st referral	Warning and contacting parents.
2nd referral	Suspended from the bus for up to three days and contact parents
3rd referral	Suspended from the bus for up to five days and contact parents.
4th referral	Suspended from the bus for up to ten days and contact parents.
5th referral or more	Suspended from the bus for ten or more days.

Level II - Disruptive Conduct

Disruptive conduct is defined as those activities directed against persons or property, which tend to endanger the health or safety of oneself or others on a school vehicle. Disruptive records of violations are cumulative. Acts of disruptive conduct with enforcement procedures or sanctions to be applied shall include, but are not limited to, the following. All final disciplinary actions are left to the discretion of the administration.

Level II Infractions and Consequences

Code	Infraction
340	Possession and/or using any tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, vapors, etc on the bus
	Throwing objects on or out of the bus
	Refusing to sit in assigned seat
	Using profanity, abusive language, or obscene gestures towards others

	Using profanity, abusive language, or obscene gestures towards others
	Severe violation of safety procedures (having head, arms, hands, extended from the bus etc.)
	Vandalism (minor) - writing or marking seats, etc.
	Disrespect/refusal to obey bus driver (depending on severity)
	Harassing, threatening, or intimidating another passenger
	Pushing, tripping, or general horseplay (depending of severity)

Level of Offense	Primary Consequence
1 st referral	Suspended from the bus for up to three days and contact parents
2 nd referral	Suspended from the bus for up to five days and contact parents
3 rd referral	Suspended from the bus for up to ten days
4 th referral	Suspended from the bus for up to thirty days and parent conference
5 th referral or more	Suspended from the bus for the remainder of the school year

**Transportation Supervisor be involved in conference that result in suspensions of 30 days or longer **
Level II violations may also result in out-of-school suspensions and/or restitution of property.

Level III - Serious and Possibly Criminal Conduct

Criminal Conduct is defined as those activities that result in violence to oneself, another person, or destruction of property. These actions pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of oneself or others on a school vehicle. Criminal conduct usually requires administrative actions, which could result in the immediate removal of the student from school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the Board of Trustees. Level III violations may lead to a student's immediate removal from the bus at the school or bus transportation office. Acts of criminal conduct may include, but are not limited to:

Level III Infractions and Consequences

A student, who commits any level III offense as listed in the code of conduct in previous sections, will receive a consequence aligned with the level III offenses in the child's grade level and may be subjected to a district level hearing that may result in a recommendation for expulsion.

**Transportation Supervisor must be involved in conferences for bus suspensions of 30 days or longer.*
Level III violations may also result in out-of-school suspension, recommendation of expulsion, notification of law enforcement authorities, and/or restitution of property.

CHROMEBOOKS/LAPTOPS

Overview

Edgefield County School District (ECSD) recognizes that access to technology provides students with opportunities to learn, engage, and develop the necessary skills to be career and college-ready in the 21st century. The digital mission of our District is to enrich the curriculum with technology opportunities that build and sustain an engaged and collaborative learning environment for all students. A structured digital environment that is safe, yet demanding will enable and support students and teachers as they explore transformative uses of technology.

Use of Technology

The following handouts provide students and their parents/guardians with information about the general use of technology, “ownership”, rights and responsibilities for possession of the Chromebook, and care of the Chromebook. All students and their respective parents/guardians must agree to all policies listed in order to receive and utilize a Chromebook, school network, and all other district owned technology-related items. With this privilege and the extraordinary opportunity to explore digital resources, come responsibilities for each student and his/her parents/guardians. Edgefield County School District will ensure that all students use the Chromebook and its access to other resources as an essential part of their learning experiences. Along with the efforts of parents/guardians, ECSD will follow its policies in maintaining an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all electronic resource activities and uses.

Ownership

Edgefield County School District retains sole right of possession and ownership of the Chromebook and grants permission to the student to use the device according to the rules and guidelines set forth in this document. ECSD lends the device to the student only for educational purposes during the academic year. Failure to follow the terms of the policies will result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to, confiscation of any and all devices and accessories lent to the student and revocation of student access to ECSD technology, as well as any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by ECSD policy. ECSD reserves the right to monitor and log users’ (students’) use of the district’s technology and network and to examine user (student) files and materials as necessary. Moreover, ECSD administrative staff retains the right to collect and/or inspect the device at any time, including via electronic remote access; and to alter, add, or delete installed software or hardware. There is no reasonable expectation of privacy while using ECSD computers, networks, or technology

Chromebook Damage

If the Chromebook or the accessories are deemed to be intentionally or negligently damaged by the student, he/she may be subject to discipline and the cost of repair or replacement. The district will assess damage to the device and accessories at the time of turn in for excessive wear, cosmetic damage, unreported or intentional damages. See below for anticipated repairs or replacements costs:

All Grades - Technology Violations
Level I – Simple Disorderly Conduct Consequences

Level of Offense	Accidental Device Damage	Malicious or Negligent Damage	Costs
			**All damages will incur a cost unless it is determined to be a manufacturing defect.
1st Offense	Parent Contact & Verbal Warning	Parent Contact & 1 Week in Penalty Box	Screen Replacement - \$50 Bezel around Screen - \$25 Keyboard Replacement - \$60
2nd Offense	Parent Contact & Reminder of Proper Device Care	Parent Contact & 3 Weeks in Penalty Box	Keyboard Maintenance - \$10 Trackpad Replacement - \$30 Charger Replacement - \$25
3rd Offense	Parent Contact & 1 Week in Penalty Box	Parent Conference & 9 Weeks in Penalty Box	Replacement - \$250 to \$380, depending on model

- Questions about cost should be directed to the Technology Department. (*Costs are estimates and subject to change. The age of the Chromebook will also be considered.*)
- Penalty Box only allows students on i-Ready. All other websites will be blocked.

CHROMEBOOK CARE

Student Responsibilities

The rules and regulations are provided here so that students and parents/guardians are aware of the responsibilities students accept when they use a district-owned device. In general, use of technology requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of all digital resources. Violations of these rules and guidelines will result in disciplinary action.

The student will assume responsibility for...

- Carrying Chromebooks in a Safe and Secure Manner***
 - **Always transport Chromebooks with care and with the screen closed. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.**
 - **Never lift Chromebooks by the screen.**
- Chromebook Security***
 - **Under no circumstances should Chromebooks or accessories be taken and left in unsupervised areas. Unsupervised areas include the bathrooms, buses, cafeteria, computer labs, hallways, Library/Media Center, unlocked classrooms, or any other area deemed insecure. Any Chromebook left in these areas is in danger of being stolen or tampered with by unauthorized individuals.**
- General Care***
 - **Never leave the Chromebook unattended.**
 - **Never loan the Chromebook or its accessories to another student.**
 - **Never set books or stack heavy objects on top of the Chromebook.**
 - **Never set food or drink next to the Chromebook.**

- Never leave the device exposed to direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, or moisture sources for extended periods of time.
- Always carefully insert cords, cables, and removable storage devices into the Chromebook.
- Never deface the Chromebook and its accessories through use of writing, drawing, stickers, labels, or by any other means.

4. *Screen Care*

The Chromebook screen can be damaged if subjected to heavy objects, rough treatment, some cleaning solvents, and other liquids. The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure, heat, and light. The student is responsible for ensuring the following screen precautions:

- Never put pressure on the top of a Chromebook when it is closed.
- Never store a Chromebook with the screen open.
- Always make sure there is nothing on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, or disks).
- Only clean the screen with a soft, dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.

5. *Asset Tag*

An asset tag is a barcode-like sticker placed on the device for inventory and monitoring purposes. All Chromebooks will be labeled with an inventory and asset tag. Tags may not be modified or tampered with in any way. A student may be charged up to the full replacement cost of a Chromebook for tampering with a school asset tag logo or turning in a Chromebook without a school asset tag.

6. *Appropriate Classroom and Library Media Center Routines*

The student will use the Chromebook and/or any of the school's technology equipment strictly for educational purposes at school. Using the Chromebook for recreational use during class time, or while in the Library is prohibited. Students are expected to fully participate in all classroom activities as directed by their teacher. In addition to the rules and guidelines set in this handbook, students must abide by all rules and guidelines set by the classroom teacher. Violation of this responsibility will result in disciplinary action.

Student Accessibility

1. Logging into a Chromebook

- The student will log into his/her Chromebooks using their issued Google Apps for Education account.
- The student will never share account passwords with other students.

2. Managing and Saving Digital Work with a Chromebook

- The majority of studentwork will be stored in Internet/cloud-based applications and can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection and most mobile Internet devices.
- The student may elect to store a small number of files on the Chromebook's hard drive or a self-purchased USB/flash drive.
- USB/flash drives used on the device can only be used to store approved, school-related information.
- The student should always remember to save frequently when working on digital media. Not all Google tools/apps automatically update.
- The school will not be responsible for the loss of any student work.
- The district strongly encourages the student to maintain backups of important work on a portable storage device or by having multiple copies stored in different Internet storage solutions.

3. Chromebook Cameras

- The cameras are to be used for educational purposes only, as determined under the direction of a teacher.

- The Family Educational and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that affords parents certain rights with respect to privacy and educational records. For this reason, students must obtain permission to publish or make publicly available a photograph or video of any school-related activity.

4. Backgrounds and Themes

- Inappropriate media may not be used as backgrounds or themes. Presence of guns, weapons, pornographic materials, inappropriate language, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, gang-related symbols, or any other content deemed inappropriate by administration will result in disciplinary actions.

5. Chrome Web Apps and Extensions

- Students are responsible for the web apps and extensions they install on their Chromebooks. The downloading of inappropriate material will result in disciplinary action.

- Some web apps will be available to use when the Chromebook is not connected to the Internet.

6. Content Filter

- The district utilizes an Internet content filter that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks, regardless of physical location, will have all Internet activity protected and monitored by the district.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Counseling service is available for all students. Through individual, small group, and classroom counseling services, students are helped to better understand and accept their own individuality in relating to others, both in the classroom and socially. The counselor assists students, teachers, and parents in understanding the student's potential ability and achievement levels. Both students and parents should feel free to consult with the counselor. The counselor will assist parents in arranging conferences with teachers. The student, parent, teachers, other students, or administrators may make referrals to guidance. Students are encouraged to get acquainted with the counselor, Mrs. Lynn, who can be reached by calling the main office.

DRESS CODE FOR ALL ECSD STUDENTS

Appropriate and non-distracting attire shall be worn in the educational setting. This includes off-campus activities such as field trips, performances and school sponsored events. Students are expected to show pride in themselves and their school by having their dress and appearance in accordance with acceptable standards. Our main concern is that students dress so that their appearance will not distract from the learning process in the classroom.

The following items are not permitted:

1. Skirts and shorts NOT at least fingertip length when standing (leggings or tights do not substitute for length)
2. Leggings and tights worn as pants must have a shirt covering the student's bottom. The shirt should COMPLETELY cover the student's bottom.
3. Silk, tight-fitting onesies
4. Hats, Head Scarfs, Hoods, and Head Coverings must be removed once a student enters the building
5. Tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, tops with string straps and plunging necklines that expose cleavage
6. Bare midriffs and backs, "racerbacks"
7. See-through garments
8. Pants with tears/holes exposing skin above mid-thigh
9. Excessively long wallet/pocket chains (longer than 6 inches)
10. Sagging pants showing undergarments or gym shorts
11. Bedroom shoes (slippers), loungewear/pajamas, and blankets
12. Clothing that promotes tobacco, alcohol, drugs, violence, gangs, or disrespect to others.

3. State Health Regulations require that shoes and shirts must be worn at all times in a public building.

4. The display of obscene or profane language or gestures on clothing may result in an out-of-school suspension. While the displayed message may not be obscene or profane, the message conveyed may still be deemed inappropriate for the high school, and students will be asked not to wear the clothing.

5. The administration will make the final judgment on the appropriateness of clothing and/or appearance and reserves the right to prohibit students from wearing any articles of clothing or other items which lead to or may foreseeably result in the disruption of or interference with the school environment. The administration reserves the right to require a student to change clothes if what he or she is wearing is deemed to be inappropriate for school. In the event the administration determines a student's dress is inappropriate for school, administration will follow the following procedures:

Consequences

- Offense 1: Verbal Warning and Parent Contact with possible immediate removal from class setting
Offense 2: Level 1 Consequences with Parent Contact
Offense 3+: Level 1 Offense and beyond given frequency and severity

Note: When a student violates the dress code, administration will confiscate the inappropriate clothing **and** provide alternative clothing. If a student refuses to wear alternative clothing, the student will be assigned to ISS for the remainder of the day if the parent cannot bring a change of clothing that adheres to the Dress Code.

EARLY DISMISSAL

No early dismissal after 2:45 p.m. Students will not be allowed to leave school with anyone except an approved parent/guardian or adult in PowerSchool. During online enrollment, please make sure that you list anyone who might pick up your child. If a parent needs for someone else to pick up a student, arrangements should be made in person or far enough in advance for school personnel to verify the request. A written note should also be sent if someone not listed is going to pick up your child. The responsible person must sign out all students leaving early in the front office.

Notes must be brought to the office first thing each morning!

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

When inclement weather occurs prior to the school day, the district administrators will decide if school will open or remain closed. This decision will be broadcast on area radio and television stations.

(*WJBF TV (6), WRDW TV (12), WGAT (26)*) and the district's communication platform, Parent Square.

FEES

Instructional Fee-\$0

Locker Fee-\$5.00

Yearbook-\$35.00

Lost Locks-\$5.00

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

1. All fees must be paid by the date set for an activity/field trip.
2. All checks must have Full Name, Street Address, and Phone Number on them.
3. All checks should be made for the correct amount and made payable to J-E-T Middle School.
4. Parents of any student who have a financial obligation to the school/district (i.e., lost textbooks, library books, fees, fundraiser money, etc.) that is not cleared within the prescribed time will be notified. Failure to fulfill this obligation or have a plan approved by the school or district authority will result in sanctions being taken by the school/district to collect the outstanding obligation.

Students owing a fine or restitution to the school must make a settlement that is satisfactory to the administration prior to a report card being issued or a transcript being mailed for that student.

FLOWERS/SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

School is the place for learning and where every student is valued. All flowers and other forms of individual recognition sent to the school will be held until the end of the day. Balloons and large stuffed animals are NOT permitted on the school bus. NO DELIVERIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ON VALENTINE'S DAY.

FOOD/DRINK

To minimize disruptions to the school day and ensure the front office can focus on supporting students, staff, and school operations, students may receive outside food from a parent or guardian no more than one time per week. For student safety and campus security, food deliveries through third-party services and apps are NOT PERMITTED. Any food delivered through a delivery service will not be accepted by the school. Parents are encouraged to send lunches or snacks with their child at the beginning of the school day or come to school to visit or eat lunch with your child. If you bring outside food for lunch, bring lunch only for you and your child. Students may only consume water during the school day. Energy drinks, sodas, coffee beverages, and other caffeinated or sugary drinks are not permitted. Research has shown that energy drinks and excessive caffeine can negatively impact student focus, behavior, sleep patterns, and overall well-being. Students who bring prohibited beverages to school may be required to dispose of them or have them held until the end of the school day.

FUNDRAISING/SOLICITATION

Fundraising is strictly prohibited unless it is a school-sponsored fundraiser and has been approved by the principal.

Returned Checks

In the event your check is returned for insufficient funds, a letter will be sent home by the bookkeeper. A fee of \$15 will be charged for each returned check.

HEALTH AND MEDICATIONS

A full time registered nurse is on staff at J-E-T. Sick students are to report to the health room after obtaining written permission from their teacher. The nurse will assess the situation and call the parents if needed. Please do not send students to school who are running a fever or who are too ill to function in class. If a student needs to take medication during the school day, the parent or guardian must provide the medication and give written permission on a form obtained from the nurse stating the medication, the dosage, and the time that the medicine should be taken. The medicine must be brought to school in the original container and left in the health room with the form. All medications should be brought to the nurse for dispensing. No student should give medicine to another student or take any medicine that is given by another student.

Cell phones are not to be utilized during the school day; students using cell phones to contact parents is prohibited. If a student is sick he/she has to get a nurse's pass and go see the nurse. If necessary, the nurse will contact the parent.

Any student violating this procedure will be subject to disciplinary action.

HOMEWORK

Homework may be assigned regularly as an independent activity to allow students to practice and to apply what they have learned in class. It is a necessary link in the continuing process of education.

INSURANCE

The option to purchase school accident insurance is offered from the beginning of school through mid-October. Information will be sent home with each student for parents to review and to make a decision. The insurance policy is an agreement between the insurance company and the parents enrolling. Parents should purchase insurance for proper coverage during school hours.

LOCKERS

Use of student lockers is a privilege. Teams will determine when students are permitted to use their lockers. It is the responsibility of the student to manage locker time effectively and report to class on time. Ms. Curry will assign lockers. Only school-owned locks may be used. If you have a problem with your locker or lock, report it promptly to Ms. Curry. Lost locks may be replaced for \$5.00 in the office. Lockers are not to be shared and should remain locked at all times. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items left in a locker. All lockers are school property and may be searched when there is any suspicion that the locker might contain contraband.

- Students are to keep lockers locked at all times.
- Students are not to "pop" locks.
- Students are not to share lockers.
- Students are to use only the assigned lock.
- Students are only to go to lockers during assigned times.

Students who violate these conditions will be denied locker use.

LOST AND FOUND

All personal belongings should be marked for identification. The lost and found area for most items is in the main office. At the end of each nine weeks, all items will be donated to the needy. For lost textbooks, students should check with the teacher who issued the book. All books found will be given to the issuing teacher. Students cannot receive an additional book until the lost book is paid for. Radios, tape recorders,

cameras, trading cards, toys, cell phones, etc. are not to be brought to school unless prior approval from the administration has been given. The school does not accept responsibility or liability for loss or damages incurred or if an “illegal” item is stolen. This includes large sums of money.

LUNCH/BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Breakfast and lunch are provided for students at J-E-T Middle School for free. All lunch money should be paid in the cafeteria to the cafeteria supervisor. Forms will be sent home at the beginning of the year for those interested in applying for free lunch. These forms will be available from the cafeteria manager at any time upon request. Children may bring lunch from home. All cafeteria and canteen food must be eaten in the cafeteria.

(Prices Subject to Change)

MEDIA CENTER

The media center is the nucleus of our school. The regular hours for use are from 7:40 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Students must have a pass from the teacher/administrator on morning duty to enter prior to 7:45 a.m. Students may come to the media center throughout the day with permission from their teacher. In order to use the computers and Internet, students must have an Acceptable Use Policy signed by the parent and student on file.

PARENT SQUARE

J-E-T Middle School and all Edgefield County Schools will be moving to ParentSquare as our primary communication platform. ParentSquare will serve as your one-stop shop for school communication, making it easier than ever to stay connected and informed. With ParentSquare, you'll be able to receive important school announcements and urgent notifications instantly, message teachers and staff directly, stay up to date on upcoming events and activities, join athletic team, club, and organization groups, complete permission slips and other forms electronically, and manage communication for all of your children in one place. Download the ParentSquare app and create an account. If your email address and phone number in PowerSchool are up to date, you'll be able to connect with your student(s) quickly and easily.

POSTING OF NOTICES

ALL notices posted by students or others are to be cleared through the principal.

REPORT CARD DATES

October 15

January 11

March 17

May 27

Awards Days

May 25th 6th Grade – 9:00am ; 7th Grade - 1:00 pm

May 26th 8th Grade – 9:00am

STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

A parent or guardian may bring a child to school to register or register online. All students must validate district residence. The social security card, immunization record, report card and/or withdrawal form from the former school is necessary to register. The school will obtain records regarding testing, etc. from the school once you grant a release of information. Our bookkeeper or front office staff handle registrations and withdrawals.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER

If a student moves during the year, it is imperative that the change of address and telephone number be reported to the guidance and main office. We must have each student's 911 address and emergency contacts on file. If a phone is disconnected or changed, the new number or an alternate emergency contact number **MUST** be given to the attendance clerk.

CHILD CUSTODY

The School District of Edgefield County is utilizing the following procedures concerning child custody. Any questions concerning documents need to be directed to the guidance office or principal.

1. In case one parent asks that the child not be allowed to leave the school with the other parent, a custody paper, restraining order, or some legal document should be in the child's permanent record.
2. Legal opinion states that either parent has equal rights to the child unless one of the above-mentioned legal documents has been issued.
3. In the event that a parent says he/she has such a document at home, it becomes most imperative that the document or a notarized copy be brought in immediately to be included in the child's school records. The school must have documentation of custody changes before it can deny any parent access to his/her child.

IMMUNIZATION

As students register the nurse will verify if they have a valid S. C. Immunization Certificate. If they do, the certificate/copies will be sent to the nurse with all other registration material for the permanent records. Students without documented proof of immunization records will be sent home after 30 days until proof is furnished.

WITHDRAWALS/TRANSFERS

When withdrawing from school, the parent or guardian must come to the school and sign the withdrawal form in the front office. Any student withdrawing from school is expected to leave debt free and in good standing. All books must be returned and all fees paid before a student is cleared for withdrawal.

STUDENT RECORDS

1.
 - A. A student's "educational records" are those records directly related to a student and which the school district or a party acting for the school district maintains.
 - B. "Parent" refers to a parent, a guardian, a person acting as parent, a surrogate appointed in accordance with policies under Programs for the Handicapped or a student who is 18 years of age or over, or a student who is attending an institution of post-secondary education on a full-time basis.
 - C. Whenever a student is eighteen years of age or is attending an institution of post-secondary education, the rights accorded to and the consent required of the parent of the student shall thereafter only be accorded to and required of the eligible student unless the school district has received notice that a court has awarded legal guardianship beyond the age of majority. The school will document such notice.
 - D. In maintaining student records, the schools will follow applicable state and federal regulations.
2. Parents of students currently in attendance and eligible students currently in attendance in the School District of Edgefield County have a right to. . . .
 - A. Inspect and review student's education records;
 - B. Request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights;
 - C. Consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational records, except to the extent that federal law and regulations authorize disclosure without consent;
 - D. File written complaints concerning alleged violations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
Written complaints should be sent to:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office
Department of Education
330 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

The Office has the responsibility for investigating, processing, and reviewing alleged violations. The office will refer appropriate cases to a review board for adjudication.

E. Obtain a copy of the district's policy adopted under 99.6 (This policy may be requested from the Office of the Superintendent, Edgefield County Schools, P.O. Box 608, Edgefield, SC 29824, (803) 275-4601.

3.

1. Schools will treat each student's education records as confidential and primarily for local school use. The exception to this rule is for directory information, which includes: the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, diploma or certificate and awards received, the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student, and other similar information.
2. The district will not release directory information to any person or agency for commercial use. The district expects its employees to use good judgment in releasing directory information so it serves the best interests of students.
3. Within 15 days after receipt of this annual notice of privacy rights, the parent of the student, or the eligible and currently enrolled student, has the right to refuse to permit the designation of any or all of the categories of personally identifiable information as directory information. The parents/eligible student's notification must be in writing. The written notification will become a part of the student's education record. The principal of the school the student is attending is responsible for notifying appropriate personnel of the request, filing the request in the student's cumulative folder, and making the folder as specified by the superintendent or his designee.
4. **If you object to the disclosure of directory information concerning your records or those of your child, please notify the principal of your school or your child's school as soon as possible.**

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Many health care services can be provided for students to keep them at school where they can learn and participate with other students. Our goal is to provide information to parents and legal guardians about some of the services and programs available for addressing the health care needs of students during the school day to help students succeed in school. It is important that the necessary health care information is shared with the appropriate people-such as teachers on duty during recess, bus drivers, and cafeteria employees-to make sure that the students' needs are met throughout the school day.

Individual Health Care Plans or Individual Health Plans (IHPs)

Individual health care plans are also called individual health plans or IHPs. School nurses who are registered nurses write IHPs to guide how a student's health care needs will be met while at school. The nurse works with the students, the student's parents or legal guardians, the student's health care provider, and other school staff to write a plan. IHPs are written for students who have special health care needs that must be met by school staff during the school day. IHPs are also written for students who have been approved by the school district to self-medicate or self-monitor. To learn more about IHPs, talk with your child's school nurse or the Director of Special Services at (803)275-4601.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)

Section 504 is federal law that requires public schools to make adjustments so that students with certain disabilities can learn and participate in settings like other students who do not have disabilities. To be eligible for services under Section 504, a student must have a condition that substantially limits one or more major life activities. A team decides if a student is eligible. The team should include the student's parent or legal guardian, the student (if able), and others who know the student or know about the student's disability, such as a teacher, a school counselor, a school nurse, and any other applicable school staff. If the student is eligible, the team develops an individual accommodation plan. The individual accommodation plan explains how the student's needs will be met while at school and may include health services for the student during the school day if needed. To learn more about Section 504, contact the Director of Special Services at (803) 275-4601.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Students, age 3 through 21 years, may receive services under the IDEA if the student needs special education and related services to benefit from his or her educational program. A team decides if a student qualifies for services under the IDEA. The team includes the student's parent (IEP) if the student meets federal and state requirements. The IEP outlines a plan for helping the student receive a free appropriate public education and meet goals set by the team. The IEP may include health services for the student during the school day if needed. Contact the Director of Special Services at (803) 275-4601 to learn more about the IDEA.

Medical Homebound Instruction

Medical homebound instruction is a service that is available for students who cannot attend school for a medical reason even with the aid of transportation. A physician must certify that the student has such a medical condition but may benefit from instruction and must fill out the medical homebound form that the school district provides. The school district then decides whether to approve the student for medical homebound services. The school district will consider the severity of the student's illness or injury, the length of time that the student will be out of school, the impact that a long period away from school will have on the student's academic success, and whether the student's health needs can be met at school. To learn more about medical homebound services, contact the Director of Special Services at (803) 275-4601. The Edgefield County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its educational programs and activities. For further information, contact Title IX or Section 504 Coordinator at 803-275-4601, P.O. box 608, Edgefield, South Carolina 29824

TELEPHONE CALLS

Students may use the school telephone as long as they are given permission. In case of illness or if an emergency situation arises, a school employee will make the necessary calls. Students will not be called to the office to answer the phone during school hours. Emergency messages from the parents or guardian may be left with the school secretary. We strongly encourage that all arrangements be made in advance to avoid the necessity for phone calls. Messages for students should be called in before 2:20 p.m. to allow enough time to get the message to the student. For calls after 2:20 p.m. there will be no guarantee of delivery.

TEXTBOOKS

All state adopted textbooks are rent free to students. When a textbook is issued to a student, its condition is noted on a form. Each student is responsible for returning his or her textbooks in that same condition. If the book is returned damaged or with markings not there at issue, the student must pay a fine. If a book is lost or damaged, the cost will be determined by the schedule provided by the State Department of Education. Periodic checks will be held throughout the year. Students will not be issued another book until the lost book has been paid for. The student is responsible for his/her textbooks even if the books are stolen from a locker or book bag. Students may be denied certain privileges until books have been accounted or paid for. See the assistant principal for textbook concerns or if you have special needs.

VISITORS

Parents and other members of the community are always welcome at J-E-T. For the security of all, as well as to avoid disturbing the learning environment of the students, we ask that all visitors enter by way of the main office, sign in, and obtain a visitor's pass before going to any other part of the building. Parents and other visitors may observe classes by obtaining permission from the administration. Please allow a 24 hr notice. We do ask that you not interfere with instruction. If you have questions about what occurs in the classroom, please make an appointment to speak with the teacher and/or principal at a later time. Visitors endangering the safety or learning environment will be prohibited from further visitation. Students from other schools may not be on J-E-T Middle School's campus without prior approval from the administration.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed to mentor and tutor students, speak to classes on your occupation, help copy, laminate, and put up displays. Please let us know if you can help. All volunteers must complete an application and submit to a background check for Board approval. The forms may be picked up from the principal/secretary.

SECTION III

DISCIPLINE/STUDENT BEHAVIOR

2026-2027 Edgefield County Schools Discipline Code of Conduct Overview

Acts of disruptive conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Level I - Simple Disorderly Conduct**
- **Level II - Disruptive Conduct**
- **Level III - Serious and Possibly Criminal Conduct**

Depending on the action of the student, in concert with the level of the offense, administrators should meet with the reporting staff member, and, if necessary, the student and the parent/legal guardian, and impose the appropriate consequence and/or establish an intervention plan and/or behavioral contract. Factors such as the student's understanding of the consequences of their actions, their previous conduct history, and any mitigating circumstances (including the impact to others) will be taken into account. Disciplinary measures should aim to be both corrective and educational, promoting a deeper understanding of acceptable behavior and the impacts of one's actions. Consequences that may be applied in cases of each level of disruptive conduct listed above may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Parent Conference (PC) - A parent conference may be held in person, virtually, or over the phone to discuss the student's actions and appropriate response or consequence. Together, the school and parent, will create a restorative plan to support the student in making positive choices and moving forward from the incident.

Lunch Detention (LD) - Lunch detention will be held in a designated area of the school. During this detention the student and a staff member will have restorative conversations to support the student in making positive choices and moving forward from the incident.

In School Suspension (ISS) - ISS is typically used for offenses that are more serious or when simple disorderly conduct becomes excessive. Students are expected to complete their assignments or any assigned work while in ISS. Students who misbehave during ISS will be referred to administration for further action that may include out-of-school suspension.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) - OSS is used for serious offenses when a student's presence at school may disrupt the learning process. The decision to use OSS will be at the discretion of an administrator.

Referral to a Hearing Officer (RHO) is a formal procedure that involves submitting a referral to an impartial hearing officer to provide recommendation to more significant violations of the code of conduct. The hearing officer acts as a neutral party who listens to both sides, reviews evidence, and makes a decision based on applicable laws and regulations.

Extenuating, Mitigating, or Aggravating Circumstances

The board may give the appropriate administrator the authority to consider extenuating, mitigating, or aggravating circumstances that may exist in a particular case of misconduct. The administrator should consider such circumstances in determining the most appropriate sanction.

Discipline of Disabled Students

Disciplinary process

Federal and state laws and regulations require the public schools to meet the individual educational needs of disabled children to the extent that current educational expertise permits.

Weapons, Drugs, and Contraband

Dangerous Weapons and Drugs

It is unlawful for a student to possess a dangerous weapon or drugs on school premises. This includes actual possession, as well as constructive possession. Constructive possession would include placing a weapon or drugs in a location on school premises where another student may have access to the weapon. All students must be aware that it is illegal to have a weapon or drugs in their vehicle while it is parked or operated on school premises.

A dangerous weapon is any type of firearm, knife, blackjack, metal pipe, or pole, razor, metal knuckles, or any other type weapon, device, or object that can be used to inflict bodily injury or death. This includes devices capable of firing a projectile using air, gas, or spring action, including but not limited to BB guns, pellet guns, and Airsoft guns.

The Edgefield County School Board will expel any student who brings a weapon to school. For purposes of this policy, a weapon means a firearm. The term firearm is defined extensively in the U.S. Code, but generally means a weapon (gun) or destructive device (explosive, incendiary). The school board may expel all students who distribute any controlled substance on school grounds. (Board Policy JICH and JICI). In addition to disciplinary action which will be taken, it is the policy of this District to report the possession of a dangerous weapon to the appropriate law enforcement agency for prosecution in the criminal courts.

Suspended or Expelled Students

A student who is suspended or expelled cannot enter the school grounds (except to attend a prearranged conference with an administrator), cannot attend any school functions (regardless of the fact that they are open to the general public), and cannot ride on a school bus (which is seen as an extension of school property). Trespassing violators will have additional days of out-of-school suspension applied to their disciplinary actions and may possibly face criminal charges. Expelled students must reapply in writing for admission to the Principal. (Readmit conferences are held before school starts the following year.)

Students are reminded that any unlawful activity outside of school could result in suspension or expulsion from school.

Students who are guilty of breaches of conduct may be suspended or expelled if the offense does not already carry such punishment. Though not specifically mentioned in this list of breaches of conduct, any act which is detrimental to the good order, best interest, and physical safety of the school may be punished according to its nature and degree at the discretion of the administration.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Cheating and/or plagiarism are defined as an effort to claim credit for work that is not one's own, or to assist another person to do so. It includes, but is not limited to the wrongful giving, taking, or presenting of any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding himself/herself or another student on any academic work which is considered in any way in the determination of the final grade. Any student found to be in violation of this policy will adhere to the consequences listed in the discipline code Level I-C. Students in

violation of plagiarism are required to submit a written reflection to the principal and their teacher. More information will be provided during the administrative conference.

Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation

Edgefield County School District prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying of a student by students/third parties that interfere with or disrupt a student's ability to learn and the school's responsibility to educate students in a safe and orderly environment. This is true whether that harassment, intimidation or bullying takes place on school grounds, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, at a school-related activity on or off school property, or at a function where the school is responsible for the student.

Harassment is unwanted acts of aggression toward others. Under federal civil rights laws, harassment is unwelcome conduct demonstrated to others that is based on race, national origin, color, sex, disability or religion; that is severe, pervasive or persistent; and that creates a hostile environment or an unsafe environment.

Intimidation is to create fear of harm in individuals for themselves, others or their personal properties.

Bullying is unwanted, mean behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. Bullying has four critical elements:

- 1) the behavior must be repetitive;
- 2) it must be intended to harm;
- 3) there must be a difference of power (physical, social or otherwise) between the bully and victim; and
- 4) the bully gains control over the victim. In order to prove bullying, three of the four must be present.

The district defines harassment, intimidation or bullying as a gesture, electronic communication or a written, verbal, physical or sexual act reasonably perceived to have the effect of either of the following:

- harming a student physically or emotionally, or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage; or
- insulting or demeaning a student or group of students, causing substantial disruption in or substantial interference with the orderly operation of the school.

Edgefield County School District encourages all employees, parents, students and community members to help the district prevent bullying. All school employees must report alleged violations of this policy to the principal.

Students who feel they have been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying are encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with district procedures.

Schools will investigate complaints promptly and thoroughly, while protecting the identity of the victim or reporter of bullying or harassment to the extent allowed by law. The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against any student or employee who files a complaint/report of harassment, intimidation or bullying.

The district will not allow anyone to make a false accusation against another person as a means of harassment, intimidation or bullying. A student who commits one or more acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying may receive consequences/ appropriate remedial actions that may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement.

Administrators determine the consequences according to the nature of the behavior, the developmental age of the student, and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance. Remedial measures will be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the problem and protect the victim of the act.

The district may take disciplinary action if the problem behavior is initiated off-campus through use of electronic methods, the internet or web-based resources.

Self Reporting

A process for self reporting has been established in certain circumstances. That process includes a collaborative decision making process beyond the school level for students who use integrity to report certain items.

- **Incident Reporting by Principal (Self-Reporting)**

When a Principal becomes aware of a violation of the Code of Conduct within their purview related to a possible self reporting scenario,, they shall immediately report the incident, including all pertinent facts and evidence, to the Director of Administration. This immediate self-reporting is a critical component of maintaining transparency and accountability.

- **Review Panel Formation and Confirmation**

Upon receiving the Principal's report, the Director of Administration will promptly convene a two-person Review Panel. This panel will be tasked with the following:

Confirmation of Self-Reporting: The panel will confirm the accuracy and timeliness of the Principal's self-reporting and ensure all relevant information was disclosed.

Fact Review: The panel will review the reported incident, gather evidence, and any relevant documentation.

- **Disciplinary Recommendation**

Following its review, the Panel will formulate a recommendation regarding appropriate disciplinary action. This recommendation, which may include corrective actions, remedial training, or formal disciplinary measures, will be submitted directly to the designated school-based leadership responsible for final disciplinary decisions.

Middle School Level Classroom-Based Offenses - Infractions

Each middle school will utilize the school-based plan below to address minor classroom-based behaviors and the accumulation, as deemed appropriate by the school-based teacher, staff member, and administration. Please see the school handbook for your child's school for the process for offenses not outlined in this code of conduct.

In cases of those infractions named in the list of Classroom-Based Offenses (Infractions), the following procedure will be applied:

1st Offense - Verbal warning with a parent contact by the staff member observing the behavior document in the appropriate system.

2nd Offense - One Lunch detention assigned by a teacher and/or staff member, with parent contact by that teacher also documented in the appropriate system.

3rd Offenses+ - Administration will then follow the level one matrix for all other classroom-based offenses

☐ Minor disrespect to teachers &/or classmates ☐ Eating without permission ☐ Hallway disruption ☐ Car line disruption ☐ Distraction to instruction	☐ Minor inappropriate language ☐ Minor inappropriate gesture ☐ Not participating in class ☐ Not prepared for class ☐ Minor disrupting class
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Note: The difference between a minor level and level I offenses are subject to the discretion of the teacher and monitored for school wide consistency by school based administration. If there are no classroom-based offenses that occur between an entire quarter (45 school days), the administration has the flexibility to consider a reset for that child's sequential consequence for classroom-based offenses.

Level I – Simple Disorderly Conduct (Grades 6-8)

Disorderly conduct includes any activity in which a student engages that tends to impede orderly classroom procedures or instructional activities, orderly operation of the school, or the frequency or seriousness of which disturbs the classroom or school. The provisions of this regulation apply not only to within-school activities, but also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school-sponsored activities.

Consequences may be changed at the discretion of the administration in line with consistent district wide practices.

Code	Infraction	Definition
011	Forgery/tampering	The unauthorized signing of another person's name, the use of an inauthentic signature, or the altering, modifying, or falsifying of any school records or documents by any means.
160	Cutting class	An unauthorized absence from an assigned class or related activity.
630	Gambling	Participation in games of chance for money and/or other things of value.
151	Truancy	In accordance with state attendance laws, a student is officially classified as truant upon accumulating three (3) consecutive unlawful

		absences or a total of five (5) unlawful absences within a single school year. Reaching this threshold of unlawful absences will result in administrative intervention to address and resolve the attendance issue.
017	Inappropriate behavior (mild)	Conduct that is disruptive to the elective harmony of the classroom or school environment but does not pose a direct threat to the safety of others or significantly impede the educational process. These are often "teachable moment" infractions where the student may need redirection or a reminder of community expectations.
017	Inappropriate behavior (moderate)	Conduct that deliberately interferes with the teaching and learning process, shows a marked lack of respect for the rights of others, or involves repeated Level 1 offenses. These infractions typically require a formal disciplinary response and parental notification, as they impact the well-being or productivity of the school community.
320	Leaving class without permission	The act of exiting a classroom, assigned instructional area, or designated school activity without obtaining explicit verbal or written authorization (such as a hall pass) from the teacher or staff member in charge. This infraction applies even if the student remains on school grounds but is not in their scheduled location.
006	Dishonesty	The intentional giving of false information, either verbally or in writing to a school employee.
190	Cheating/Plagiarism	Academic dishonesty involves copying another student's work or allowing a student to copy your own work on homework, classwork, tests, exams, projects. Includes but is not limited to plagiarism, passing another person's work as your own. <i>(Take paper, teacher calls the parent/guardian, and give the lowest recorded grade with Administrative Referral)</i>
330	Phone Violation	Unauthorized use of or display of electronic devices and/or cell phones.
275	Refusal to complete work/assignments	A persistent and intentional failure to engage in required academic tasks, classroom activities, or assessments during designated instructional time. This behavior is characterized by a conscious choice to ignore staff prompts to begin or continue work, despite having the necessary materials and environment to do so.
014	Hit/Kick/Push	Unauthorized or inappropriate physical contact that fails to maintain physical boundaries. This includes, but is not limited to, grabbing, pinching, shoving, chasing, or minor striking (such as mild slapping or punching). This classification is reserved for low-impact incidents—such as a brief shoving match—that lack the severity, sustained aggression, or intent to injure required to constitute a formal fight.
405	Horseplay	Engaging in rough, rowdy, or boisterous physical behavior. While often lacking a specific intent to harm, such conduct is prohibited as it disrupts the learning environment and creates an unnecessary risk of accidental injury.
420	Disrespectful Language (minor)	Communication that is rude, discourteous, or dismissive in nature. This includes "talking back," mimicking, eye-rolling, or using a sarcastic tone intended to be impolite toward a staff member or peer.
016	Inappropriate Language (minor)	The casual or accidental use of profanity, slang, or vulgarity. This includes "slips of the tongue" or crude language used in general conversation that is not directed at any specific person and does not cause a major disruption.
007	Disrupting Class	Behavior which disrupts the orderly educational process of school. This includes any actions that prevent the teacher from instructing or students from learning, such as making loud noises or engaging in persistent outbursts that interfere with classroom activities and the learning environment.

220	Computer Violation (minor)	Using a device for play when you should be working. This includes visiting unassigned websites, playing games without permission, or being distracted during a lesson.
015	Inappropriate Affection (mild)	Physical contact or displays of intimacy that are unsuitable for school. This includes "hanging" on others, hugging without asking, or physical play that violates the personal space of peers and the social boundaries of the classroom.
023	Property Misuse	The unauthorized or careless use of school equipment or the personal property of others. This involves using items in ways they were not intended to be used, creating safety risks or unnecessary wear and tear, without the intent to destroy or damage them (Vandalism).

Level I – Consequences (Grades 6 - 8)

Level of Offense	Primary Consequence <i>Disciplinary Action</i>	Mandatory Action <i>Required Communication & Documentation</i>	Behavior Intervention <i>Proactive Support and Remediation Strategies</i>
1st Offense	2 days of Lunch Detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent Contact from Administration and document in SimplDiscipline	<p>After an accumulation of offenses, the student will be assigned an intervention as deemed necessary by an administrator, including but not limited to:</p> <p>Panorama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Verbal warning- Clarify expectations- Reteach expectations- Explicit instruction- Peer buddy/ Peer tutor- Proximity control- Quiet correction- Seat change- Teacher/student conference- Loss of privilege
2nd Offense	1 Day of ISS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent Contact from Administration and document in SimplDiscipline	
3rd Offense	3 Days of ISS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent-Teacher-Student-Admin Conference in SimplDiscipline	
4th Offense	2 Days of OSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent-Student-Admin Conference to develop an Behavior Support Agreement in the appropriate system	
5th Offense	3 Days of OSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent-Student-Admin Conference to review the Behavior Support Agreement	
6th Offense	Move to Level 2		

Level II – Disruptive Disorderly Conduct (Grades 6-8)

Disruptive conduct includes those activities in which students engage that are directed against persons or property and the consequences of which tend to endanger the health or safety of themselves or others in the school. Some instances of disruptive conduct may overlap certain criminal offenses, justifying both administrative sanctions and court proceedings. The administration may reclassify disorderly conduct (Level I) as disruptive conduct (Level II) if the student engages in the activity three or more times. The provisions of this regulation apply not only to within-school activities, but also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school-sponsored activities. Restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities.

Consequences may be changed at the discretion of the administration in line with consistent district wide practices.

Code	Infraction	Definition
027	Threat to Students	Threatening of an individual student written/verbal/electronic or assault to other students
760	Vandalism	cutting, defacing, or in any way damaging property (minor) *Also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school sponsored activities. Restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities.*
230	Tobacco Violation	Smoking/tobacco – use or possession of tobacco products (including electronic cigarettes/vapor pens) on school premises
750	Trespassing	The act of entering or remaining in a restricted area, such as a locked classroom or a prohibited section of the school grounds, without official authorization or after being explicitly directed to leave by a staff member
010	Fireworks	Possession of/or use of fireworks
310	Leaving School	Leaving school without permission
001	Aiding Others	Provoking or instigating a fight
013	Sexual harassment	Unwanted or unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature, including verbal, written, or physical actions used to torment another person. This includes touching, groping, patting, snapping a bra, or pulling down someone's pants, as well as sexual or derogatory comments, sexually suggestive gestures or sounds, spreading rumors, offensive text messages or emails, or postings to social media.
004	Contraband	Any items that disrupt the educational environment or pose a safety hazard, including but not limited to distracting toys, lighters, matches, ammunition, stink bombs, 3D printed models, foam dart guns, water guns, and non-realistic imitation toy items.
220	Computer Violation (major)	Any use of school technology resources that is unauthorized, illegal, or disruptive to the educational environment
270	Refusal to Obey/Defiant	Defiance/insubordination – refusal to comply with a school personnel request
651/652	Bullying	Any gesture, an electronic communication, or a written, verbal or physical act that is reasonably perceived to have the effect of either of the following: Harming a student physically or emotionally or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage; or Insulting or demeaning a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school; or Retaliation for direct, indirect, and cyber bullying/false accusations of bullying.
420	Disrespect	Severe disrespect or directing profanity, vulgar language, ethnic/racial slurs, or obscene gestures toward adults, school staff, or visitors
031	District Medication Violation	possession of over the counter medication
002	Other Offenses Minor	When a student makes a choice that doesn't have its own specific name in the rulebook, but still disrupts the "vibe" of the school or shows a lack of respect for our shared space and materials. These are the small "not-quite-right" actions that keep us from having a calm and focused day
004	Detention Violation	A student's failure to report to an assigned detention (such as lunch or after-school detention) at the designated time and location, or failing to comply with the specific rules and behavioral expectations while serving that detention
012	Harrassment	Any unwelcome and repeated gesture, or any written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for another student or staff member. These behaviors are often based on a person's real or perceived characteristics—such as race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, or disability—and have the effect of substantially interfering with

		a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's programs
015	Inappropriate Affection (moderate)	physical contact or displays of intimacy that go beyond minor social boundary crossings and significantly disrupt the school environment or violate the comfort of others
028	Throwing Objects (moderate)	Intentionally throwing an object at a person to cause pain, fear, or injury, or throwing an item that could easily break something or hurt someone
018	Inappropriate Materials	Possession or distribution of items that are not for school or make others feel unsafe. This includes toys and media that distract from learning, as well as pictures or books that are scary, violent, or show private body parts.

Level II – Consequences (Grades 6 - 8)

Level of Offense	Primary Consequence <i>Disciplinary Action</i>	Mandatory Action <i>Required Communication & Documentation</i>	Behavior Intervention <i>Proactive Support and Remediation Strategies</i>
1st Offense	1 day of OSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent-Teacher-Student-Admin Conference to develop Behavior Support Agreement (SimpDiscipline)	<p>After an accumulation of offenses, the student will be assigned an intervention as deemed necessary by an administrator, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Problem-solving sheet● Classroom behavior contract● Alternate assignment● Positive reinforcement of appropriate behavior● Restorative conversation (Can involve a counselor)● Detention (Teacher)● Verbal or written apology● Written or verbal reflection● Modify activity
2nd Offense	3 days of OSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent-Teacher-Student-Admin Conference● Review Behavior Support Agreement & adjust as needed (SimplDiscipline)	
3rd Offense	OSS Pending RHO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parent Contact from Administration	
4th Offense and Beyond	Move to Level 3		

Level III - Criminal Conduct (Grades 6-8)

Criminal conduct includes those activities in which students engage that result in violence to themselves or to another person or property or which pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of themselves or others in the school. These activities usually require administrative actions that result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the board. The provisions of this regulation apply not only to within-school activities, but also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school-sponsored activities. Restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities.

Consequences may be changed at the discretion of the administration in line with consistent district wide practices.

Code	Infraction	Definition
009	Fighting	fighting or physical abuse
600	Extortion	Extortion/Coercion/Blackmail – obtaining money or other things of value from an unwilling person, or forcing an individual to act through the use of force or threat of force
260	BombThreat	Any communication—whether spoken, written, or electronic—that claims an explosive device is present on school grounds or at a school event, regardless of whether a device actually exists or if the statement was intended as a joke.
350	Fire Alarm	Intentional false fire alarm
789	Weapon	Possession/Use transfer of dangerous weapons – any weapon, firearm, knife, gun, BB gun, pellet gun, mace, box cutters, instrument or article that might be injurious to a person or property
760	Vandalism	Major vandalism exceeding \$100.00 in damage *Also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school sponsored activities. Restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities.*
510 520	Assault (Physical)	Simple- An actual offensive and intentional touching or striking of an individual, without use of a dangerous object or weapon, against his or her will, causing or intending to cause bodily harm. An unlawful act of injury to another, unaccompanied by any circumstances of aggravation. Aggravated- An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness. This category includes attempted murder. A weapon can be a commonly known weapon, such as a gun or knife, or any other item, which, although not usually thought of as a weapon, becomes one when used in a manner that could cause severe bodily injury (e.g., baseball bat, metal chain, large stick). A “severe laceration” is one that should receive medical attention. A “loss of consciousness” must be the direct result of force inflicted on the victim by the offender. This also includes anything related to intentional use of bodily fluids.
500	Arson	The crime of intentionally and maliciously setting fire to a building, vehicle, or any other type of property with the intent to cause damage or destruction. In a school setting, this includes any unauthorized use of fire (such as lighting matches, using a lighter, or igniting paper or trash) that endangers the facility or its occupants.
570	Drugs - Distribution	Possession with intent to distribute/Selling illegal drugs, prescription drugs, or alcoholic beverage, including paraphernalia/ facsimile (materials passed as illegal drugs) and CBD oils and materials
575	Drugs - Usage	Use of illegal drugs, prescription drugs, or alcoholic beverage, including

		paraphernalia/ facsimile (materials passed as illegal drugs) and CBD oils and materials
805	Drugs - Possession	Possession of illegal drugs, prescription drugs, or alcoholic beverage, including paraphernalia/ facsimile (materials passed as illegal drugs) and CBD oils and materials
025	Sex Violation	Sexual Offenses - including offenses that could include use of electronic devices and major incidences involving sexual harassment
610	Forced Sex Offense	Any sexual act or contact directed against another person without their consent, including instances where the person is incapable of giving consent due to age, fear, or physical helplessness. This includes, but is not limited to, sexual battery, attempted sexual acts by force or threat, and any unwanted touching of a sexual nature that involves physical compulsion.
690	Non Forced Sex Offense	Any unlawful sexual act or behavior that occurs between individuals without the use of physical force, threats, or coercion. This typically refers to situations where the activity is prohibited by law or school policy—such as "statutory" offenses involving a significant age difference or inappropriate consensual behavior in a public school setting—but where both parties appeared to participate without physical resistance or intimidation.
720	Prostitution	The act of engaging in, or offering to engage in, sexual activities in exchange for money, favors, or anything of value.
X	Violation of Strict Probation for Repeated and Excessive Offenses	A student's failure to abide by the specific terms of a formal behavioral contract or "last-chance" agreement after they have already committed a high frequency or high volume of prior infractions.
019	Indecent exposure	Indecent exposure is when a student shows private parts of their body (areas normally covered by underwear or a swimsuit) to others while at school, on the bus, or at a school event. This includes "mooning," "flashing," or removing clothes in a way that makes others feel uncomfortable or unsafe intentional act of revealing "private parts" of the body (genitals, buttocks, or female breasts) in a way that is lewd or offensive to others
027	Threat to Staff/School	Threatening staff or the school building, written/verbal/electronic, or assault on other students (beyond simple assault)
020	Major Disruption	Any intentional or grossly negligent action that significantly interferes with the educational process, threatens the safety of the school community, or results in the complete cessation of normal school operations
250	Gang Activity/Signs	Group activity which involves intimidating, threatening, or physical violence. This includes the use of hand signals, gestures, or graffiti, as well as the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, or manner of grooming that indicates or implies membership in a group that threatens the safety of the school environment. The district also prohibits any incidents involving initiations or related activities that are likely to cause physical or mental harm to students. (District Policy JICF)

Level III - Consequences (Grades 6 - 8)

Criminal conduct includes those activities in which students engage that result in violence to themselves or to another person or property or which pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of themselves or others in the school. These activities usually require administrative actions that result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the board. The provisions of this regulation apply not only to within-school activities, but also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school-sponsored activities. Restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities.

Consequences may be changed at the discretion of the administration.

Level of Offense	Primary Consequence <i>Disciplinary Action</i>	Mandatory Action <i>Required Communication & Documentation</i>
Any Offense	Recommendation to the Hearing Officer	Administrative Parent Contact

Behavioral Review Hearing

Purpose

The purpose of the behavioral review meeting is for students who are exhibiting repeated violations of the code of conduct that impede their ability to access curriculum and keep schools safe. The process will consist of a small group of school-based professionals, not including the principal, who will oversee a meeting where the student and parent will be invited to discuss repeated violations of the code of conduct at a suspendable level.

Process Overview

After the fifth level one and/or level two offense (combined) or significantly disrupts the learning environment, whether in school suspension or out of school suspension, the school will have the option to hold a behavioral review meeting to determine viable options and interventions for the student. Parents and students will be notified of a behavioral review meeting approximately 2 school days before the meeting. Outcomes of the school-based meeting can be appealed to the principal.

*Meetings will be held on Wednesdays after school, as needed.

Free to Focus SC and ECSD Cell Phone Policy

The policy is designed to create a phone-free school environment that fosters a positive learning experience free from electronic distractions. In prohibiting the use of personal electronic devices during the school day, this policy aims to enhance focus and engagement, allowing students to develop the college and career-ready skills outlined in the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. Students will have more opportunities to engage in meaningful interactions, collaborate with peers, and cultivate the essential skills necessary for college, career, and life success.

Offense	Consequences
1st Offense	Verbal warning, device powered off and put away. This will be done at the time of the offense by the staff member present.
2nd Offense	Device confiscated, returned to student at the end of the school day. Only an administrator has the authority to confiscate an electronic device. The administrator will secure the device in a locking pouch or secure area, which will remain in the student's possession until the end of the school day. At dismissal, the student will go to the front office or designated area to get access to the device.
3rd Offense	Device confiscated, parent/guardian must pick up, sign acknowledgment of policy.
4th Offense	<p>Students will no longer be allowed to bring their cell phones or personal electronic devices on campus for the remainder of the school year. Two days of in-school suspension will be assigned.</p> <p>Students and parents will have the option to secure the device in a locking pouch each day. This will be the student's responsibility to follow through. Failure to comply will result in refusal to obey..</p>

Refusal to turn over a device to an administrator will result in two days of out-of-school suspension, and the student will not be allowed to bring their device on campus for the remainder of the year.

The school district reserves the right to view the contents of electronic devices under certain circumstances, including reasonable suspicion of inappropriate or illegal content or activity.

26-27 Club Schedule

Wednesday – August 26

Thursday – December 17

Wednesday – September 16

Wednesday – January 20

Wednesday – September 30

Wednesday – February 3

Tuesday – October 13

Wednesday – February 24

Wednesday – October 28

Wednesday – March 17

Wednesday – November 4

Thursday – March 25

Wednesday – November 18

Wednesday – April 21

Wednesday – December 9

Wednesday – May 5

J-E-T ANTI-BULLYING EXPECTATIONS



#1 WE WILL NOT BULLY OTHERS.



#2 WE WILL TRY TO HELP
STUDENTS WHO ARE BULLIED.



#3 WE WILL INCLUDE STUDENTS
WHO ARE LEFT OUT.



#4 IF WE KNOW THAT SOMEBODY
IS BEING BULLIED, WE WILL
TELL AN ADULT AT SCHOOL AND
AN ADULT AT HOME.



I have read and understand the 2026-2027 J-E-T Middle School Student Handbook, along with the code of conduct.

Student Name _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Name _____ Date _____