Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

&

PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION

2026 - 2027

Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

190 Technology Circle | Savannah, Georgia 31407

August 3, 2026

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians:

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year. Enclosed you will find our Student Code of Conduct. This publication includes our annual parent notifications, information on important Board policies and administrative regulations, approved bell times, and the academic calendar.

We are committed to providing a safe and orderly learning environment that responds to the needs of students, fosters respect for everyone, and supports our vision of teaching and learning. Students deserve to have an instructional setting that makes them feel safe and helps them to learn. Everyone in our School District is expected to model the Six Pillars of Character®: *Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring,* and *Citizenship*.

Parents/Guardians, here is what you can do to help your child follow the guidelines outlined in the Student Code of Conduct:

- Model good behavior in your home, community, and school.
- Participate in school meetings whenever possible.
- Maintain open communication with the school staff.
- Notify the teacher about specific concerns you may have.

Students, here is what you can do to help your school be a safe and friendly place:

- Remain actively engaged in instructional activities.
- Be respectful and polite to everyone.
- Obey your school's rules and the rules in the Student Code of Conduct.
- Be a role model for your peers by taking responsibility for your work and your actions.

Parent/Guardians, please take the time to thoroughly review and discuss the contents of this handbook with your children. Remember, we are partners in ensuring that all students are provided with relevant and engaging learning experiences in a safe and secure environment.

Sincerely,

S. Denise Watts, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Mission: *Together, we ignite and foster lifelong learning at the highest levels for all.*
Vision: *From school to the world; All students prepared to be successful and productive citizens.*

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Vision: *From school to the world; All students prepared to be successful and productive citizens.*

THE SIX PILLARS OF CHARACTER*

Character Counts!

Trustworthy – A person of character is trustworthy, lives with integrity, is honest, reliable and loyal.

Respect – A person of character values all persons, lives by the Golden Rule – respects the dignity, privacy and freedom of others, is courteous and polite to all, and is accepting and tolerant of differences.

Responsibility - A person of character is responsible, accountable, pursues excellence and exercises self control.

Fairness – A person of character is fair and just, is impartial, listens and is open to differing viewpoints.

Caring – A person of character is caring, compassionate, kind, loving, considerate, and charitable.

Citizenship – A person of character is a good citizen. Do your share... help the community, play by the rules.

PURPOSE

While the Student Code of Conduct represents the District's efforts to capture information from Board Policy and Administrative Regulations in a form that is useful and helpful to students and parents, the Policies and Administrative Regulations are always the final word on an issue. Policies and Administrative Regulations may change during the course of the year, after the Student Code of Conduct is printed; however, current copies of the Policies and Administrative Regulations are always available on the Board website at sccpss.com or in the Board office at 190 Technology Circle, and should be consulted.

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School District provides translation of the Student Code of Conduct and Parent/Guardian Notification on the SCCPSS website: sccpss.com.

**CHARACTER COUNTS! and the Six Pillars of Character are registered trademarks of the Josephson Institute. CharacterCounts.org. Coalition membership is provided in partnership with the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum.*

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SCHOOL YEAR RANGE: AUGUST 3 – MAY 21

2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR 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

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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

SEPTEMBER 2026

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OCTOBER 2026

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2026

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15	16	17	18	19		21
22	23*	24*	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2027

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

FEBRUARY 2027

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH 2027

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22		24	25	26	27
28	29*	30*	31			

APRIL 2027

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27		29

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			

LEGEND

Holiday for All	Nine Week Period Begins
Holiday (School Staff/Students)	Nine Week Period Ends
District Planning Day	Progress Reports Issued
Staff Planning Day	Report Cards Issued
RL Remote Learning Day (Half-Day for Students) *Students will stay home and learn remotely on Remote Learning Days*	

INSTRUCTIONAL PERIODS

FIRST SEMESTER

First Nine-Week Period..... 08/03/2026 - 10/07/2026 (47 Days)
Second Nine-Week Period .....10/13/2026 - 12/18/2026 (43 Days)

SECOND SEMESTER

Third Nine-Week Period.....01/05/2027 - 03/16/2027 (49 Days).
Fourth Nine-Week Period .....03/18/2027 - 05/21/2027 (41 Days)

PROGRESS & REPORT CARDS

Progress Report 09/11/2026
Report Card Issued.....10/16/2026
Progress Report 11/20/2026
Report Card Issued.....01/08/2027
Progress Report 02/11/2027
Report Card Issued.....03/23/2027
Progress Report 04/16/2027
Report Card Issued.....05/28/2027

Independence Day Holiday Observed (Holiday for All).....July 3
Teachers Return / Pre-Planning .....July 27-31
Students Return (Beginning First 9-Weeks Period) ..... Aug. 3
Labor Day (Holiday for All) .....Sept. 7
Staff Planning / Student Holiday.....Oct. 8
Fall Holiday (School Staff/Student Holiday).....Oct. 9
Columbus Day (School Staff/Student Holiday).....Oct. 12
Remote-Learning Half-Day.....Nov. 3
Veterans Day (Holiday for All).....Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Break (School Staff/Students).....Nov. 23-25
Thanksgiving Break Holiday (Holiday for All).....Nov. 26-27
Winter Break (School Staff/Students) .....Dec. 21 – Dec. 31
Winter Break (Holiday for All) .....Dec. 24, 25
New Year's Day (Holiday for All) .....Jan. 1
Staff Planning / Student Holiday.....Jan. 4
Martin Luther King, Jr Day (Holiday for All) .....Jan. 18
Remote-Learning Half-Day.....Feb. 12
Staff Planning / No School for Students.....Feb. 15
St. Patrick's Day (School Staff/Student Holiday) .....Mar. 17
Spring Break Holiday (Holiday for All) ..... Mar. 26
Spring Break (School Staff/Student Holiday).....Mar. 29-Apr.2
Last Day of School.....May 21
Staff Planning Day / Post Planning.....May 24, 25
Memorial Day (Holiday for All) ..... May 31
Juneteenth (Holiday for All) .....June 18

* DESIGNATED MAKE UP DAYS

Depending on the level of instructional disruption caused by school closures such as weather events, make up days may be required. The 2026-27 Designated Make Up days include: November 23 and 24 (1st Semester 2026) and March 29 and 30 (2nd Semester 2027).

Make up days, if needed, will be held in-person or by Remote Learning Days as determined by the Superintendent.

Note for District employees: Staff Planning days are included on the Academic Calendar for reference only and do not represent the official SCCPSS Work Calendars. Staff should refer to official administrative work calendars for work schedule updates by visiting ClassLink .

Official calendar is available on the District's website at sccpss.com/calendar ·| Approved: May 7, 2025 | Last modified: January 16, 2026

Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

2026-2027 BELL TIMES

Elementary Schools	Bell Times	Bus Arrival	Breakfast	Bus Departure
Brock	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Butler	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Early Learning Center @ Formey School	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Gadsden	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Garden City	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Gould	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Haven	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Heard	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Hodge	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Howard	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
J.G. Smith	9:15-4:00	8:25	8:25-8:45	4:10
School of Humanities @ Juliette Low	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Marshpoint	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Pooler	8:40-3:40	8:55	8:55-9:15	3:50
Southwest	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
West Chatham	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
White Bluff	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
A.B. Williams	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
Windsor Forest	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10
K-8 Schools	**Bell Times**	**Bus Arrival**	**Breakfast**	**Bus Departure**
Bloomingdale	8:40-3:40	8:55	8:55-9:15	3:50
Charles Ellis Montessori	8:15-3:15	7:55	7:55-8:15	3:25
Garrison School for the Arts	8:15-3:15	7:55	7:55-8:15	3:25
Georgetown	8:15-3:15	8:40	8:40-9:00	3:25
Godley Station	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Hesse	8:15-3:15	7:55	7:55-8:15	3:25
Isle of Hope	8:15-3:15	7:55	7:55-8:15	3:25
New Hampstead	8:40-3:40	8:20	8:20-8:40	3:50
Rice Creek	9:00-4:00	8:40	8:40- 9:00	4:10
Pulaski	8:15-3:15	7:55	7:55-8:15	3:25

Middle Schools	Bell Times	Bus Arrival	Breakfast	Bus Departure
Coastal	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
Derenne	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
Hubert	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
Mercer	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
Myers	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
Southwest	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
STEM Academy @ Bartlett Middle	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
West Chatham	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
High Schools	**Bell Times**	**Bus Arrival**	**Breakfast**	**Bus Departure**
Beach	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Groves	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Islands	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Jenkins	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Johnson	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
New Hampstead	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Savannah Arts Academy	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
Savannah Early College	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
School of Liberal Studies @ Savannah High	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Windsor Forest	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Woodville Tompkins	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:50
Charter Schools	**Bell Times**	**Bus Arrival**	**Breakfast**	**Bus Departure**
Coastal Empire Montessori	8:30-3:15	N/A	8:00-8:20	N/A
Oglethorpe Charter	7:40-2:40	N/A	7:10-7:30	N/A
Reach Public School	8:30-4:00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Savannah Classical Academy	7:35-3:15	N/A	7:00-7:25	N/A
Susie King Taylor	8:15-3:15	N/A	7:40-8:15	N/A
Tybee Maritime Academy	8:30-3:30	N/A	8:00-8:30	N/A
Alternative Learning	**Bell Times**	**Bus Arrival**	**Breakfast**	**Bus Departure**
Building Bridges Middle @ Groves High	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Building Bridges High @ Woodville Lower	7:40-2:40	7:10	7:10-7:30	2:55
Learning Academy @ Jenkins High	7:30-2:30	7:00	7:00-7:20	2:40
Learning Academy @ Isle of Hope	8:00-2:45	7:30	7:30-8:00	2:55
WINGS @ Haven ES	9:15-4:00	8:55	8:55-9:15	4:10

SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM - DIRECTORY

Elementary & K-8 Schools	Pre-K Site	Address	Phone	Fax
Brock	☑☑	1804 Stratford Street, 31401	395-5300	201-5027
Bloomingdale	☑☑	101 E. Main Street, Bloomingdale, 31302	395-3680	201-8696
Butler	☑☑	1909 Cynthia Street, 31415	201-7578	201-5205
Early Learning Center at Formey School	☑☑	400 Broad Street, 31401	395-5500	201-5503
Ellis K-8	☑☑	220 E. 49th Street, 31405	395-5470	201-5473
Coastal Empire Montessori (Charter)		301 Buckhalter Road., 31405	395-4070	N/A
Gadsden	☑	919 May Street, 31415	395-5940	201-5943
Garden City		4037 Kessler Avenue, Garden City, 31408	395-6820	395-6823
Garrison School for the Arts K-8	☑	649 W. Jones Street, 31401	395-5975	201-5978
Georgetown K-8		1516 King George Blvd, 31419	395-3475	961-3479
Godley Station K-8		2135 Benton Boulevard, Pooler, GA 31407	395-6000	201-5688
Gould	☑	4910 Pineland Drive, 31405	395-5400	201-5403
Haven	☑	5111 Dillon Avenue, 31405	395-6501	303-6509
Heard	☑	414 Lee Boulevard, 31405	395-6630	303-6637
Hesse K-8	☑	9116 Whitefield Avenue, 31406	395-6440	303-6450
Hodge	☑	975 Clinch Street, 31405	395-5200	201-5213
Howard	☑	115 Wilmington Island Road, 31410	395-3925	898-3934
Isle of Hope K-8	☑	100 Parkersburg Road, 31406	395-6555	303-6572
School of Humanities at Low Elementary	☑	15 Blue Ridge Avenue, 31404	395-6380	303-6386
Marshpoint	☑	135 Whitemarsh Island Road, 31410	395-4000	898-4001
New Hampstead K8 School		1700 Highgate Boulevard, Bloomingdale, GA	395-6200	201-5396
Pooler [TEMP]	☑	101 E. Main Street, Bloomingdale, 31302	395-3625	395-3636
Rice Creek K-8	☑	100 Mulberry Ave., Port Wentworth, 31407	395-4100	201-5068
Savannah Classical Academy (Charter)		705 E. Anderson Street, 31401	395-4040	N/A
J.G. Smith		210 Lamara Drive, 31405	395-6530	303-6538
Southwest Elementary		6020 Ogeechee Road, 31419	395-3301	961-3312
A.B. Williams	☑	1150 Wheaton Street, 31404	395-2500	201-7528
Susie King Taylor Charter School (K-6)	☑	1709 Bull Street, 31401	395-4200	N/A
Tybee Maritime Academy Community (Charter)		714 Lovell Avenue, Tybee Island, 31328	395-4060	201-2805
West Chatham Elementary		820 Pine Barren Road, Pooler, 31322	395-3600	201-5646
White Bluff Elementary	☑	9402 White Bluff Road, 31406	395-3325	961-3334
Windsor Forest Elementary	☑	414 Briarcliff Circle, 31419	395-3353	201-4876

Middle Schools (Grades 6-8)	Pre-K Site	Address	Phone	Fax
Coastal		4595 US Hwy 80 E., 31410	395-3950	898-3951
DeRenne		1009 Clinch St., 31405	395-5900	201-5903
Hubert		768 Grant St., 31401	395-5235	201-5238
Mercer		100 Priscilla D. Thomas Way, 31408	395-6700	201-5979
Myers		2025 E. 52nd St., 31404	395-6600	303-6604
Oglethorpe (Charter)		7202 Central Ave., 31406	395-5075	201-7626
Southwest		6030 Ogeechee Road, 31419	395-3540	201-5831
The STEM Academy at Bartlett		207 Montgomery Cross Road, 31406	395-3500	201-4161
West Chatham		800 Pine Barren Road, Pooler, 31322	395-3650	201-7688

High Schools (Grades 9-12)	Pre-K Site	Address	Phone	Fax
Beach		3001 Hopkins St., 31405	395-5330	201-5322
Groves		100 Priscilla D. Thomas Way, 31408	395-2520	201-5840
Islands		170 Whitemarsh Island Road, 31410	395-2000	201-5810
Jenkins		1800 E. DeRenne Ave., 31406	395-6300	303-6331
Johnson		3012 Sunset Blvd., 31404	395-6400	303-6418
New Hampstead		2451 Little Neck Road., 31302	395-6789	201-7699
Reach Public School		325 W Montgomery Cross Road, Ste. A, 31406	527-8640	TBD
Savannah Arts Academy		500 Washington Ave., 31405	395-5000	201-4160
Savannah Early College		400 Pennsylvania Ave., 31404	395-2535	201-7585
School of Liberal Studies at Savannah High		400 Pennsylvania Ave., 31404	395-5050	201-5054
Windsor Forest	☑	12419 Largo Drive, 31419	395-3400	961-3422
Woodville Tompkins	☑	151 Coach Joe Turner St., 31408	395-6750	965-6768

Other Educational Centers	Pre-K Site	Address	Phone	Fax
Building Bridges Academy (Grades 6-8)		3609 Hopkins St. 31405	395-6780	201-5064
Building Bridges Academy (Grades 9-12)		402 Market St., 31408	395-2540	201-5065
The Learning Academy @ Isle of Hope (grades K-8) - formerly known as CGCA			395-5440	201-5453
The Learning Academy @ Jenkins High (grades 9-12) - formerly known as CGCA			395-5441	303-6572
Oatland Island Wildlife Center		711 Sandtown Road, 31410	395-1212	898-3983
WINGS Elementary		5111 Dillon Avenue, 31405	395-6744	965-6734
Savannah Chatham e-Learning Academy		3609 Hopkins St. Room 7A, 31405	395-5516	N/A
Student and Family Service Center		400 East Broad St., 31401	395-5584	201-7655

SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

SCHOOL RESOURCE	Service Provided	Phone Number
Attendance Committee	A committee that the school social workers, principals and other school personnel meets to discuss attendance issues regarding students.	Contact your child's school
Division of Campus Police	Provides for the safety and security of our schools and answers calls during school hours.	(912) 395-5536
Family and Community	Provides information and training to parents on Special Education procedures and processes.	(912) 395-1331 or (912) 395-1329
Campus Crime Stoppers	Anonymous tip line for students with information regarding criminal activity on and off campus.	(912) 234-2020
GA School Safety Hotline	Hotline for students to report bullying, bomb threats weapons violations and drugs and alcohol or ANY unsafe situation in a school.	877-729-7867 (877-SAY-STOP)
Homeless Liaison	Assists homeless families, children and youth with school enrollment, academic achievement and school attendance as required by law.	(912) 395-1092
Hospital/Homebound Services	Instructional services for students who are medically unable to attend school for a minimum of 10 consecutive days or intermittent periods of time throughout the school year, as documented by a licensed medical doctor.	Please see the school counselor for further information
Student and Family Service Center	Ensures that parents, students and schools receive optimum service and assistance in the placement of students within SCCPSS.	(912) 395-5584
School Bus Transportation	Provides transportation for students to and from school, field trips and some after-school activities.	(912) 395-5591
School Liaison Officer HAAF	Provides support services for military connected families.	(912) 315-6586
School Counselor	Help students with academic, career and personal/social development through in-class lessons, small groups, and individual counseling.	Contact your child's school
School Nurse	Collaborate with parents, educators and community health care professionals to provide quality health care to students.	Contact your child's school
School Nutrition	Provides nutritionally adequate meals at affordable prices to all elementary and secondary school students.	(912) 395-5548
School Psychologist	Provides comprehensive psychological assessments for students referred through the Student Support Team and through Special Education.	Contact your child's school
School Resource Officer	Provides safety and security to schools and answers calls for service during school hours.	Contact your child's school
School Social Worker	Assists with family concerns and help ensure student success.	Contact your child's school
Student Affairs Department	Serves as the hub for the school social workers and houses the Student & Family Service Center. Provides assistance to parents, legal guardians, school staff, and community agencies in placing students in public schools based on adopted Board policies, procedures, and established attendance zones.	(912) 395-5584
Student Hearing Office	Serves as a liaison between the child's regular school and the alternative school during the disciplinary action. Conducts hearings for students who are recommended for longterm suspension or expulsion.	(912) 395-5965
Title 1	Provides academic support to economically disadvantaged students.	(912) 395-5635
Uniform Closet	A clothes closet located within each school. Students without uniforms are allowed to borrow a uniform for the school day to remain in compliance with school uniform policies. Uniforms must be returned at the end of the school day.	Contact your child's school for more information or to donate new or gently worn uniforms.
Wellness Center	Provides information and resources for SCCPSS students, faculty, and staff. Services include wellness and/or mental health assessments, workshops, and individual counseling.	Contact your child's school

SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

EMERGENCY HOUSING	Service Provided	Phone Number
The Salvation Army	Shelter for men, women and families.	(912) 651-7420
Family Promise of the Coastal Empire	Shelter, prevention, stabilization, and housing services for families with children.	(912) 790-9446
Interfaith Hospitality Network	Shelter for homeless families.	(912) 790-9446
MEDICAL SERVICES	**Service Provided**	**Phone Number**
Curtis V. Cooper Health Center	Medical services for Chatham County residents.	(912) 527-1000
Chatham County Health Department	Health care services for Chatham County residents to include immunizations, health education classes, and vital records.	(912) 356-2441
JC Lewis Primary Health Care	Provides a variety of healthcare services for Chatham County residents to include pharmacy, dental, optometry, behavioral health, and pediatrics.	(912) 495-8887
LEGAL SERVICES	**Service Provided**	**Phone Number**
Front Porch	A multi-resource hub connecting parents and their children with intervention service providers.	(912) 652-6555
Georgia Legal Services	Assistance with legal issues, such as, grandparent power of attorney, domestic violence issues and housing issues.	(912) 651-2180
Juvenile Court	Handles all delinquent complaints concerning children who are under 17 years old.	(912) 652-6700
INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY COUNSELING	**Service Provided**	**Phone Number**
Georgia Crisis and Access Line	Toll-free referral service for assistance with mental health, addictive disease and crisis services.	800-715-4225
Hospice Savannah	Grief counseling for students and families who have experienced the death of a loved one.	(912) 355-2289
Children's Advocacy Center	Counseling for children who have been abused or who have witnessed violence.	(912) 236-1401
FINANCIAL, MEDICAL & NUTRITIONAL	**Service Provided**	**Phone Number**
Chatham County Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS)	Financial, nutritional and health care support to families through economic support and employment services; social services for at-risk children, families and adults.	(912) 651-2216
CRISIS LINES	**Service Provided**	**Phone Number**
SAFE Shelter	Crisis line for domestic violence.	(912) 629-8888
National Runaway Switchboard	Toll free hotline for crisis intervention and referrals.	800-786-2929 (800-RUNAWAY)
Rape Crisis Line	Provides support to sexual assault victims and their families.	(912) 233-7273
Say Something	The Say Something, Anonymous Reporting System is a program managed by the Sandy Hook Promise Organization and allows anyone to submit secure, anonymous safety concerns. Tips can be submitted to the program via a secure website sandyhookpromise.org, the 24/7 crisis hotline at 1-844-5-SayNow, or using the Say Something app.	1-844-5-SayNow
Suicide Crisis Hotline	This three-digit number is an easy-to-remember way for people to connect with confidential urgent help and support if they or someone they know is experiencing a mental health, substance use, or suicide crisis – or any type of emotional distress.	988
COMMUNITY RESOURCES	**Service Provided**	**Phone Number**
Deep Center	Empower Savannah's young people to thrive as learners, community leaders, and agents of change. Through creative writing, cultural production, and art, Deep creates platforms for the city's youth and the village of support around them, including their families and adult allies, to share stories, engage in debates, and make Savannah a more just and equitable place.	(912) 289-7426

PARENT NOTIFICATION

STUDENT PRIVACY

Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupils Rights Amendment (PPRA)

The PPRA affords parents of elementary and secondary students certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes and certain physical exams. These include, but are not limited to, the right to:

- Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED):
  1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
  2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
  3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
  4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
  5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
  6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
  7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
  8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
- Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of
  1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
  2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
  3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- Inspect upon request and before administration or use
  1. Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party;
  2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
  3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

SCCPSS has developed and adopted policies (including JR, JR-R and JRA) regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. SCCPSS will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. SCCPSS will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. SCCPSS will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this direct notification requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing, sales, or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents/eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Student Privacy Policy Office • U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW • Washington, D.C. 20202-5920

STUDENT RECORDS

Notification of Rights Under The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible stu-dents") certain rights with respect to the student's education records.
These rights are:

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day a District school receives a request for access.
- Parents or eligible students who wish to inspect their child's or their education records should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrange-ments for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

- Parents or eligible students who wish to ask to amend their child's or their education record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's educa-tion records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest must be set forth in the school's or school district's annual notification for FERPA rights. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school or school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, electronic data management service provider, electronic educational service provider, communicative service provider, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school or school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by a District school to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Student Privacy Policy Office • U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW • Washington, D.C. 20202-5920

Limited Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible stu-dents") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. FERPA defines "directory information" as information contained in the education records of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Directory information includes information such as student's name, parent's name, address and telephone number, student's photograph, birth date, class/grade level, enrollment dates, weight/height if a member of an athletic team, awards received, and extracurricular participation.

SCCPSS may disclose "limited directory information" without consent if it has given public notice of the types of information which it has designated as "directory information," and the parent's or eligible student's right to restrict the disclosure of such information.

The notification can be found in the Student Code of Conduct, SCCPSS Registration Packet, and online at sccpss.com. The allowance of the release of directory information will remain active until rescinded. SCCPSS may disclose directory information about former students without complying with the notice and opt out conditions; however, must continue to honor any valid request to opt out of the disclosure of directory information made while a student was in attendance unless the student rescinds the opt out request. Parents and eligible students may not, by opting out of directory information, prevent a school from requiring a student to wear or present a student ID or badge, or prevent SCCPSS from disclosing or requiring a student to disclose the student's name, identifier, or institutional email address in a class in which the student is enrolled.

Federal legislation requires the disclosure of names, addresses, and telephone numbers of high school students upon request by military recruiters and institutions of higher learning unless individual students age 18 or older or students' parents request that the information not be released.

The inclusion of directory information allows SCCPSS to provide information from a student's education record in certain publications, such as:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production
- The annual yearbook
- Honor roll or other recognition lists
- Graduation programs
- Sports activity sheets showing name, weight, and height of team members

SCCPSS reserves the right to limit the release of directory information to those with whom the district has an educational partnership, contract, or written agreement.

PARENT NOTIFICATION

NON-CONSENSUAL EXCEPTIONS FOR DISCLOSURE

FERPA also permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, § 99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the school to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose (PII) from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student –

- To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has out-sourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency (SEA) in the parent or eligible student's State. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of § 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf, if applicable requirements are met. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary for such purposes as to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))
- To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to § 99.38. (§ 99.31(a)(5))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction, if applicable requirements are met. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena if applicable requirements are met. (§ 99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as "directory information" if applicable requirements under § 99.37 are met. (§ 99.31(a)(11))
- To an agency caseworker or other representative of a State or local child welfare agency or tribal organization who is authorized to access a student's case plan when such agency or organization is legally responsible, in accordance with State or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student in foster care placement. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(L))
- To the Secretary of Agriculture or authorized representatives of the Food and Nutrition Service for purposes of conducting program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements of programs authorized under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, under certain conditions. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(K))

Every Student Succeeds Act: Parent's Right to Know Professional Qualifications of Teachers and Paraprofessionals

In accordance with Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, all Districts are required to notify parents at the beginning of each school year of their 'Right to Know' the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals.

In Compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act, the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s). The following information may be requested:

(1) Whether the student's teacher (a) has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction; (b) is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; (c) is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.

(2) Whether the child is provided with services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Jacqueline Dorsey, Director of Compensatory Programs
402 Market Street • Garden City, GA 31408 • (912) 395-5635

STUDENT MEALS

Children need healthy meals to learn. Savannah-Chatham County Public School System offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast and Lunch meals are available at no cost to all students at all grade levels. Starting with the 2026-2027 School Year, SCCPSS will use the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) to provide these meals at no cost to all students. All Adult Meals, Student/Adult a' la carte items, and additional food purchases must be paid online through MySchoolBucks.com. No cash payments will be accepted at the school site. Families are encouraged to set up and manage their accounts to ensure students can continue to enjoy optional snack and beverage purchases with ease. Meal and a' la carte item pricing is available on our website, sccpss.com.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. You may file a complaint of discrimination by writing to the following address:

USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights • Room 326-W, Whitten Building
1400 Independence Avenue, SW • Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Notification of Rights Under The Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Federal law concerning the education of students with disabilities, requires schools to provide parents of a child with a disability with a notice containing a full explanation of the procedural safeguards available under the IDEA and U.S. Department of Education regulations.

Notice: Your school district must give you written notice (provide you certain information in writing), whenever the school system:

1. Proposes to initiate or to change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of your child, or the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to your child; or
2. Refuses to initiate or to change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of your child, or the provision of FAPE to your child.

Content of notice: The written notice must:

1. Describe the action that your school district proposes or refuses to take.
2. Explain why your school district is proposing or refusing to take the action.
3. Describe each evaluation procedure, assessment, record, or report your school district used in deciding to propose or refuse the action.
4. Include a statement that you have protections under the procedural safeguards provisions in Part B of the IDEA.
5. Tell you how you can obtain a description of the procedural safeguards if the action that your school district is proposing or refusing is not an initial referral for evaluation.
6. Include resources for you to contact for help in understanding Part B of the IDEA.
7. Describe any other choices that your child's individualized education program (IEP) Team considered and the reasons why those choices were rejected; and
8. Provide a description of other reasons why your school district proposed or refused the action.

Destruction of Special Education Records

According to local, state, and federal law, special education records can be destroyed once they are no longer needed to provide services to the student. Any parent/guardian or student who has reached the age of majority (18 years) has ninety (90) days from the date of this notice to request special education records that will be destroyed as a consequence of them no longer being needed to provide services to said student.

Anita Mitchell, Manager, Records Management • 2 Laura Avenue • Savannah, GA 31404
Phone (912) 395-5588 • Anita.Mitchell@sccpss.com

The following section applies to students covered under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973: Notice of Rights of Students and Parents Under Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, commonly referred to as "Section 504," is a nondiscrimination statute enacted by the United States Congress. The purpose of Section 504 is to prohibit discrimination and to assure that disabled students have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to non-disabled students. For more information regarding Section 504, or if you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact your local system's Section 504 Coordinator at the following address:

Dr. Marion Finch, Section 504 Coordinator • 190 Technology Circle • Port Wentworth, GA 31407
Phone (912) 395-1023 • Marion.Finch@sccpss.com

The implementing regulations for Section 504 as set out in 34 CFR Part 104 provide parents and/ or students with the following rights:

1. Your child has the right to an appropriate education designed to meet his or her individual educational needs as adequately as the needs of non-disabled students. 34 CFR 104.33.
2. Your child has the right to free educational services except for those fees that are imposed on non-disabled students or their parents. Insurers and similar third parties who provide services not operated by or provided by the recipient are not relieved from an otherwise valid obligation to provide or pay for services provided to a disabled student. 34 CFR 104.33.

3. Your child has a right to participate in an educational setting (academic and nonacademic) with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate to his or her needs. 34 CFR 104.34.
4. Your child has a right to facilities, services, and activities that are comparable to those provided for non-disabled students. 34 CFR 104.34.
5. Your child has a right to an evaluation prior to a Section 504 determination of eligibility. 34 CFR 104.35.
6. You have the right to not consent to the school system's request to evaluate your child. 34 CFR 104.35.
7. You have the right to ensure that evaluation procedures, which may include testing, conform to the requirements of 34 CFR 104.35.
8. You have the right to ensure that the school system will consider information from a variety of sources as appropriate, which may include aptitude and achievement tests, grades, teacher recommendations and observations, physical conditions, social or cultural background, medical records, and parental recommendations. 34 CFR 104.35.
9. You have the right to ensure that placement decisions are made by a group of persons, including persons knowledgeable about your child, the meaning of the evaluation data, the placement options, and the legal requirements for least restrictive environment and comparable facilities. 34 CFR 104.35.
10. If your child is eligible under Section 504, your child has a right to periodic reevaluations, including prior to any subsequent significant change of placement. 34 CFR 104.35.
11. You have the right to notice prior to any actions by the school system regarding the identification, evaluation, or placement of your child. 34 CFR 104.36.
12. You have the right to examine your child's educational records. 34 CFR 104.36.
13. You have the right to an impartial hearing with respect to the school system's actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, or educational placement, with opportunity for parental participation in the hearing and representation by an attorney. 34 CFR 104.36.
14. You have the right to receive a copy of this notice and a copy of the school system's impartial hearing procedure upon request. 34 CFR 104.36.
15. If you disagree with the decision of the impartial hearing officer (school board members and other district employees are not considered impartial hearing officers), you have a right to a review of that decision according to the school system's impartial hearing procedure. 34 CFR 104.36.
16. You have the right to, at any time, file a complaint with the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

Reporting and Addressing Discrimination Against a Student on the Basis of Disability by District Staff, District Students and Third Parties

Students have the right to be protected from harassment and discriminatory treatment on the basis of their disability by District staff. The grievance procedure for challenging and addressing the harassment or discrimination by a particular District employee is included under GAEB-R. You can initiate the discrimination grievance process against a District employee by completing the appropriate section of the JAA-E Grievance Form and submitting it with the District's Section 504 Coordinator.

If you have information that your child is being bullied and harassed on the basis of their disability by another student or students, we ask that you report the matter to your child's principal for a site-based response. Harassing a student on the basis their disability is considered bullying. The District's bullying policy entails administrative actions and disciplinary consequences in response to student bullying. Please see District Policy JCDAC and the Student Code of Conduct for more information on the District's anti-bullying policies and procedures. The JAA-R Grievance Form enables you to raise concerns about student-based disability discrimination and harassment with the Section 504 Coordinator.

If you contend that a third party who is neither a District employee or student is discriminating against your student on the basis of your student's disability, please report your concern directly to the District's 504 Coordinator using the written grievance form. The District is committed to take steps to correct the discriminatory effects of harassing conduct by all individuals who have access to our educational programs and activities. The JAA-R Grievance Form enables you to raise concerns about third party disability discrimination and harassment in school program settings with the Section 504 Coordinator.

If you contend that the District is disregarding, allowing or enabling the discriminatory conduct of other students, staff members or third parties, you may request an impartial hearing in accordance with the procedural safeguards set forth below.

SECTION 504 PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

1. Overview: Any student, or parent or guardian (''grievant") may request an impartial hearing due to the school system's actions or inactions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, or educational placement under Section 504. Requests for an impartial hearing must be in writing to the school system's Section 504 Coordinator; however, a grievant's failure to request a hearing in writing does not alleviate the school system's obligation to provide an impartial hearing if the grievant orally requests an impartial hearing through the school system's Section 504 Coordinator. The school system's Section 504 Coordinator will assist the grievant in completing the written Request for Hearing.

2. Hearing Request: The Request for the Hearing should be made through the submission of the JAA-E Equal Education Opportunities - Disability-Based Discrimination Grievance Form to the 504 Coordinator by email, mail or hand delivery.

The District will respond to written requests for hearing under this Regulation made through other means. An alternative request for a hearing should include the following:

a. The name of the student.
b. The address of the residence of the student.
c. The name of the school the student is attending.
d. The decision that is the subject of the hearing.
e. The requested reasons for review.
f. The proposed remedy sought by the grievant.
g. The name and contact information of the grievant.

Within ten (10) business days from receiving the grievant's completed JAA-E Grievance Form or an alternative and sufficient Request for Hearing, the Section 504 Coordinator will acknowledge the Request for Hearing in writing and schedule a time and place for a hearing.

If the written Request for Hearing does not contain the necessary information noted above, the Section 504 Coordinator will inform the grievant of the specific information needed to complete the request. All timelines and processes will be stayed until the Request for Hearing contains the necessary information noted above.

Requests for hearing that do not concern the District's identification, evaluation or educational placement of a grievant or grievant's student shall not be granted under this Regulation.

3. Mediation: The school system may offer mediation to resolve the issues detailed by the grievant in his or her Request for Hearing. Mediation is voluntary and both the grievant and school system must agree to participate. The grievant may terminate the mediation at any time. If the mediation is terminated without an agreement, the school system will follow the procedures for conducting an impartial hearing without an additional Request for Hearing.

4. Hearing Procedures:

a. The Section 504 Coordinator will obtain an impartial review official who will conduct a hearing within 45 calendar days from the receipt of the grievant's Request for Hearing unless agreed to otherwise by the grievant or a continuance is granted by the impartial review official.
b. Upon a showing of good cause by the grievant or school system, the impartial review official, at his or her discretion, may grant a continuance and set a new hearing date. The request for continuance must be in writing and copied to the other party.
c. The grievant will have an opportunity to examine the child's educational records prior to the hearing.
d. The grievant will have the opportunity to be represented by legal counsel at his or her own expense at the hearing and participate, speak, examine witnesses, and present information at the hearing. If the grievant is to be represented by legal counsel at the hearing, he or she must inform the Section 504 Coordinator of that fact in writing at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the hearing. Failure to notify the Section 504 Coordinator in writing of representation by legal counsel shall constitute good cause for continuance of the hearing.
e. The grievant will have the burden of proving any claims he or she may assert. When warranted by circumstances or law, the impartial hearing officer may require the recipient to defend its position/decision regarding the claims (i.e. A recipient shall place a disabled student in the regular educational environment operated by the recipient unless it is demonstrated by the recipient that the education of the person in the regular environment with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. 34 C.F.R.§104.34). One or more representatives of the school system, who may be an attorney, will attend the hearing to present the evidence and witnesses, respond to the grievant testimony and answer questions posed by the review official.
f. The impartial review official shall not have the power to subpoena witnesses, and the strict rules of evidence shall not apply to hearings. The impartial review official shall have the authority to issue pre-hearing instructions, which may include requiring the parties to exchange documents and names of witnesses to be present.
g. The impartial review official shall determine the weight to be given any evidence based on its reliability and probative value.
h. The hearing shall be closed to the public.
i. The issues of the hearing will be limited to those raised in the written or oral request for the hearing.
j. Witnesses will be questioned directly by the party who calls them. Cross-examination of witnesses will be allowed. The impartial review official, at his or her discretion, may allow further examination of witnesses or ask questions of the witnesses.
k. Testimony shall be recorded by court reporting or audio recording at the expense of the recipient. All documentation related to the hearing shall be retained by the recipient.
l. Unless otherwise required by law, the impartial review official shall uphold the action of school system unless the grievant can prove that a preponderance of the evidence supports his or her claim.
m. Failure of the grievant to appear at a scheduled hearing unless prior notification of absence was provided and approved by the impartial review official or just cause is shown shall constitute a waiver of the right to a personal appearance before the impartial review official.

n. Decision: The impartial review official shall issue a written determination within 20 calendar days of the date the hearing concluded. The determination of the impartial review official shall not include any monetary damages or the award of any attorney's fees.
o. Review: If not satisfied with the decision of the impartial review official, any party may pursue any right of review, appeal, cause of action or claim available to them under the law or existing state or federal rules or regulations.

Reconsideration of Materials or Materials Deemed Harmful to Minors
Communication between the parents and the school is essential. Parents have the right to limit the literature that is available to their children through the Library Media Center. If a parent has circulation restrictions they wish to place on their child's ability to check out certain books, they can contact the Library Media Technology Specialist. If a parent would like to challenge the material for an entire school, Board Policy IKBC: Material Harmful to Minors Complaint Resolution Process allows the parent to bring complaints to the principal for review and resolution.

GENDER EQUITY IN SPORTS

Nondiscrimination Notice
The Equity in Sports Act is a state law which prohibits discrimination based on gender in athletic programs of local school systems. The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of gender in its athletic programs. Inquiries or complaints concerning sports equity in this school system may be submitted to the sports equity coordinator listed below:

John Sanders, Athletics • Health and Physical Education Department
3609 Hopkins Street, Room 4 • Savannah, GA 31405
Phone: (912) 395-5531 • Fax: (912) 201-5881

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Notification of Rights Under the McKinney-Vento Act
The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act is designed to address the problems that homeless children and youth have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

If your family lives in one of the following situations:
1. In a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground
2. On the street
3. In an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations, or
4. Doubled up with friends or relatives because of a lack of affordable housing

Then the school-aged children in your family have a right to:
1. Go to school no matter where they live or how long they have lived there
2. Continue in the school they attended before the family became homeless, if that is the parent's choice and it is feasible
3. Receive transportation to the school they attended before your family became homeless
4. Participate in school programs with children who are not homeless
5. Enroll in school without giving a permanent address
6. Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of any records or documents required for enrollment
7. Receive the same special programs and services as all other children

Inquiries or complaints concerning educational services for homeless students in this school system may be submitted to:

Mrs. Sharon Hill, Homeless Liaison
400 East Broad Street • Savannah, GA 31401
Phone: (912) 395-1092 • Fax: (912) 201-2155

ASBESTOS WARNING

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Notice
The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires schools to be inspected to identify any asbestos containing building materials. The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, in compliance with AHERA, has developed an asbestos management plan concerning the presence or suspected presence of asbestos containing building materials within school buildings, and required inspections and preventive measures related thereto. In accordance with AHERA, members of the public, including parents, teachers, and other employees, shall be permitted access to the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System's asbestos management plan.

Upon request, the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System shall permit members of the public, including parents, teachers and other employees, to inspect any asbestos management plan. Access shall be granted to such management plans within a reasonable period of time after a request from a member of the public is received. The designated department for the asbestos program is:

Maintenance & Operations
2219 Gamble Road • Savannah, GA 31405
Phone: (912) 395-5563 • Fax: (912) 201-5494

STUDENT DRESS CODE - JCDB-R

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School District REQUIRES ALL students in Pre-K through 12 to wear a school uniform as identified by the school in which they attend or will attend.

The procedures described below are applicable to all elementary and secondary schools. All students in Pre-K through 12 (except those deemed exempt) MUST adhere to the MANDATORY School Uniform Policy with the following dress code being applied in all schools:

MANDATORY SCHOOL UNIFORMS - ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

- All schools will have solid navy, black, or khaki pants/bottoms and white tops. The uniform committee may choose one additional color of pants/bottoms and one additional top color. Plaid skirts and jumpers may be worn.
- Solid navy, black, khaki, or plaid shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers, capri pants or pants/slacks (no knit pants, jogging or cargo pants; no zippers or pockets on pant legs). Pants/slacks must be belted and made of standard uniform material (cotton and/or twill). Pants/slacks must be of the appropriate size, be worn at the natural waist, and not drag the floor. Pants should not be too tight. No denim jeans, skirts, etc. Skirts, shorts, shorts, dresses, and jumpers must be of an appropriate length that maintains modesty and that provides sufficient coverage when the student is walking, sitting, or participating in school activities. Pants/slacks, skirts, skorts, shorts and jumpers must have a finished hem.
- Tops must be solid white and other solid color(s) as selected by each school uniform committee. Tops may be polo-style shirts, collared blouses, or turtlenecks. Shirts may have the school insignia, if one is available. No other logos or designs are permitted. Tops must not expose any of the midriff or lower back. Fishnet tops, halter tops, tube tops, strapless tops, tanks tops, spaghetti straps and other forms of transparent or revealing clothing are prohibited and should not be visible at any time. Oversized tops may not be worn.
- School-approved “spirit wear” tops may be worn, as designated by each school.
- All shoes must be enclosed and fastened/tied properly.
- Tights, leggings, hose, or socks may be worn under an appropriate length skirt or dress (no shorter than three inches above the knee). Tights and socks must be solid navy, black, or white with no design. Hose without design may be worn. Tights or leggings may not be worn as an outer garment.
- Solid colored sweaters, vests or sweatshirts may be worn over uniform shirts.
- Hooded sweatshirts are not allowed except for school-approved “spirit wear” hooded sweatshirts, which must be designated by each school. Hoods must not be worn on the head while inside the building.
- No hats, caps, or sunglasses may be worn in the building.
- Coats and jackets must be worn open while in the building.
- Extreme hair color/style that causes a disruption or interferes with the learning environment will not be allowed.
- Body piercing that causes a disruption or interferes with the learning environment will not be allowed.
- Belts, if worn, must be buckled.
- No oversized/baggy garments.
- No oversized jewelry and/or accessories with inappropriate emblems and/or writing may be worn.
- Undergarments must not be visible.
- School ID badges must be worn and visibly displayed while on campus and while attending all school sponsored field trips (grades 6 through 12).
- Handbags, purses, pocketbooks, and similar items must be no larger than 8.5 X 11 inches (size of a regular sheet of paper), 3 to 4 inches thick and must not be large enough to contain a regular sized textbook.
- All book bags, tote bags, backpacks, athletic bags and all other similar items must have the contents clearly visible (see-through clear plastic or mesh). Any bag needed for after school events, which is not mesh or clear plastic, must be checked in at the beginning of the day and left with the student’s teacher or with the student’s coach during the school day.

Students assigned to alternative school sites and/or programs other than their home school will wear the uniform consistent with the dress code of that site.

PROCEDURES FOR EXEMPTION

The parent(s) or guardian(s) may request an exemption from a mandatory school uniform program for medical, religious, or other justifiable reasons. A request for an exemption must be made within ten (10) operational days (days that schools are in session) of the beginning of the school year. Medical exemption requests must be signed by a medical doctor. See your school principal for further information.

1. A written request for an exemption must be submitted to the school principal using the Application for Exemption Form that can be obtained from the school. The request must be completed truthfully and correctly and signed by a physician, if the request is for medical reasons.
2. The school principal or his/her designee must meet with the parent(s) or guardian(s) within five operational days. The principal will discuss the school uniform policy and verify the accuracy of the information on the Exemption Form. The parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified in writing of the outcome of the conference within three operational days. The principal will note the finding to grant or deny the request on the application, sign off on the application, and forward a copy to the Office of School Leadership.

3. The Office of School Leadership will affirm or deny the principal's decision. If the parent or guardian does not agree with the decision, they have a right to appeal to the Board within five operational days.
4. Exemptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

No student will be considered non-compliant for the following reasons:

- An exemption has been established or is being appealed.
- The principal has established a "non-uniform" day.
- A student is on campus outside of normal school hours.
- A student wears a button, armband, or other accoutrement to exercise a constitutionally protected right to freedom of expression. Buttons, armbands, or other accouterments that signify or are related to gangs, gang membership, or gang activity or are disruptive to school safety and discipline are prohibited.
- A student wears the uniform of a nationally recognized youth organization such as the Boy Scouts or the Girl Scouts on regular meeting days.
- Compliance/Disciplinary Measure.
- School staff should strive for full compliance using positive reinforcement. Disciplinary actions should only be used when all positive measures have been exhausted.
- School staff should use progressive discipline to enforce the dress code. Refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for Success.

ACCEPTABLE DRESS FOR NON-UNIFORM DAYS WILL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE DRESS CODE OUTLINED BELOW.

- School ID badges must be worn and visibly displayed while on campus and while attending all school sponsored field trips (grades 6 through 12)
- Body piercing that causes a disruption or interferes with the learning environment will not be allowed.
- Tops must not expose any of the midriff or lower back. Fishnet tops, halter tops, tube tops, strapless tops, pajama tops, tank tops, spaghetti straps, and other forms of transparent or revealing clothing are prohibited and should not be visible at any time.
- Undergarments must not be visible.
- Skirts, shorts, skorts, dresses, and jumpers must be of an appropriate length that maintains modesty and that provides sufficient coverage when the student is walking, sitting, or participating in school activities. Pants/slacks, skirts, skorts, shorts and jumpers must have a finished hem. Pajama bottoms are prohibited.
- Pants must be of the appropriate size, worn at the natural waist, and not drag on the floor.
- All book bags, tote bags, backpacks, athletic bags, and all other similar items must have the contents clearly visible (see-through, clear plastic or mesh). Any bag needed for after-school events, that is not mesh or clear plastic, must be checked in at the beginning of the day and left with the student's teacher or with the student's coach during the school day.
- School administration may designate non-uniform days throughout the year. The principal will have final approval of attire during non-uniform days.
- On game days, athletes may wear school-colored blazers with ties, game jerseys with uniform pants, or other school-provided athletic wear with appropriate socks and shoes.
- On game days, cheerleaders or other auxiliary groups may wear their uniforms with coordinating pants of the appropriate length, or other school-provided wear with appropriate socks and shoes.
- Belts, if worn, must be buckled.

ATTENDANCE/TRUANCY

Parents/legal guardians, or caretakers residing in Chatham County are required to enroll and send children in their care between the ages of six (6) and sixteen (16) to school or to provide a home study program as provided by law. All children enrolled for twenty (20) school days or more in a public school prior to their seventh (7) birthday shall become subject to all of the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690 through § 20-2-702, and the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education relating to compulsory school attendance even though they have not attained seven (7) years of age. Parents/legal guardians, or caretakers who fail to send their children to school or to provide a registered home study program, or children who are truant, may be subject to court action and subsequent penalties. SCCPSS employs school social workers who are authorized and required to file a petition in the Juvenile and/or State Court to obtain compliance with this law.

Students assigned by the Local Board of Education to attend a disciplinary alternative learning program, regardless of whether they are suspended or expelled from another public school program, shall be required to attend school as prescribed by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.1.

STUDENT/PARENT NOTIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE POLICY

The official notification to students and parents of the attendance policy and its procedures will come in August when the Student Code of Conduct is given to students and parents, who, in turn, will have to sign that they are familiar with and understand the Code.

If a parent/guardian and student fail to sign and return the Student Code of Conduct after two (2) reasonable attempts, the school must send a copy of the required document via certified mail, return receipt requested, or first-class mail. Students age ten (10) or older by September 1 are required to sign the Student Code of Conduct document.

TRUANT

Any child subject to compulsory attendance who during the school calendar year has five (5) or more days of unexcused absences is considered truant. Absences due to out-of-school suspension are not considered unexcused and do not apply to truancy determination..

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Absences are excused for personal illness, serious illness or death of a student's immediate family member/legal guardian, observance of religious holidays, active duty military family leave, orders of governmental agencies, conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety, registering to vote or voting in a public election, (not to exceed one day), or participation in approved school activities. Additionally, a student whose parent or legal guardian is currently serving or has previously served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces or in the Reserves or National Guard on extended active duty may be granted excused absences, up to a maximum of five (5) school days per school year, not to exceed two (2) school years, for the days missed from school to attend military affairs sponsored events, provided the student provides documentation prior to the absence.

PROLONGED ABSENCE DUE TO ILLNESS OR INJURY

Homebound/hospital instruction can be provided for students who have a chronic illness or who need to be absent from school for ten or more consecutive days due to a long-term illness or injury. Parent application and physician certification of this need are required.

REFERRAL TO SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

The school is responsible for informing the parent/guardian of the child's absence and/or truancy. If a student has five (5) unexcused absences, school officials who have exhausted all efforts may make a referral to the school social worker. The social worker, using home visits and/or assistance from community resources, will attempt to document and/or alleviate the problem with the student and the family. When deemed necessary for the welfare of the child, the school social worker, observing all due process rights of the parent and child and working in cooperation with the procedural requirements of the court having jurisdiction, shall prepare the case for juvenile or state court action.

STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING TRUANCY

The following strategies may be utilized to address truancy: Conference with the student and/or parent/guardian, referral to the school counselor or social worker, mentoring programs, school-wide incentive programs.

POSSIBLE PENALTIES FOR TRUANCY

The following penalties may be applied if a student is determined to be truant: Conference with the student and/or parent/guardian, detention before or after school or on Saturday, loss of parking permit, possible charges filed in juvenile court if student is under sixteen (16) years of age, possible charges against parent in state court or withdrawal from school if student is sixteen (16) years of age or older. Court penalties may include fines, community service, mandated counseling or mental health treatment, probation or incarceration.

ATTENDANCE WAIVER

Students in grades K-12 with ten (10) or more unexcused absences who have demonstrated proficiency in a class, may request an attendance waiver provided they meet the criteria for their grade band or level as referenced below.

- Kindergarten: Have Developing or higher in the class for which they are seeking the attendance waiver.

• Grades 1-12: Have a 70 or higher in the class(es) for which they are seeking the attendance waiver.

All students must provide documentation with their waiver request providing the reasons for absences and the reason(s) they were unable to attend district-approved, school-based recovery opportunities. All documentation will be reviewed by the attendance committee who will submit a recommendation after review to the principal for final approval. The request that waivers be granted for academic credit or promotion must be submitted by the student's parent/legal guardian and must include appropriate required documentation to the site-based attendance committee. Waiver requests must be submitted to the site-based attendance committee on or before November 15th for courses ending first semester and on or before April 15th for yearlong courses or courses ending in the second semester. This committee, with approval from the school principal, may grant or deny the waiver, after review of the application and documentation based on a rubric provided by the District's attendance committee. Unexcused absences accrued after the waiver submission deadline may result in the denial of the waiver request. The site-based attendance committee will notify the teacher and parent/guardian in writing (email and/or letter) of the waiver decision no later than two weeks prior to the end of the academic term for which the waiver is being requested. If the parent/guardian disagrees with the committee's decision regarding the denial of the waiver, the parent/guardian must submit an appeal in writing to the designated School Support Officer or designee within five (5) days of the waiver decision. The School Support Officer or designee has five (5) days to respond to the appeal. In the event the student is not approved for the waiver.

Students with ten (10) or more unexcused absences are at risk of receiving No Credit (NC) for courses in which they are enrolled. To assist in meeting attendance requirements, the district offers Asynchronous Remote Attendance for up to five (5) days per school year. Additionally, the District may require any K-12 student who has excused or unexcused absences to utilize the school/district-provided Attendance Recovery option to make up for the missed time from school. Parents/guardians will be notified of this requirement two weeks in advance. Students may recover up to five (5) days per semester.

For more information regarding attendance and truancy please refer to policy JBA & JBA-R (1)

STUDENTS CONDUCT GRADES IHA-R (1)

Students will earn a conduct grade for each marking period which will be documented on the report card. Its purpose is to encourage students to conduct themselves in an orderly, courteous, dignified, and respectful manner. The conduct grade will reflect student conduct during the previous grading period.

STUDENT CONDUCT GRADE RUBRIC

Excellent (E)

- No parent/legal guardian contacts related to any level of violations in the Student Code of Conduct.
- No office referrals at any level of violations in the Student Code of Conduct.

Satisfactory (S)

- Not to exceed three (3) Level I violations with documented parent/legal guardian notification.

Needs Improvement (N)

- Four (4) or more Level I violations with documented parent/legal guardian contact.

Unsatisfactory (U)

- Any Level II violation with administrative referral.
- Any Level III violation.
- Any violation that results in an out of school suspension.

Overall Excellent (E) or Satisfactory (S) Conduct Grade Actions

Students receiving an excellent or satisfactory conduct grade may earn extra privileges/incentives which will be determined at the school level.

Overall Needs Improvement (N) Conduct Grade Consequences

Students receiving a needs improvement conduct grade may be referred for participation in the Multi-Tiered Systems/Student Support Process (MTSS/SSP)/RtI for the development of a behavior intervention plan which includes positive interventions, strategies and supports designed to address the behavior in question.

Overall Unsatisfactory (U) Conduct Grade Consequences

Students receiving an unsatisfactory conduct grade may be referred for participation in the MTSS/SSP/RtI. Students will be denied personal recognitions or opportunities to serve as a representative of the school. Graduating seniors receiving an unsatisfactory conduct grade may be prohibited from senior activities and/or participating in graduation activities. Students receiving such a conduct grade will also forfeit participation in any extra-curricular activity (e.g., sports, cheerleading, clubs, events, band, chorus, etc.) and field trip participation.

The overall conduct grade of Unsatisfactory (U) must be approved by the building administrator.

BICYCLE SAFETY

Georgia bicycle traffic law (O.G.C.A. § 40-6-296) requires every person under the age of sixteen (16) to wear a bicycle helmet while operating a bicycle or riding as a passenger. Any person that rides a bike to and from Savannah-Chatham Public School System, including accompanying adults, MUST wear a bicycle helmet.

The District's bicycle helmet initiative is a comprehensive approach to identify and eliminate any gaps in school injury prevention programs and to protect the health and well-being of our children. With your assistance, SCCPSS will become a model for preventing bicycle related injuries and death. Please join us in this groundbreaking injury prevention effort to keep our children safe – "It's the Law."

IHE-R PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Kindergarten

1. Adequately apply the oral/written language, reading, and mathematics taught during the year as observed, demonstrated, or tested.
2. Meet the requirements of the system's attendance policy. (Policy JBA)
3. Special provisions can be made for students who are English Learners (ELs) and students with identified disabilities.

Grades 1 - 5

1. Have a final grade of 70 or higher in oral/written language, reading, mathematics, social studies, and science.
2. Meet the requirements of the system's attendance policy. (Policy JBA)
3. Special provisions can be made for students who are English Learners (ELs) and students with identified disabilities.

Grades 6 - 8

1. Have a final grade of 70 or higher in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
2. Have a final grade of 70 or higher in 75% of the total number of exploratory courses taken. (Each nine-weeks of a semester or yearlong course will be considered as a complete exploratory for this purpose.)
3. Meet the requirements of the system's attendance policy. (Policy JBA)
4. Special provisions can be made for students who are English Learners (ELs) and students with identified disabilities.

ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES – GRADES 2-8

The district has waived state statute O.C.G.A § 20-2-283 Promotion and Retention requirements for grades 3, 5, and 8. The state test and local assessments are NOT the sole criteria in determining student promotion and retention. Elementary, K-8, and Middle school principals will use multiple measures in determining the final decision.

- Special provisions may be made for students who are English Language Learners and students with identified disabilities.

SCHOOL JURISDICTION

The authority of the school over the conduct of students extends to the following locations:

1. On the school grounds and within the school safety zone during, before, and after school hours;
2. On the school grounds and within the school safety zone as either a spectator or a participant at any other time when the school is being used by a school group.
3. Off the school grounds at any school-related activity, function, or event as a participant or a spectator. "School related activities include online and remote learning environments that are maintained or curated by District staff."
4. During the time required in going to or from the home, including time spent at the bus stop and on the school bus;
5. Off school grounds, when a student's behavior has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order or discipline in schools or maintaining the safety and welfare of the students and staff;
6. Off school grounds which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and when the student's continued presence at school becomes a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process.
7. Off school grounds, when the conduct involved entails the misuse of the school-owned equipment provided in order to access the online learning environment.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS

Both informal and formal resolution processes are available to address various types of complaints arising out of the above-described categories. District Regulation JCE-R lists various complaint types and processes. All policies and/or procedures mandated by any relevant agencies of the State of Georgia and the United States will be followed.

Classroom matters (grades, homework, attendance, etc.) should be discussed first with the classroom teacher and then with an administrator, if necessary, to resolve a problem. Federal and state laws allow students to file a complaint, both verbally and in writing, when there are allegations of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, gender and disability discrimination, and/or bullying. Allegations of discrimination, bullying, or harassment should be immediately reported to a teacher or counselor and an administrator at the school, school site or any school event.

Reports of sexual harassment may be made to any school employee including a District Title IX Coordinator. School employees shall ensure that such reports are promptly forwarded to a Title IX Coordinator. Title IX Coordinator Doreen

Oliver can receive verbal or written reports of sexual harassment at any time (including non-business hours) by mail at:
190 Technology Circle • Port Wentworth, GA 31407
email: Doreen Oliver@sccpss.com • phone: 912-395-5555.

Formal complaints alleging sexual harassment are submitted in writing to a Title IX Coordinator. A Title IX Coordinator or their designee will be available to assist the complaining party with the filing of the formal complaint.

Retaliation for making a report or filing a complaint for discrimination, bullying or harassment is prohibited. Students are cautioned not to file any false reports or complaints. (See Rule 19 of the Student Code of Conduct.)

EXPRESSION AND LIMITATIONS

Students may appropriately exercise the right to freedom of expression through speech, assembly, petition, and other lawful means and have the right to advocate change of any law, policy, or regulation. The exercise of this right may not interfere with the rights of others nor may oral or written student opinions be used to present material that falls into one or more of the following categories:

1. Material that reasonably leads the principal to forecast substantial disruption of, or interference with, school activities or that endangers the health, safety or welfare of students and/or staff;
2. Material that is libelous or slanderous – false or inaccurate statements; statements that injure the person as to his/her reputation; or statements which cause personal humiliation, mental anguish, and suffering or other injuries;
3. Material that advocates the commission of a criminal act or is a criminal act as defined by the Criminal Code of the United States, the State of Georgia, the City of Savannah, Chatham County or other applicable municipalities.

INTERVIEWS & SEARCHES OF STUDENTS - POLICY JCAB

School lockers, desks, cabinets and other school property will be jointly accessible to students and school authorities and shall be subject to inspection and search by school authorities at all times without further notice to students, parents/legal guardians, or any other party placing items therein. Sweeps of school facilities may be conducted using sniffing dogs and metal detectors.

The School District reserves the right to use walk-through and hand-held metal detectors or canine units at any school campus or function, including activities that occur outside of normal school hours or off of school campuses when, in the opinion of the Superintendent, the use of such devices is appropriate to maintain safety and security.
School employees and visitors are subject to proper search by Campus Police or law enforcement agencies upon request of the principal.

Desks, lockers, and storage spaces which are provided to students are the property of the School District. The principal or designee may conduct general inspections on a periodic basis, including unannounced searches, and may open desks, lockers, storage spaces, and examine the contents. Searches of students or their personal belongings will occur when there is reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated or is violating local, state or federal laws, local codes, or School Board policies/administrative regulations. Reasonable efforts to locate the student will be made prior to the search. If the student is present, the school official shall advise him/her of the circumstances justifying the search and seizure of the objects that the official believes the search may disclose. Stolen items and items that are specifically prohibited by local law and per School Board policies/administrative regulations will be impounded. These items will be secured by Campus Police or appropriate law enforcement officers, and disposition will be determined by the appropriate authority. Additionally, unannounced canine searches will be randomly conducted by law enforcement officials and Campus Police as part of the Safe Schools Initiative.

All students are required to register their automobiles with school officials. Students will be required to sign a written agreement acknowledging that their automobiles are subject to unannounced searches or inspections at any time while on Board of Education property.

RANDOM ADMINISTRATIVE INSPECTIONS

As part of an initiative to enhance the overall safety of our schools, the Superintendent has implemented Random Administrative Inspections that will be conducted using each site's staff members. Inspections will be conducted by personnel trained in the safe use of a magnetometer. A minimum number of staff members will be trained to minimize the impact on the school's educational mission, keeping staff members in their usual assignments and duties as much as possible.

Students found to be in possession of contraband during these inspections will be appropriately disciplined.

Random Administrative Inspections conducted as an administrative function will not involve Campus Police unless there is a safety issue, fight, violent outburst or threat, or other violations of criminal law. Campus Police may assist in securing the inspection area or escorting and/or monitoring students to be inspected but will not actively participate in the Random Administrative Inspections.

AMNESTY BOX

The school district has no tolerance for drugs and weapons. The Superintendent has established the use of an Amnesty Box inside each school.

The Amnesty Box is a secured/locked metal container that allows students to anonymously dispose of non-permissible items without fear of being disciplined.

At my school, the Amnesty Box is located _____. (Location inserted by student)

DESIGNATED FELONY ACTS AND UNDERAGE SEXUAL CONDUCT

The Board of Education in its continuous efforts to improve and enhance student behavior and the student learning environment encourages each parent/legal guardian to inform their child who is enrolled in the school system of the following:

- Any child 13-17 years of age who is accused of the following offenses shall be tried as an adult: Rape, Murder, Voluntary Manslaughter, Aggravated Sodomy, Aggravated Child Molestation, Aggravated Sexual Battery, Armed Robbery, if committed with a firearm.
- Any child 13-17 years of age who is accused of a crime which, if committed by an adult, would be punished by loss of life, imprisonment for life without parole, or confinement for life may be tried as an adult in Superior Court.
- Any child 13-17 years of age who is accused of the designated felony act of burglary and has 3 times previously been accused of burglary may be tried as an adult in Superior Court.
- Any child 15-17 years of age accused of any felony may be tried as an adult in Superior Court.
- Any child 13-17 years of age accused of committing the following sexual acts shall be tried as an adult in Superior Court: Aggravated Sodomy, Aggravated child molestation, Aggravated sexual battery.
- Any child 13-17 years of age accused of committing the following sexual acts may be tried as an adult in Superior Court: Statutory Rape, Child molestation, Enticing a child for indecent purposes, Sexual battery.
- Any child adjudicated by the Juvenile Court may face the following penalties:
  - Commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice (YDC) for a period not less than 12 months or more than 60 months
  - Commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice for 24 months
  - Short-term placement of 60 days to the Department of Juvenile Justice
  - Intensive supervision, Probation, Restitution, Community Service
  - Prohibition of issuance of drivers license, Suspension of drivers license
- Any child 13-17 years of age convicted as an adult may face the following penalties: Imprisonment for life without parole, Confinement for life, Confinement for not less than 12 months, Probation for not less than 12 months, Restitution, Community service, Court assessed fees, Prohibition of issuance of drivers license, Suspension of drivers license.

TEENAGE AND ADULT DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY ACT (TAADRA)

The implementation guidelines of the Georgia Department of Driver Services and Georgia Department of Education and O.C.G.A. § 40-5-22(a.1)(1), requires that local school systems certify that a student is enrolled and not under an expulsion decision as a prerequisite for issuance of an instruction permit or driver's license.

General Information:

A. The Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA) applies to all minors who are at least 15 years of age and under the age of 18.

B. When such a minor submits an application for a Georgia instruction permit or driver's license, the applicant must present proof that he or she satisfies one of the following conditions as specified in O.C.G.A. § 40-5-22 (a.1)(1):
   (1) Is enrolled in and not under expulsion from a public or private school; or,
   (2) Is enrolled in a home education program that satisfies the reporting requirements of all state laws governing such program; or,
   (3) Has received a high school diploma, a general education development (GED) diploma, a special diploma, or a certificate of high school completion; or,
   (4) Has terminated his or her secondary education and is enrolled in a postsecondary school or is pursuing a general educational development (GED) diploma.

C. The Department of Driver Services shall notify such minor of his or her ineligibility for an instruction permit or driver's license at the time of such application. For additional information regarding driver permits please visit: dds.georgia.gov/your-georgia-drivers-license.

VIOLATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

LEVEL III VIOLATIONS WHICH MAY RESULT IN REQUEST FOR EXPULSION AND/OR REFERRAL TO COURT

A referral to court may be made by Campus Police for students OF ANY AGE who exhibit the following behavior(s):

a. Aggravated assault
b. Arson or attempted arson
c. Assault or battery of a school employee
d. Bomb threats, or other false reports to 911 or the school office
e. Commission of any act which constitutes a felony
f. Criminal/delinquent acts of extortion or attempted extortion, harassment, or intimidation
g. Fireworks, stink bombs, or other explosives: Possession, distribution, use, or lighting of
h. Participating in and/or instigating a riot (major disturbance) within a group or gang
i. Possession or use of any dangerous instrument which may be used to inflict bodily harm including a firearm, knife with a blade of any length, razor blade, box cutter, and/or starter pistol
j. Possession or use of mace, pepper gas, tear gas, etc.
k. Public lewdness or indecent exposure (indecent exposure referred to court)
l. Retaliating against a school employee, either on or off school property
m. Severe false accusations of employee by student
n. Severe violent behavior on school property or at a school function
o. Sexual harassment or misconduct
p. Terroristic threat
q. The use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol are harmful and illegal; therefore, no student shall possess, sell, use, transmit, handle, display, distribute, or otherwise use or be under the influence of any narcotic, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, any other controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, over the counter or prescription medication, alcoholic beverage, intoxicant of any kind or any substance represented to be illegal drugs or imitation controlled substance while on school property, on the way to and from school, or at a school-sponsored function.
r. Trespassing or presence on school property while suspended/expelled constitutes criminal trespass.
s. Violence, and acts of assault and/or battery.

- A juvenile court referral does not always result in a student being taken to the Youth Detention Center (YDC) from school. Upon receipt of a referral, the court will process the report and will handle it in the usual manner. Students may, however, be transported to YDC depending on the nature of the offense and the student's previous delinquent acts record.
- Any offense (even those not listed) may be referred to the Juvenile Court system.
- Students placed on suspension or expulsion will be prohibited from attending or participating in any school-sponsored or school-related activities and prohibited from being on any Board of Education campus except their assigned alternative site.

LEVEL III VIOLATIONS REQUIRING A REQUEST FOR EXPULSION AND/OR MANDATORY PLACEMENT AT A DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROGRAM/PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Students having information filed against them or who are indicted, adjudicated guilty or convicted by the courts of a designated felony act regardless of where the act occurred, SHALL BE placed in an alternative setting determined by the District Placement Team.

a. Adjudicated guilty of a designated felony act **(Policy JD)**
b. Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated battery
c. Arson - first degree and second degree
d. Conduct punishable as a designated felony act with respect to trafficking marijuana, cocaine, illegal drugs or methamphetamine
e. Kidnapping or Attempteding
f. Armed Robbery, Robbery or Robbery without a firearm
g. Attempted Murder
h. Uses, exhibits, or possesses a firearm, an illegal knife or club, any other prohibited weapon in violation of O.C.G.A. §16-11-127.1, or is in violation O.C.G.A. §16-7-82, 16-7-84 and 16-7-86
i. Hijacking a motor vehicle
j. Racketeering or violation of **O.C.G.A. § 16-10-52**
k. Battery in violation of **O.C.G.A. § 16-5-23.1(i)** if the victim is a teacher or other school personnel and if done by a juvenile 13 or more years of age
l. Any violation of O.C.G.A. §15-11-2(12) and (13) including, but not limited to, the following:

- Aggravated Child Molestation
- Aggravated Sexual Battery
- Aggravated Sodomy
- Rape
- Murder
- Murder in the 2nd Degree
- Voluntary Manslaughter
- Armed Robbery, if committed with a firearm

"Administrator" means the principal, assistant principal or other designated person to whom authority has been delegated.

"Aggravated Assault": A person commits the offense of aggravated assault when he assaults:
(1) With intent to murder, to rape, or to rob
(2) With a deadly weapon or with any object, device, or instrument which, when used offensively against a person, is likely to or actually does result in serious bodily injury
(3) A person or persons without legal justification by discharging a firearm from within a motor vehicle toward a person or persons O.C.G.A.16-5-21

"Battery": A person commits the offense of battery when he or she intentionally causes substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm to another. As used in this Code section, the term "visible bodily harm" means bodily harm capable of being perceived by a person other than the victim and may include, but is not limited to, substantially blackened eyes, substantially swollen lips or other facial or body parts, or substantial bruises to body parts.
(1) Any person who commits the offense of battery against a teacher or other school personnel, engaged in the performance of official duties or while on school property shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five (5) years or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both.O.C.G.A. § 16-5-23.1

"Board" means the elected members of the local Board of Education.

"Bullying" is defined as any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so; or any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm. This definition has been amended by state law - refer to Board policy JCDAG, Bullying, for complete definition.

"Campus Police" can mean a School Resource Officer (S.R.O.), a School Investigator, a Patrol Officer, or the Department as a whole.

"Clubs/Organizations": groups comprised of students who wish to organize and meet for common goals, objectives, or purposes and which is directly under the sponsorship, direction, and control of the school. This does not include competitive interscholastic activities.

"Competitive Interscholastic Activity" means functions held under the sponsorship of the school that involves its students in competition between individuals or groups representing two (2) or more schools. This includes cheerleading, band and chorus.

"Cyberbullying" are acts of bullying that involve electronic communication, whether or not such electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication (1) is directed specifically at students or school personnel, (2) is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school, and (3) creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

"Disciplinary Hearing Officer" and Tribunal means the individual(s) appointed to conduct disciplinary hearings.

"E.C.D." means electronic communication device which includes cell phones, pagers, PDA's, and other similar electronic instruments.

"Fight" means mutual participation in a physical conflict involving two (2) or more persons. It does not include verbal confrontations. (see Simple Assault, Simple Battery.)

"Guardian Ad Litem": a guardian appointed by the court to represent the interest of children in legal actions.

"I.E.P.": Individualized Education Program

"Legal Guardian" means (1) a person or institution named in a will or a temporary guardianship who is responsible for the care of minor children, (2) a person assigned by the court to take care of minor children.

"O.C.G.A." means Official Code of Georgia Annotated (State Law).

"Parent" means the student's natural parent(s) or court approved legal guardian(s).

"Multi-Tiered System of Supports" - a process for providing interventions for students who are having difficulty meeting academic & behavioral expectations.

"Simple Assault" A person commits the offense of simple assault when he or she either:
(1) Attempts to commit a violent injury to the person of another
(2) Commits an act which places another in reasonable apprehension of immediately receiving a violent injury O.C.G.A. § 16-5-20

"Simple Battery" A person commits the offense of simple battery when he/she either:
(1) Intentionally makes physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of another
(2) 1ntentionally causes physical harm to another O.C.G.A § 16-5-23

"SSP/SST" refers to Student Support Process or Student Support Team.

"Teacher" means a classroom teacher, substitute teacher, student teacher or any school employee who has been given authority over some part of the school program by the principal or a supervising teacher.

"Terroristic Threat" A person commits the offense of a terroristic threat when he threatens to commit any crime of violence or to burn or damage property with the purpose of terrorizing another or of causing the evacuation of a building, place of assembly, or facility of public transportation or otherwise causing serious public inconvenience, or in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience. No person shall be convicted under this subsection on the uncorroborated **testimony of the party to whom the threat is communicated O.C.G.A. § 16-11-37**.

"Verbal Assault" is an intense, extreme or severe attack transmitted by speech intended to threaten and/ or intimidate another person. The pronouns "he, his, him" and "himself" will be used to indicate both male and female.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - POLICY JD

STUDENT RULES & PROCEDURES

School attendance is a right guaranteed to students and will not be denied without due process. So that students may attend school in a setting conducive to learning, all students are expected to conduct themselves in a proper and lawful manner. The Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education does not tolerate possession and/or use of drugs including alcohol, acts of violence, and possession of weapons within a school safety zone as defined in O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1 for all students.

Students will be held personally accountable for behavior that may adversely affect the educational process or endanger the health, safety or well being of other students, teachers or employees of the school system while on any property of the Board of Education, attending school sponsored events or activities, riding as passengers on vehicles operated by or on the behalf of the Board of Education, at the bus stop, enroute to and from school, or while within a school safety zone as defined in O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1. This accountability includes, but is not limited to, passive participation, being an accomplice, or inciting, advising or counseling others to engage in acts that are in violation of the Student Code of Conduct, federal and/or state laws. It also includes conduct off school grounds that has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order or discipline in schools, or maintaining the safety and welfare of students and staff, or which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and when the student's continued presence at school becomes a potential danger to persons or property at the school.

Students may be excluded from school for violating school board rules, state or federal laws. Students may also be excluded if they assault or commit battery upon a teacher, other school official or employee [(O.C.G.A. 20-2-753(a)]. Students may be assigned detention, suspended temporarily or expelled from school for serious or repeated violation of student behavior rules. No student in Pre-K through fifth grade shall be expelled or suspended from school for more than five consecutive or cumulative days during a school year without first receiving a multi-tiered system of supports per O.C.G.A. 20-2-742. The rights of students will not be abridged, and due process will be followed in all cases. The professional judgment of the principal and the facts of the investigation will guide the principal in deciding upon the appropriate disciplinary action.

No student shall be subjected to disciplinary measures on the basis of an act or allegation of sexual harassment unless the District has first followed the requisite protocol for responses to and investigations of sexual harassment set forth in the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol. This procedural requirement does not apply to disciplinary consequences and administrative placements based on the commission of a student's designated felony status. An emergency removal of a student implemented pursuant to 34 C.F.R. 106.44(c) is a protective act and not a disciplinary measure.

Bringing a weapon or explosive compound to school is considered a felony and could subject the student or any individual to a fine of up to $10,000 and imprisonment of not less than two (2) nor more than ten (10) years or both. [O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1] If the student is under the age of 17 and violates this law, the student shall be subject to juvenile proceedings. The student is also subject to expulsion for being in possession of any illegal substance or any substance represented to be illegal, including counterfeit drugs.

The Board of Education does not authorize principals, teachers or other employees of the system to administer corporal punishment (paddling) on any student as provided in O.C.G.A. 20-2-730 et. seq. Teachers, principals or other educators shall not be liable for any civil damages for, or arising out of, any act or omission concerning, relating to, or resulting from the discipline of any student or the reporting of any student for misconduct, except for acts or omissions of willful or wanton misconduct (O.C.G.A. 20-2-1000). Teachers, principals, or other educators shall be immune from criminal liability relating to or resulting from the discipline of any student or the reporting of any student for misconduct provided that the educator acted in good faith (O.C.G.A. 20-2-1001). Teachers and principals have the authority to take customary and reasonable measures to maintain proper control and discipline among students placed under

their care and supervision. Such measures may include the use of reasonable force in the exercise of lawful authority to restrain or correct pupils and maintain order.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-735 the Board of Education adopts an age-appropriate student code of conduct which includes standards of behavior, progressive discipline, a description of the Student Support Process, parental involvement, and the policies and procedures related to student discipline.

The following **STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR** are mandatory and shall apply uniformly to **ALL** students.

Rule 1. Complying with Directions/Commands & Policies
No student shall fail to comply with directions or commands of principals, assistant principals, teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, school bus drivers, or other authorized school personnel. No student shall willfully and persistently violate the Student Code of Conduct or any administrative policy of a school or the system as a whole.

Rule 2. Disruption and Interference with School
No student shall disrupt or otherwise interfere with the orderly operation of school or school activities.

Rule 3. Substantial Disruption and Clear Danger
No student shall cause substantial disruption of the school environment or present a clear danger to any other student(s) or school personnel.

Rule 4. Committing Illegal Acts
No student shall commit any illegal act. Acts which will not be permitted include, but are not limited to, violation of any federal, state or local law, possession and/or discharge of fireworks, obscene and indecent acts, libelous or slanderous acts toward other students, teachers, administrators, other school personnel or other persons.

Rule 5. Damaging, Destroying or Vandalizing Property
No student shall willfully or maliciously damage, mark, deface, destroy or vandalize real or personal property of another student, other persons legitimately at the school or of the Board of Education during or after school hours.

Rule 6. Bullying and Cyberbullying
Bullying is a pattern of behavior, which may include written, verbal, or physical acts, that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to have the effect substantially interfering with a student's education, threatening the educational environment, or causing substantial physical harm or visibly bodily harm.

No student shall sexually, emotionally, verbally, physically, or by any communication by telephone, mail, broadcast, computer, computer network, or by any other electronic device or through the use of electronic communication as defined in O.C.G.A. 20-2- 751.4 or otherwise harass, threaten, intimidate, or bully or cyberbully any student, teacher, school employee, or other person (See Student Code of Conduct Procedure 4). Any student, in grades 6-12, committing the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, shall be assigned to an alternative school pursuant to O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.4. Any form of harassment, threats, intimidation, or bullying or cyberbullying shall be promptly reported to an administrator or counselor. Teachers may be notified to maintain classroom discipline.

Bullying can consist of acts that qualify as sexual harassment. Such acts must be first addressed through the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol prior to the District taking any disciplinary action based on such acts.

Rule 7. Assault, Battery, and Threatening Others
No student shall assault, commit battery upon, threaten, or otherwise abuse any student, teacher, school employee or other person. A student may be referred for permanent expulsion for violation of this section. Conduct prohibited under Rule 7 can qualify as sexual harassment. Such acts must be first addressed through the sexual harassment due process framework found in Board Regulation JCE-R prior to the District taking any disciplinary action based on such acts.

Rule 8. Sexual Harassment
Sexual harassment is hereby defined as unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or a related activity. Sexual harassment also includes the federal offenses of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking.

Sexual harassment is prohibited by the District and can result in remedial and disciplinary consequences when the District complies with its Sexual Harassment Protocol.

Conduct that is not of a sexual nature that results in harassment on the basis of a persons personal traits or status (including sex, sexual orientation and gender identity) is not sexual harassment for the purpose of this rule. Such conduct can be addressed as violations of Rule 6 or Rule 7 above if the elements of those offenses are met.

Any staff member who has actual knowledge about sexual harassment covered by Rule 8 shall report it to the Title IX Coordinator.

Rule 9. Physical Violence Toward School Staff or Bus Drivers
No student shall commit any act of physical violence as defined in **Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 6** against a teacher, school bus driver, school official, or school employee **(O.C.G.A. § 20-2-751.6)**. A student shall be referred to a disciplinary hearing for violation of this section. A student found to have committed an act of physical violence by intentionally making physical contact of an insulting and provoking nature **[Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 6 (1)]** may be disciplined by short-term suspension, long-term suspension or expulsion. A student found to have committed an act of physical violence by intentionally making physical contact which causes physical harm **[Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 6 (2)]** shall be permanently expelled and, if applicable, referred to juvenile court.

Rule 10. Physical Assault and Bullying on a School Bus
No student shall engage in bullying as defined in **O.C.G.A. § 20-2-751.4(a)** or in physical assault, battery, other unruly behavior, verbal assault or disrespectful conduct toward the bus driver or others. If a student is found to have engaged in bullying, a meeting of the parent of the student and appropriate school district officials shall be required to develop a school bus behavior contract for the student. Such contract shall provide for progressive age-appropriate discipline, penalties, and restrictions for student misconduct on the bus. Procedures for developing the contract are outlined in the **Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 4.**

Rule 11. Weapons and Dangerous Instruments
(a) No student shall possess, handle, display, discharge, transmit or otherwise use any handgun, firearm, rifle, shotgun, firearm as defined in O.C.G.A §16-11-106 and 16-11-131 or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind or similar weapon; any explosive compound or incendiary device; or any other dangerous weapon as defined in O.C.G.A. § 16-11-121, including a rocket launcher, bazooka, recoilless rifle, mortar or hand grenade.

(i) A student shall be referred for a Full Calendar Year Expulsion for violating subparagraph (a). See Student Code of Conduct Procedures 7, 14 and 15.)

(ii) The Superintendent or his/her designee shall have the authority, pending a student disciplinary hearing, to reduce the Full Calendar Year Expulsion under circumstances where it appears to be excessive.

(iii) The School Disciplinary Hearing Officer shall also have the authority to modify a Full Calendar Year Expulsion on an individual basis.

(vi) On appeal to the Board, a Full Calendar Year Expulsion may be reduced after considering the prior actions of the Superintendent and the School Disciplinary Hearing Officer.

(b) No student shall possess, handle, display, discharge, transmit or otherwise use any hazardous object, including any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any instrument of like kind, any nonlethal air gun, any stun gun or taser, chemical mace, tear gas, pepper gas or other offensive irritant aerosols. Such term shall not include any of these instruments used for classroom work authorized by the teacher.

(i) Students violating subparagraph (b) by bringing weapons to school, on school property, in a building owned or leased by the school district, at a school function, to school related activities, or on a bus or other transportation provided by the school district and that meets the state law definition or Board definition of weapons may be subject to discipline as specified in the Student Code of Conduct (See Student Code of Conduct procedures 7, 14 and 16).

(ii) Weapons include the objects listed in subparagraphs (a) and (b) and also include any object that reasonably can be considered a weapon or have the appearance of a weapon (See Student Code of Conduct Procedure 7).

(iii) Principals have the authority to ban or confiscate any item that in their judgement, may be used as a weapon to cause bodily harm either to students, themselves or others.

(c) All employees must report violations of this policy to the principal or assistant principal of the school. If the principal has reasonable cause to believe that a report is valid, he/she must immediately make an oral report to the Superintendent and to the appropriate law enforcement authority and district attorney.

The student's parents or guardian will be notified immediately of his/her child's involvement in any activity involving weapons.

Students will be given a copy of the Code of Conduct, which includes a statement of prohibited conduct with regard to weapons and possible disciplinary actions.

Rule 12. Using or Threatening to use a Deadly Weapon and Bomb/Terroristic Threats
Any student who uses, or threatens to use a deadly weapon, including, but not limited to, a firearm or knife, which may cause bodily harm or death, shall be subject to permanent expulsion. Students participating in or making a bomb or terroristic threat shall be subject to permanent expulsion. Student conduct off school grounds that has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order or discipline in schools, or maintaining the safety and welfare of the students and staff, or off-campus conduct which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and when the student's continued presence at school becomes a potential danger to persons or property at the school, shall be subject to Board of Education discipline policies.

Rule 13. Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs/Psychoactive Substances
The use and/or possession of tobacco including e-cigarettes, by students in any form is prohibited: a) on any school property; b) or any other property of the Board of Education; c) while riding as passengers on vehicles operated by the Board of Education; or d) while participating in or attending any school sponsored event at any time.

The use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol are harmful and illegal; therefore, no student shall possess, sell, use, transmit, handle, display, distribute, otherwise use or be under the influence of any:

- Narcotic: hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, stimulant, depressant
- Marijuana: marijuana flavored products, other controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, over the counter or prescription medication(s)
- Alcoholic beverage: intoxicant of any kind or, substance represented to be illegal drugs or imitation controlled substance
- Substances that contain chemicals which produce the same or similar effect of illegal substances including, but not limited to: psychoactive synthetic drugs, synthetic cathinones, synthetic cannabinoids, "Spice","K-2", "Blaze" and "Red Dawn".

A student may be referred for permanent expulsion for violating the section on illicit drugs and alcohol.

Vaping paraphernalia is prohibited on school grounds. KG-R (1). Kraton is considered an illicit drug.

Rule 14. Absenteeism
No student shall be absent from school or from any class or required school function during school hours without the written permission of the parent/guardian and/or the approval of the principal, except in cases of personal illness or other providential cause.

Rule 15. Dress Code
Students shall comply with the District's Student Dress Code Pre-K through 12, as well as any and all individual school dress requirements. **(See Policy JCDB)**

Rule 16. Electronic Devices (Cell Phones)
Students shall comply with JCDAF and JCDAF-R's restrictions regarding the use, display or powering up of personal electronic devices on school property. During District-wide and state assessments, students are strictly prohibited from possessing personal electronic devices. Students shall not use, display, or turn on personal electronic devices during Bell-to-Bell school hours, which include instructional time, assemblies, class change time, recess, breakfast, or lunch.

Rule 17. Verbal Assault and Physical Assault
No student shall verbally assault, threaten violence or physically assault other students, teachers, administrators, other school personnel or persons attending school-related functions.

Rule 18. Disrespectful Conduct
Students shall not become involved in disrespectful conduct or use vulgar or profane language toward other students, teachers, administrators, other school personnel or persons attending school- related functions.

Rule 19. False Reporting
No student shall make materially false statements in bad faith in connection with reporting information regarding instances of alleged inappropriate behavior by a teacher, administrator, or other school employee toward a student during or after school hours. A materially false statement can be false based on the intentional omission of a relevant and material fact known by the reporting student. Any knowledge of such instances shall follow the procedures in Board Regulation JD-R (Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 26).

Rule 20. Passive Participation
No student shall incite, advise, encourage or counsel other students to engage in prohibited acts, be a passive participant or be an accomplice to a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, federal and/or state laws.

Rule 21. Internet/Electronic Use
See Policy IFBG (Internet Acceptable Use) and IFBG.

MANDATORY ENROLLMENT AND ALTERNATIVE LEARNING

Students who are assigned to a disciplinary alternative learning program must enroll and complete the full time they are assigned to that program as a prerequisite to returning to their regular school. The Board may only modify the term of an alternative learning assignment for good legal cause.

The Superintendent is authorized to establish a process for the enrollment and reassignment of students in alternative educational settings based on a student's designated felony status in accordance with O.C.G.A. 20-2-768.

The use of this basis for alternative reassignment will be limited to instances where (1) an ongoing criminal investigation/prosecution substantially weighs against the District conducting a disciplinary hearing addressing the charged criminal activity, and (2) there are material safety concerns that can be positively addressed by reassigning the student from their current school setting.

RESTORATIVE AND PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE

Restorative practices are relationship-centered approaches designed to address conflict, repair harm, rebuild trust, and strengthen the school community. These supports provide students with opportunities to reflect on their actions, understand the impact of their behavior on others, take responsibility, and develop strategies for making positive choices moving forward.

Restorative options may be used as part of a continuum of support before, during, or after a behavioral incident. Depending on the circumstances, they may serve as proactive interventions, or reintegration supports following disciplinary consequences.

The following restorative options may be implemented individually or in combination based on student needs and the nature of the incident:

- Restorative Conference
- Reflection and Apology Process
- Restorative Behavior Interventions
- Restitution
- Restorative Detention
- On-Site Intensive Intervention
- Off-Site Intensive Intervention
- Skill-Building Mini-Courses and Behavioral Modules

VIOLATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES - DISCIPLINE CHART

Parents, schools, and communities share the responsibility for helping students develop positive self-discipline. Expected behavior is shown through actions that promote learning and encourage self-control during school as well as during all school related activities. Students should be prepared to participate fully in the learning process, avoid behavior that impairs their own educational achievement or that of others, show respect for the knowledge and authority of teachers, administrators, and other school employees, and recognize and respect the rights of other students and adults. When students fail to use self-control and self-discipline, disciplinary consequences are used to restore order to the learning environment as well as to protect the rights of others.

In the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, as in the community, certain policies and administrative regulations are established to guide students through constructive growth and into mature adulthood. These policies and administrative regulations are basically the same from Pre-K through grade 12. Parents, teachers, and others responsible for the welfare and education of these students should cooperate in interpreting and enforcing these rules. The Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education has established certain policies and administrative regulations regarding student conduct and disciplinary action. Some of these policies/administrative regulations are included in this handbook and should be reviewed carefully by parents/legal guardians and students.

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System Code of Conduct Matrix is a guide for administrative use. Consequences may vary.

Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Academic Dishonesty (32) Receiving or providing unauthorized assistance on classroom projects, assignments, or exams.	1	Intentional receiving or providing of unauthorized assistance on classroom projects, assessments, and assignments. May include but is not limited to failure to cite sources.	Parent Contact from Teacher	Alternate Assignment	Parent Conference	Alternate Assignment
	2	Intentional plagiarism or cheating on a minor classroom assignment or project. Includes but is not limited to Intentional dishonesty on minor classroom projects, assignments, homework, etc.	Parent Conference	Time Out	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS
	3	Intentional plagiarism or cheating on a major exam, statewide assessment, or project or the falsification of school records. Includes but is not limited to cheating on major exams, statewide assessments or other state mandated academic work; Includes the falsification of school records; forgery; Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on academic dishonesty three or more times during the same school year.	Time Out	1 Day OSS	1 Day OSS	3 Days OSS
Passive Participation and Accessory Incident Type and Numeric Code will coincide with Type and Numeric Code associated with the initial violation to which the student was a passive participant or accessory.		Causes someone else to commit a Level 1, 2 or 3 violation; helps in commission of a Level 1, 2 or 3 violation; or advises, incites, encourages, hires, or procures acts in concert with another to commit a violation.	Consequence to be in accordance with the associated initial violation.		Consequence to be in accordance with the associated initial violation.	
Alcohol (01) Violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or consumption of intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol. Students under the influence of alcohol may be included if it results in disciplinary action. DFCS: X; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC:	1	**Unintentional** possession of alcohol.	Parent Conference	Time Out	1 Day ISS	5 Days OSS
	2	Under the influence of alcohol **without possession.**	Time Out	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	10 Days OSS
	3	Violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol.	Parent Conference	Referral to Alternative Placement	3 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension/ Expulsion
Arson (02) Unlawful and intentional damage or attempted damage to any real or personal property by fire or incendiary devices. DFCS: ; SSW: ; CP: X; TIXC:	2	Attempt to commit arson or transporting or possessing incendiary devices to school; includes but not limited to the use of fireworks and trash can fires without damage to school property.	Parent Conference	Referral to Alternative Placement	1 Day OSS	Long Term Suspension/ Expulsion
	3	Intentional damage because of arson related activity or the use of an incendiary device and includes but not limited to setting fires to school property.	Parent Conference	Referral to Alternative Placement	3 Days OSS	Expulsion

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Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Battery (03) Intentional touching or striking of another person to intentionally cause bodily harm. (Note: The key difference between battery and fighting is that fighting involves mutual participation.)	1	Intentional physical attack with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in **no bodily injuries**. Includes but not limited to pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, pinching, slapping, and other intentional physical confrontations.	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	1 Day ISS	3 Days OSS
	2	Intentional physical attack with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in **mild or moderate bodily injuries**. Includes but not limited to pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, pinching, slapping, and other physical confrontations that result in mild or moderate injuries.	Parent Conference	5 Days OSS	5 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension
	3	Intentional physical attack with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in **severe injuries or any physical attack on school personnel**; Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on battery three or more times during the same school year. Includes but not limited to choking, pushing, hitting, kicking, shoving, pinching, slapping, and other physical confrontations resulting in severe injuries; Includes any physical attack on school personnel; includes incidents serious enough to warrant calling the police or security.	Parent Conference/ 1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	10 Days OSS	Expulsion
Bullying (29) A pattern of behavior, which may include written, verbal, physical acts, or through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology occurring on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to have the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education, threatening the educational environment, or causing substantial physical harm or visibly bodily harm.	1	First Offense of bullying as defined in Georgia Code Section 20-2-751.4. Includes but is not limited to a pattern of unwanted teasing, threats, name calling, intimidation, harassment, humiliation, hazing, physical attacks, extortion, social exclusion, coercion, spreading of rumors or falsehoods, gossip, stalking, or using any type of electronic means to harass or intimidate.	Parent Conference	Time Out	Parent Conference	3 Days ISS
	2	Second incident of bullying as defined in Georgia Code Section 20-2-751.4. Includes but is not limited to a pattern of unwanted teasing, threats, name calling, intimidation, harassment, humiliation, hazing, physical attacks, extortion, social exclusion, coercion, spreading of rumors or falsehoods, gossip, stalking, or using any type of electronic means to harass or intimidate.	In-Person Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	10 Days OSS
	3	Repeated acts, as defined in Georgia Code Section 20-2-751.4, occurring on school property or school possession that is a willful attempt or threat to inflict injury, or apparent means to do so, any display of force that puts victim at fear of harm, any written, verbal or physical act that threatens, harasses, or intimidates; causes another person physical harm; interferes with a student's education; so severe and pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment.	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	3 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement
Breaking/Entering Burglary (04)	3	Unlawful or unauthorized forceful entry into a school building or vehicle (with or without intent to commit theft). (Note: The key difference between Trespassing and Breaking & Entering-Burglary is that Trespassing does not include forceful entry into the school building.	Parent Conference	Referral to Alternative Placement	1 Day OSS	Long Term Suspension

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Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Classroom Disruption - Outside (33) (Student Incivility)	1	Minor disruption that includes not following hallway, restroom, cafeteria, and other school area rules.	Parent Conference	Time Out	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS
	2	Major disruption outside classroom that requires administrative intervention.	Parent Conference	2 Days OSS	2 Days ISS	5 Days OSS
	3	Pattern of major disruptions during the same school year. Documentation of Tier 1-3 interventions.	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days ISS	Long Term Suspension
Classroom Disruption - Inside (33) (Student Incivility)	1	Minor classroom disruption that includes not following classroom behavior matrix rules.	Parent Conference	Time Out	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS
	2	Major classroom disruption that stops instruction for an extended period of time and requires administrative intervention.	Time Out	2 Days OSS	2 Days ISS	3 Days OSS
	3	Pattern of major disruptions during the same school year. Documentation of Tier 1-3 interventions implemented and effectiveness.	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days ISS	Long Term Suspension
Computer/Internet Misuse (05) Use of a school computer for anything other than instructional purposes or unauthorized use of a computer or computer network with the intention of deleting, obstructing, interrupting, altering, damaging, or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer, network, program(s) or data.	2	Unauthorized use of school computer or computer network for anything other than instructional purposes. Includes but not limited to computer misuse, using computer to view inappropriate material, and violation of school computer use policy, including IFBG and IFBG-R.	Parent Conference	Loss of Privileges/ Time Out	Parent Conference	5 Days OSS
	3	Unauthorized use of a computer or computer network with the intention of deleting, obstructing, interrupting, altering, damaging, obtaining confidential information or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer, network, program(s) or data; includes disclosure of a number, code, password, or other means of access to school computers or the school system computer network without proper authorization. Includes but not limited to hacking, using school computers to change or alter school records (grades, attendance, discipline, etc.)	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	3 Days ISS	Long Term Suspension
Defiance/Willful Refusal (33) (Student Incivility)	1	Failure to comply with instructions.	Parent Conference	Time Out	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS
	2	Blatant insubordination; willfully and defiantly refuses to immediately follow school staff directives.	Time Out	3 Days OSS	1 Day ISS	10 Days OSS
	3	Pattern of blatant insubordination; Documentation of Tier 1-3 interventions.	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days ISS	Long Term Suspension
Disorderly Conduct (06) Any act that substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function, substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment, or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff or others. (Includes disruptive behaviors on school buses).	1	Creating or contributing to a moderate disturbance that substantially disrupts the normal operation of the school environment but doesn't pose a threat to the health or safety of others.	Parent Conference	Time Out	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS
	2	Creating or contributing to a severe disturbance that substantially disrupts the normal operation of the school environment but doesn't pose a threat to the health or safety of others; may represent a repeat action.	Time Out	3 Days OSS	3 Days ISS	10 Days OSS
	3	Creating or contributing to a severe disturbance that substantially disrupts the school environment or poses a threat to the health and safety of others. Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on disorderly conduct three or more times during the same school year.	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension/ Expulsion

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Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Disrespect to Teacher/Staff (33) (Student Incivility)	1	Disrespect to school personnel that is generally considered disrespectful actions.	Parent Conference	Time Out	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS
	2	Inappropriate language directed towards school personnel.	Time Out	2 Days OSS	1 Day ISS	3 Days OSS
	3	Pattern of major disruptions during the same school year. Documentation of Tier 1-3 interventions implemented and effectiveness.	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	3 Days ISS	Long Term Suspension
Other-Dress Code Violation (31) Violation of school dress code that includes standards for appropriate school attire.	1	Non-invasive and non-suggestive clothing, jewelry, book bags or other articles of personal appearance. Pursuant to local dress codes, dress code violations for Level 1 may Include but are not limited to bare feet; trousers, slacks, shorts worn below waist level; no belt; clothing that is excessively baggy or tight; skirts or shorts that are shorter than midthigh; sunglasses worn inside the building; hats, caps, hoods, sweatbands and bandanas or other headwear worn inside school building.	Parent Conference	Time Out	Parent Conference	3 Days ISS
	2	Suggestive clothing, jewelry, book bags or other articles of personal appearance. Pursuant to local dress codes, dress code violations for Level 2 may include but are not limited to depiction of profanity, vulgarity, obscenity or violence; promote the use or abuse of tobacco, alcohol or drugs; creates a threat to the health and safety of other students; creates a significant risk of disruption to the school environment; clothing worn in such a manner so as to reveal underwear, cleavage or bare skin; spaghetti straps, strapless tops, halter tops, see-through or mesh garments or other clothing that is physically revealing, provocative or contains sexually suggestive comments.	Time Out	1 Day OSS	1 Day ISS	1 Day OSS
Drug Possession (07) Unlawful use, cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or equipment or devices used for preparing or using drugs or narcotics; or any medication prescribed to a student or purchased over the counter and not brought to the office upon arrival to school (to include vaping).	1	**Unintentional** possession of prescribed or over the counter medication. Does not include the possession of narcotics or any illegal drugs. Does not include autoinjectable epinephrine as properly administered pursuant to O.C.G.A. 20-2-776.	1 Day OSS	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	3 Days OSS
	2	Any medication prescribed to a student or purchased over the counter and not brought to the office upon arrival to school. Does not include auto-injectable epinephrine as properly administered pursuant to O.C.G.A. 20-2-776.	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS
	3	Unlawful use, cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or equipment or devices used for preparing or using drugs or narcotics. Does not include auto-injectable epinephrine as properly administered pursuant to O.C.G.A. 20-2-776.	5 Days OSS	Long Term Expulsion	Long Term Suspension	Expulsion
Gambling (33) (Student Incivility)	2	Engaging in a game or contest in which the outcome is dependent upon chance even though accompanied by some skill, and in which a participant stands to win or lose something of value.	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS

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Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Electronic Smoking Device (42) Any device used to deliver nicotine or any other substance intended for human consumption that may be used by a person to simulate smoking through inhalation of vapor or aerosol from the device.	1	**Unintentional** possession of electronic smoking device.	1 Day OSS	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	5 Days OSS
	2	Use of or knowledgeable possession of an electronic smoking device.	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS	3 Days OSS	10 Days OSS
	3	Distribution and/or selling of electronic smoking devices; Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on electronic smoking devices three or more times during the same school year.	5 Days OSS	Long Term Expulsion	5 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension/ Expulsion
Fighting (08) Mutual participation in a fight involving physical violence where there is no one main offender and an intent to harm (Note: The key difference between fighting and battery is that fighting involves mutual participation.)	1	Physical confrontation between two or more students with the intent to harm resulting in no bodily injuries; no injuries.	1 Day OSS	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	10 Days OSS
	2	A physical confrontation between two or more students with the intent to harm resulting in mild or moderate bodily injuries. **Mild or moderate Injuries** may include but are not limited to scratches, bloody noses, bruises, black eyes, and other marks on the body.	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS	3 Days OSS	10 Days OSS /Long Term Suspension
	3	A physical confrontation between two or more students with the intent to harm resulting in **severe bodily injuries**. Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on fighting three or more times during the same school year. Repeated physical confrontations resulting in severe injuries that require medical attention.	5 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	7 Days OSS	Expulsion
Gang Related Activities (35) Any group of three or more students with a common name or common identifying signs, symbols, tattoos, graffiti, or attire which engage in school disruptive behavior.	2	Wearing or possessing gang-related apparel; communicating either verbally or nonverbally to convey membership or affiliation with a gang. Examples include but not limited to possession or wearing of gang-related clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, or using colors to convey gang membership or affiliation; gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc. to convey gang membership or affiliation; committing any other illegal act or other violation of school policies in connection with gangrelated activity.	Parent Conference	Referral to Alternative Placement	Parent Conference	10 Days OSS
	3	Related symbols or slogans, threatening or intimidating on behalf of a gang, the requirement or payment for protection or insurance through a gang. Level 3 should be used for students who display a pattern of violating the school policy related to gang activity. Examples include but not limited to soliciting students for gang membership; tagging or defacing school or personal property with symbols or slogans intended to convey or promote membership or affiliation in any gang; requiring payment for protection, insurance, otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity; inciting other students to intimidate or to act with physical violence upon any other person related to gang activity.	Parent Conference	Referral to Alternative Placement	Parent Conference	Expulsion
Inappropriate Language (33) (Student Incivility) Use of vulgar or inappropriate language towards another student.	1	The use of profane, vulgar, obscene, or ethnically and culturally offensive language (written or oral) and actions.	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	Parent Conference	5 Days OSS

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Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Larceny/Theft (11) The unlawful taking of property belonging to another person or entity (e.g., school without threat, violence or bodily harm. (Note: The key difference between larceny/theft and robbery is that the threat of physical harm or actual physical harm is involved in a robbery.) DFCS:	1	The unlawful taking of property belonging to another person or entity that does not belong to the student with a value **up to $100**. Includes but not limited to theft by taking, theft by receiving stolen property, and theft by deception.	1 Day OSS/ Restitution	5 Days OSS/ Restitution	1 Day OSS/ Restitution	Long Term Suspension/ Restitution
	2	The unlawful taking of property belonging to another person or entity that does not belong to the student with a value between $100 and $250. Includes but not limited to theft by taking, theft by receiving stolen property, and theft by deception.	3 Days OSS/ Restitution	10 Days OSS /Restitution	3 Days OSS/ Restitution	Long Term Suspension/ Restitution
SSW:	3	The unlawful taking of property belonging to another person or entity that does not belong to the student with a value exceeding $250. Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on larceny/theft three or more times during the same school year. Includes but not limited to theft by taking, theft by receiving stolen property, and theft by deception.	5 Days OSS/ Restitution	Referral to Alternative Placement/ Restitution	5 Days OSS/ Restitution	Expulsion/ Restitution
CP: X TIXC:						
Other - Attendance Related (30) Repeated or excessive unexcused absences or tardies; including failure to report to class, skipping class, leaving school without authorization, or failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions. DFCS:	1	Repeated or excessive unexcused absences or tardies; including failure to report to class, skipping class (beyond 10 minutes), leaving school without authorization, or failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions. Examples include but not limited to repeated or excessive unexcused absences or tardies; including failure to report to class, skipping class, leaving school without authorization, or failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions.	Parent Conference	Court Referral	Parent Conference	Court Referral
SSW: X CP: TIXC:						
Other Firearms (28) Firearms other than handguns, rifles, or shotguns as defined in 18 USC 921. Includes any weapon (including started gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive; the frame or receiver of any weapon described above; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device, which includes any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas (i.e. bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge more than 4 ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¼ ounce, mine, or similar device); any weapon which will, or which may be readily (con't)...	3	Intentional or unintentional possession or use of any firearms other than rifle, shotgun, or handguns (including starter pistols) and any other destructive device which includes explosives. Includes any weapon (including started gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive; the frame or receiver of any weapon described above; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device, which includes any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas (i.e. bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge more than 4 ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¼ ounce, mine, or similar device); any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than ½ inch in diameter; any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. (NOTE: This does not include toy guns, cap guns, bb guns, pellet guns, or Class-C common fireworks). [Pursuant to Gun-Free Schools Act - Public Law 107-110, Section 4141].	Report to Law Enforcement/ 5 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Referral to Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement/ Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement/ Alternative Placement

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Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Other Firearms (28) ... converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than ½ inch in diameter; any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. (NOTE: This does not include toy guns, cap guns, bb guns, pellet guns, or Class-C common fireworks). [Pursuant to Gun-Free Schools Act - Public Law 107-110, Section 4141]. DFCS: — / SSW: X / CP: X / TIXC: —	1					
Other-Possession of Unapproved Items (34) The use or possession of any unauthorized item disruptive to the school environment. (Note: The use of fireworks or incendiary devices must be coded as Arson.)	1	The **possession** of any unauthorized item. Does not include the possession of fireworks, matches, toy weapons, or other items that can be construed as dangerous. Includes but is not limited to possession of toys, gadgets, personal items, etc.; includes possession of pepper spray.	Parent Contact from Teacher	Time Out	Parent Conference	3 Days ISS
	2	The **use** of any unauthorized item (i.e. toys, mobile devices, or gadgets). Does not include the possession of fireworks, matches, toy weapons, or other items that can be construed as dangerous. Includes but is not limited to use of toys, gadgets, personal items, etc.	Parent Conference	Time Out	Parent Conference	3 Days ISS
	3	The use or possession of unauthorized items including but not limited to matches, lighters, toy guns, or other items that can be construed as dangerous or harmful to the learning environment; Includes the possession of fireworks but the use of fireworks should be coded as Arson; Level 3 should be used for students who display a pattern of violating the school policy related to unapproved items. Includes but are not limited to matches, lighters, or the possession of fireworks, bullets, stink bombs, CO2 cartridges include the use of pepper spray with injury.	1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	1 Day ISS	Long Term Suspension

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Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Personal Electronic Devices (45) Any portable electronic device capable of transmitting, receiving, or accessing communications, data, or media. The term personal electronic devices includes, but is not limited to, smart phones, smartwatches, tablets, headphones, smart glasses and other devices with functionalities such as wireless communication, internet access, messaging, video recording, gaming, social media access, or data transmission.	1	The unauthorized **possession** of personal electronic devices	Parent Contact	Parent Conference	Parent Contact	Parent Conference
	2	The unauthorized **use** of personal electronic devices	Parent Contact	Parent Conference	Parent Contact	Parent Conference
	3	The unauthorized use or possession of personal electronic devices; Level 3 should be used for students that violate school policy on the unauthorized use or possession of personal electronic devices **three or more** times during the same school year.	Parent Conference	Time Out	Parent Conference	3 Days ISS
Providing False Information (33) (Student Incivility) DFCS: — SSW: — CP: X TIXC: —	1	Issuing false reports on other students.	Parent Contact from Teacher	Parent Conference	Parent Contact from Teacher	Parent Conference
	2	Issuing false reports to school personnel.	Parent Conference	1 Day OSS	Parent Contact from Teacher	5 Days OSS
	3	Includes but not limited to issuing false reports on school staff. Examples include but not limited to false reports of ethics violations.	Report to Law Enforcement	Referral to Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement	Long Term Suspension
Repeated Offenses (36)	1	Collection of minor incidents.	Time Out	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	Long Term Suspension
	2	Collection of moderate incidents.	1 Day OSS	5 Days OSS	3 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension
	3	Collection of severe incidents.	3 Days OSS	Refer to Alternative Placement	5 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension
Robbery (13) The taking of, or attempting to take, anything of value that is owned by another person or organization under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victilm in fear. (Note: The key difference between robbery and larceny/ theft is that the threat of physical harm or actual physical harm is involved in a robbery.) DFCS: — SSW: X CP: X TIXC: —	2	Robbery without the use of a weapon; taking something by force or threat of force.	Restitution	3 Days OSS	Restitution	Long Term Suspension
	3	Robbery with the use of a weapon. Weapons may include but are not limited to guns, knives, clubs, razor blades, etc.	Report to Law Enforcement/ 5 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Referral to Alternative Placement	Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement/ Alternative Placement

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Serious Bodily Injury (27) The term "serious bodily injury" means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty. DFCS: X; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC:	3	Infliction of "bodily harm" that dismembers, disfigures, causes permanent loss of a limb or function of an organ and causes substantial risk of death. Includes but not limited to any behavior that dismembers, disfigures, causes permanent loss of a limb or function of an organ, and causes substantial risk of death.	Report to Law Enforcement/ 5 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Referral to Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement/ 5 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Expulsion
Sexual Battery (14) DFCS: X; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC: X	3	Intentional physical contact with the intimate parts of the body of another person without the consent of that person. Intimate body parts include the primary genital area, anus, groin, inner thighs, or buttocks of a male or female and the breasts of a female. No student shall commit any act of sexual battery on school property, school buses, or at school-sponsored events.	Report to Law/5 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Referral to Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement/ 5 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Expulsion
Sexual Offenses (16) Unlawful sexual behavior, sexual contact without force or threat of force, or possession of sexually explicit images; can be consensual. DFCS: X; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC: *if applicable based on level of offence	1	Inappropriate sexually based physical contact including but not limited to public groping, inappropriate bodily contact, or any other sexual contact not covered in levels 2 or 3.	Parent Contact from Teacher	3 Days OSS	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS
	2	Inappropriate sexually based behavior including but not limited to sexting, lewd behavior, possession of pornographic materials, simulated sex acts.	3 Days OSS	5 Days OSS	3 Days OSS	Long-Term Suspension /Expulsion
	3	Engaging in sexual activities on school grounds or during school activities.	5 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days OSS	Expulsion
Sexual Harassment (15) Unwelcome sexual advances, lewd gestures or verbal conduct or communication of a sexual nature; requests for sexual favors; possession of sexually explicit images; gender-based harassment that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or work environment. DFCS: ; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC: X	1	Comments that perpetuate gender stereotypes or suggestive jokes that are not directed towards specific individuals. Includes but not limited to insensitive or sexually suggestive comments or jokes.	Parent Contact from Teacher	Time Out	Parent Contact from Teacher	3 Days ISS
	2	Comments that perpetuate gender stereotypes, suggestive jokes or lewd gestures that are directed towards specific individuals or groups of individuals. Includes but not limited to insensitive or sexually suggestive comments or jokes.	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	10 Day OSS
	3	Physical or non-physical sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on sexual harassment three or more times during the same school year.	3 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	3 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension/ Expulsion
Taunting (33) (Student Incivility - Level 1)	1	Teasing, taunting, demeaning others, picking, emotional stress (not on a repeated basis).	Parent Conference	Time Out	Parent Conference	3 Days ISS

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Threat/Intimidation (17) Any threat through written or verbal language or act which creates a fear of harm and/or conveys a serious expression of intent to harm or violence without displaying a weapon and without subjecting the victim to actual physical attack. DFCS: — SSW: X CP: X TIXC: X	2	Physical, verbal or electronic threat which creates fear of harm without displaying a weapon or subjecting victims to physical attack. Examples include but not limited to physical, verbal or electronic threats.	In-Person Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	2 Days OSS	10 Days OSS
	3	School-wide physical, verbal or electronic threat which creates fear of harm without displaying a weapon or subjecting victims to physical attack; Note: Students that display a pattern of behavior that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to have the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education, threatening the educational environment, or causing substantial physical harm, threat of harm or visibly bodily harm may be coded as bullying. Includes but not limited to bomb threats or unauthorized pulling of the fire alarm.	3 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension/ Expulsion
Tobacco (18) Possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products on school grounds, at schoolsponsored events, and on transportation to and from school.	1	**Unintentional** possession of tobacco products.	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	1 Day OSS	5 Days OSS
	2	Use of or knowledgeable possession of tobacco products.	1 Day OSS	5 Days OSS	3 Days OSS	10 Days OSS
	3	Distribution and/or selling of tobacco products; Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on tobacco three or more times during the same school year.	3 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days OSS	Long Term Suspension/ Expulsion
Trespassing (19) Entering or remaining on a public-school campus or school board facility without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. (Note: The key difference between Trespassing and Breaking & Entering-Burglary is that Trespassing does not include forceful entry into the school building.) DFCS: — SSW: — CP: X TIXC: —	2	Entering or remaining on school grounds or facilities without authorization and with no lawful purpose.	Parent Conference	5 Days OSS	Parent Conference	10 Days OSS
	3	Entering or remaining on school grounds or facilities without authorization and with no lawful purpose. Refusing to leave school grounds after a request from school personnel; Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on trespassing three or more times during the same school year.	3 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	2 Days OSS	Expulsion
Vandalism (20) The willful and/or malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of public or private property without consent. DFCS: — SSW: — CP: X TIXC: —	2	Participating in the minor destruction, damage or defacement of school property or private property without permission.	Parent Conference	3 Days OSS	Parent Conference	5 Days OSS
	3	Participation in the willful/malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of school property or private property without permission; Level 3 may be used for students that violate the school policy on vandalism three or more times during the same school year.	3 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	5 Days OSS	Expulsion
Violence Against a Teacher (44) DFCS: — SSW: — CP: X TIXC: —	3	Intentional physical attack against a teacher with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in severe injuries or any physical attack against a teacher. *When an act of physical violence is directed towards a school official, resulting in physical harm to a school official, SCCPSS will seek permanent expulsion, when required by law.	Parent Conference/ 1 Day OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	10 Days OSS	Expulsion

DFCS Department of Family & Child Services **SSW** School Social Worker **CP** Campus Police **TIXC** Title IX Coordinator

Disciplinary Infraction	Level	Definition of Infraction	Elementary School Miniumum	Elementary School Maximum	Middle / High School Miniumum	Middle / High School Maximum
Weapons-Knife (22) The possession, use, or intention to use any type of knife. DFCS: X; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC:	1	Unintentional possession of a knife or knife-like item without intent to harm or intimidate.	Time Out	3 Days OSS	1 Day ISS	5 Days OSS
	2	Intentional possession of a knife or knife-like item without intent to harm or intimidate.	1 Day OSS	3 Days OSS	3 Days OSS	7 Days OSS
	3	Intentional possession, use or intention to use a knife or knife-like item with the intent to harm or intimidate.	5 Days OSS	Referral to Alternative Placement	Alternative Placement	Expulsion
Weapons-Handgun (25) Possession of a firearm that has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand; and any combination of parts from which a firearm described above can be assembled. NOTE: This definition does not apply to items such as toy guns, cap guns, bb guns and pellet gun [Pursuant to Gun-Free Schools Act - Public Law 107-110, Section 4141]. DFCS: X; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC:	3	Intentional or unintentional possession or use of a handgun in a manner that could produce bodily harm or fear of harm.	Report to Law Enforcement/ Referral to Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement/ Expulsion	Report to Law Enforcement/ Full Calendar Year Expulsion	Report to Law Enforcement/ Permanent Expulsion
Weapons-Other (23) The possession, use, or intention to use any instrument or object that is used or intended to be used in a manner that may inflict bodily harm (does not include knives or firearms). DFCS: ; SSW: X; CP: X; TIXC:	2	Unintentional possession of a weapon, other than a knife or firearm, or simile of a weapon that could produce bodily harm or fear of harm. Includes but is not limited to razor blades, straight-edge razors, brass knuckles, blackjacks, bats, clubs, nun chucks, throwing stars, stun guns, Tasers, etc.	Time Out	3 Days OSS	1 Day ISS	5 Days OSS
	3	Intentional possession and use of any weapon, other than a knife or firearm, in a manner that could produce bodily harm or fear of harm. Includes but is not limited to razor blades, straight-edge razors, brass knuckles, blackjacks, bats, clubs, nun chucks, throwing stars, stun guns, Tasers, etc.	Report to Law Enforcement/ 3 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Referral to Alternative Placement	Report to Law Enforcement/ 5 Days OSS	Report to Law Enforcement/ Expulsion

Bus Conduct Statement:
Disciplinary infractions that occur on a bus or bus stop are subject to the same disciplinary measures as infractions that take place at school sites. Improper conduct on buses and at bus stops can result in the loss, suspension of bus transportation privileges. The loss or suspension of such privileges can substitute for minimum disciplinary responses up to 1 day of OSS that are not otherwise required by State law.

Statement on the Commission of Illegal Acts Not Included in the Behavior Matrix:
Any and all illegal acts not specifically addressed in this table are subject to appropriate disciplinary measures and restorative responses which are in no way limited based on this table.

DFCS Department of Family & Child Services **SSW** School Social Worker **CP** Campus Police **TIXC** Title IX Coordinator

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - POLICY JD-R

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 1)

The student code of conduct will be provided to students and parents in which it is explained what acts are considered misconduct and the possible consequences of misconduct. The code of conduct can be provided through electronic means. Parents and students are required to acknowledge that they have received and read the code of conduct and are aware of the expectations and consequences related to behavior found in the code of conduct. A record of acknowledgement can be established through electronic means. The acknowledgment of a middle or high school student will verify notification to parents and students of the system's expectations. The contract shall be maintained at the school throughout the school year. In addition, specific information about alcohol and other drug prevention shall be given to students which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Statements directly explaining that for students in Pre-K-12, the Board of Education does not tolerate possession and/or use of drugs or alcohol, acts of violence including bullying, gang and gang-like activities, and possession of weapons within a school safety zone as defined in O.C.G.A. 16-11-127.1,
2. A statement that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and/or use of alcohol are wrong and harmful,
3. Information about drug, alcohol and tobacco counseling, and rehabilitation/re-entry programs available to students through the school guidance office.

DISCIPLINE REPORTING PROCESS
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 2)

The following progressive discipline processes shall occur when a student exhibits behavior that repeatedly or substantially interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in his or her class or has violated the Student Discipline Policy JD and/or the Student Code of Conduct:

1. The teacher shall file a Disciplinary Referral Form in writing for such violation.
2. The form shall be sent to the principal within one school day of the last incident.
3. An investigation shall be made into any alleged misconduct.
4. Due process procedures shall be observed in all disciplinary actions.
5. After reviewing the form, the principal shall, within one working day, send a copy of the form to the parent with information on how to contact the principal.

Within one school day after any action is taken:

1. The principal shall send written notice to the teacher and parent of any utilization of student support services or disciplinary action.
2. The principal shall make a reasonable attempt to confirm that such notice has been received by the parent.
3. The notice shall include principal contact information.

Inadvertent omission or failure to follow these procedures shall not void the disciplinary actions of the administrator. Consequences for breaking the rules of the Student Discipline Policy JD and/or the Student Code of Conduct may include one or more of the following:

1. Student or parental conference
2. Counseling
3. Confiscation of nuisance items
4. Loss of privileges
5. Special assignments/behavioral contracts
6. Restitution
7. Lowered conduct grade
8. Detention/Saturday school
9. On-site-intervention program
10. Placement in an alternative education program
11. Loss of bus transportation privileges
12. Suspension at an alternate suspension location (pending due process decision)
13. Out-of-school short-term suspension (10 days or less)
14. Long-term suspension
15. Expulsion
16. Full calendar year expulsion
17. Permanent expulsion
18. Referral for criminal prosecution

The application of these consequences is shown in the Discipline Chart in the Student Code of Conduct.

* Truancy referrals, the reporting of child neglect or abuse, the reporting of criminal conduct, and the reporting and referral process for threats of harm to self are not remedial or disciplinary actions and are not reflected in the student discipline records.

REQUIRED REPORTING OF STUDENT CRIMINAL CONDUCT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 3)
Teachers and school employees who have reasonable cause to believe that a student PreK-12 has committed any of the following acts upon school property or at any school function shall immediately report the act and the name of the student to the principal. A principal who has reasonable cause to believe that the report is valid shall immediately, orally or telephonically, or electronically report the act to the parent and to Campus Police, who shall report the act to the Superintendent, the appropriate police agency, and the district attorney. The required reporting of sexual offenses by students is not a remedial or disciplinary act.

1. Aggravated assault (O.C.G.A. §16-5-21)
2. Aggravated battery (O.C.G.A. §16-5-24)
3. Sexual offenses (O.C.G.A. §16-6-1, et. seq.)
4. Carrying weapons in unauthorized locations (O.C.G.A. §16-11-127)
5. Carrying weapons at school functions or on school property or within school safety zones (O.C.G.A. §16-11-127.1), but only when it involves a:
   a) Firearm, as defined in O.C.G.A. §16-11-131.
   b) Dangerous weapon or machine gun, as defined in O.C.G.A. §16-1-121; or,
   c) Weapon, as defined in O.C.G.A. §16-11-127.1, together with an assault.
6. Illegal possession of a pistol or revolver by a person under 18 (O.C.G.A. §16-11-132)
7. Possession of marijuana and controlled substances (O.C.G.A. §16-13-30)

BULLYING AND CYBERBULLYING
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 4)
Student Discipline Policy JD, Rule 6, shall be considered the District's bullying and cyberbullying policy in conjunction with this rule.

All complaints of bullying (including cyberbullying) will be investigated and documented. Substantiated complaints will be placed in the student's discipline file. If additional action is needed, the charge will be referred to Campus Police for appropriate action and also copied to the appropriate Central Office Administrator.

Definition: "Bullying" means the following:

1. Any willful attempt to threaten to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm, or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
   a. Causes another person substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm as such terms are defined in O.C.G.A. 16-5-23.1;
   b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education.
   c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
   d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.
4. "Cyberbullying" means the following: Acts which occur on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities orby use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system. It also means acts which occur through the use of electronic communication, whether or not such electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication (1) is directed specifically at students or school personnel, (2) is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school, and (3) creates a reasonable fear or high likelihood of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property.
5. Electronic communication includes but is not limited to any transfer of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic of photo optical system.

Whenever the word "bullying" is used it also includes the word "cyberbullying".

First Offense
If the principal determines that a student has committed the offense of bullying, the principal will assign the appropriate Level II consequence(s), hold a conference with the parent explaining the offense, review Board Policy JD Rule 6, and explain the consequence(s) related to the bullying in the Student Code of Conduct. This conference will be documented and a copy placed in the student's permanent file.

Second Offense
If the principal determines that a student has committed a second offense of bullying, the principal will assign the appropriate Level II and/or Level III consequences and implement the Student Support Process (Student Code of Conduct Procedure 8). The principal will notify the parent in writing that a third offense of bullying will result in a request being made for long-term suspension from regular school and placement in an alternative program. Principals will also follow the procedure section in Student Code of Conduct Procedure 5, Chronic Disciplinary Problem Students.

Third Offense
Upon finding that a student, in grades 6-12, has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, the principal shall make a request to the Administrator of the Student Hearing Office for the long-term suspension of the student to an alternative setting (O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.4). Documentation of the Student Support Process with a copy of the behavior correction plan, and data showing efforts to modify the bullying behavior must be included with the disciplinary request and placed in the student's permanent file.

Sexual Harassment
Findings of bullying based on acts amounting to sexual harassment must be made through the procedural framework for responding to actual knowledge and complaints of sexual harassment found in the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol. Such a finding can be considered an offense of bullying without conducting a live hearing in the formal grievance procedure.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - POLICY JD-R

SCHOOL BUS
A principal may take action on any misconduct which occurs on a school bus, the same as if the violation had occurred on school grounds. It is up to the principal to determine the severity of the punishment for the misconduct in accordance with local board policy/ administrative regulation and state law. Refer to **Bus Conduct - Policy EDCB** for additional information concerning student behavior on the school bus.

For students engaging in bullying or committing physical assault or battery upon another person on the school bus, the following shall occur:
- The parent and the student shall meet with the appropriate school district officials to form a school bus behavior contract.
- The contract shall provide for progressive age-appropriate discipline, penalties and restrictions.
- Contract provisions may include, but shall not be limited to, assigned seating, ongoing parental involvement, and suspension from riding the bus.

For students committing acts of physical violence against school personnel or bus drivers **(See Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 6).**

CHRONIC DISCIPLINARY PROBLEM STUDENTS
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 5)
Definition "Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student" means any student who exhibits a behavior pattern which interferes with the learning process of students around him/her and which is likely to recur. If a teacher or principal determines that a student is a chronic disciplinary problem student, then the principal shall:
1. Notify the student's parent as soon as practical. The parent shall be notified by a telephone call and certified mail with a return receipt requested or first class mail.
2. Invite the parent to the school to observe the student in a classroom situation.
3. Give the parent an opportunity to schedule and attend a conference with the principal and/or teacher(s) to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan. **(O.C.G.A. § 20-2-765).**
4. The student shall be referred to the school social worker for support.

Before any chronic disciplinary problem student returns from an expulsion, long-term suspension or short-term out-of-school suspension, the principal of the school to which the student is to be re-admitted shall:
1. Request by a telephone call and certified mail with a return receipt requested or first class mail that the parent schedule and attend a conference with the principal so as to devise, update, or modify a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan.
2. At their discretion, invite a teacher, counselor, or other person to attend the conference. Failure of the parent to attend shall not preclude the student from being re-admitted to the school.
3. Ensure that a notation of the conference is placed in the student's permanent file **(O.C.G.A. § 20-2-766).** The Student Support Process will be employed in the re-admission process, documented, and a copy placed in the student's permanent file.

STUDENTS COMMITTING ACTS OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AGAINST SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND BUS DRIVERS (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-751.6)
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 6)
Definition "Physical Violence":
1. Intentionally making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of another; or

2. Intentionally making physical contact which causes physical harm to another unless such physical contacts or physical harms were in defense of himself or herself, as provided in **O.C.G.A. § 16-3-21.**

If a principal determines that a student has violated Policy JD, Rule 8, by committing an act of physical violence as defined in (See Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 6), (1) or (2), the principal shall contact Campus Police and the principal shall follow due process procedures and issue a disciplinary referral. If the violation results in physical harm as provided for in (See Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 6). (2), the principal shall issue a disciplinary referral for permanent expulsion from the School System. If a student is alleged to have committed an act of physical violence against a teacher, school bus driver, or other school official or employee as defined above, the student shall be suspended and a disciplinary hearing shall be scheduled pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-754 (see Policy JCEB-R(0).

Any student found by a Disciplinary Hearing Officer to have committed an act of physical violence by intentionally making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature against a teacher, school bus driver, school official, or school employee as specified in Policy JD Rule 9 may be disciplined by short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion.

A student found by a Disciplinary Hearing Officer to have committed an act of physical violence by intentionally making physical contact which causes physical harm to a teacher, school bus driver, school official or employee as specified in Policy JD Rule 9, shall be permanently expelled from the public school system and shall be referred to juvenile court, if applicable. The expulsion shall be for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public school pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-150. The local school board at its discretion may permit the student to attend an alternative education program for the period of the student's expulsion. If the student who commits an act of physical violence is in kindergarten through grade eight, then the local school board at its discretion and on the recommendation of the Disciplinary Hearing Officer may permit such a student to re-enroll into the regular public school program for grades nine through twelve.

WEAPONS
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 7)
Definition "Weapons" as defined by the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System may include but shall not be limited to:

1. any item defined in state law as a weapon
2. a knife with a blade of any length
3. any chemical, substance, device or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or terrorizing or producing bodily harm or death

Georgia Law, O.C.G.A. § 16-11-106(a) defines weapons as the items listed below:

(1) any pistol, revolver, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind
(2) any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches
(3) straight-edge razor, razor blade
(4) spring stick, metal knucks, blackjack
(5) any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon
(6) any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain
(7) any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart
(8) any weapon of like kind, and any stun gun or taser as defined in subsection (a) of O.C.G.A. § 16-11-106
(9) any dangerous weapon as defined in O.C.G.A. § 16-11-121.
(10) any firearm as defined in O.C.G.A § 16-11-131.

Students violating **Policy JD, Rule 11**, by bringing a dangerous weapon, firearm, or hazardous object to school shall be referred for Full Calendar Year Expulsion and shall be subject to criminal prosecution. **(see Student Code of Conduct, Procedures 14 and 15).**

Students violating **Policy JD, Rule 11**, by bringing weapons to school, on school grounds or to school related activities, that meet the state law definition or Board of Education definition of weapons, but do not meet the federal law definition of weapons, may be subject to long-term suspension, expulsion or permanent expulsion and shall be subject to criminal prosecution. **(see Student Code of Conduct, Procedures 14 and 16).**

Special Category: This includes any instrument that may be classified as a weapon, other than a firearm or knife with a blade of two (2) or more inches in length, which has a legitimate purpose in ones' daily life other than use as a weapon. Examples of these special category weapons are hunting paraphernalia, scissors, screwdrivers, multi-purpose tools, or look-alike objects that take on the appearance of a weapon, such as water pistols, toy pistols, etc.
If the principal determines that the student was in possession of a Special Category weapon, but not with the purpose or intent to threaten or harm others, and not for personal protection, the principal may determine any appropriate disciplinary action. Any student found in possession of any weapon, tool, or instrument which is included in the state's definition of prohibited weapons shall be reported to Campus Police and referred for disciplinary action according to **(Student Code of Conduct, Procedures 14 and 16).**

If the principal determines that the student was in possession of a Special Category weapon with the purpose or intent to threaten or harm others or for personal protection, then the student shall be reported to Campus Police and shall be referred for disciplinary action according to **(Student Code of Conduct, Procedures 14 and 16).**
Campus Police and/or the Administrator of the Student Hearing Office shall be consulted in all cases involving Special Category weapons. A principal may request, through the Administrator of the Student Hearing Office, a review team meeting to assist in the decision making process.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - POLICY JD-R

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT (MTSS)/STUDENT SUPPORT PROCESS (SSP)
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 8)
The Multi-Tiered Systems/Student Support Process (MTSS/SSP) is a regular education process for students experiencing problems of an academic, social or behavioral nature in school. MTSS/SSP involves an interdisciplinary group who works collectively to improve the delivery of instructional services to students, as well as serve as a resource for teachers and other educators in the delivery of these services.

Parents may be invited to participate in the meetings of their child's SSP and in the development of interventions for their child. Parent participation is encouraged. Student Support Process documents shall be placed in the student's permanent file and copies given to all involved.

The following are steps to be used in the development of the SSP:
1. Identification of learning and/or behavior problems
2. Assessment, if necessary
3. Educational plan delineating what strategies, interventions and modifications shall be attempted
4. Implementation
5. Follow-up and support including data collection
6. Continuous monitoring and evaluation

If an SSP is utilized as a result of a discipline referral, parents shall receive a copy of the report (SSP minutes) and information on how to contact the principal.

DETENTION
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 9)
Definition "Detention" means required attendance of a student outside of regular school hours for minor misbehavior or disciplinary infractions, provided parents are notified at least one (1) day in advance of any detention.
Students in grades Pre-K through 12 may be assigned detention. Prior to the student serving a detention, the parent must be notified at least one (1) day in advance.

EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 10)
Students may be excluded from schools and/or programs for the following reasons:
1. The student violates the rules described in Policy JD or other rules that have been established and communicated in writing to the students and parents by the school
2. Violation of a criminal law while on a school campus
3. The student substantially interferes with the on-going educational process or seriously threatens the physical safety of others
4. The student causes or attempts to cause physical injury, threatens bodily harm, intentionally makes physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature, or behaves in such a way as could reasonably cause physical injury to any person
5. The student commits an assault or battery upon any teacher, school official or school employee and such individual request their exclusion from the school

The professional judgment of the principal and the facts of the investigation into the case will guide the principal in deciding upon the appropriate disciplinary action.

A Pre-K child cannot be disenrolled or suspended from the PreKindergarten Program without first contacting the Pre-K coordinator. Immediate suspension for up to two (2) days can be made at any time the principal has a situation where a child is causing harm to himself/herself or others. In this case, no prior approval from the PreK coordinator is needed.

SENDING SUSPENDED STUDENTS HOME DURING THE SCHOOL DAY
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 11)
When a student is suspended, the principal shall document the attempt to reach the student's parent to inform them of the suspension and to request that the parent come to the school for his/her child.

PROGRESSIVE USE OF SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 12)
Definition: "Short-term Suspension" means the exclusion of a student from the regular classroom setting in a public school for any period from one (1) to not more than ten (10) school days. Suspension out-of-school will be at home

where parents are expected to supervise their children while they complete the out of school suspension. **Parents/ legal guardians of the suspended student have no right to a disciplinary hearing or a right to appeal a short-term suspension.**

It is required that after five (5) cumulative days of out-of-school suspension, the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support/ Student Support Process (MTSS/SSP) be initiated. No student in Pre-K through fifth grade shall be expelled or suspended from school for more than five consecutive or cumulative days during a school year without first receiving a multi-tiered system of supports per O.C.G.A. 20-2-742. At this time, consideration of the student's behavior, lack of response to the behavior correction plan, and lack of response to being removed from the regular program must be considered. When the number of out-of-school suspension days reaches 11 or more in any semester, the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support/Student Support Process (MTSS/SSP) shall be initiated to develop or review the behavior correction plan and document the need for the out-of-school option or alternative education placement.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE RECORDS
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 13)
All documents including written statements and relevant information concerning student misconduct must be kept on file for the duration of the current school year and in subsequent years according to records management procedures.

DISTRICT WIDE DISCIPLINARY PROBATION
(Student Code of Conduct Procedure 14)
District Wide Disciplinary Probation may be proposed by the school as an option for students being considered for long term suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary actions of Long Term Suspension and Expulsion are suspended based on the agreed period of probation.

Disciplinary probation is a serious status that is assigned to a student who (1) has violated the school's behavioral rules or has repeatedly not complied with school policies, (2) has been referred for and/or appeared before a Student Disciplinary Hearing, and (3) has been allowed to return to their zone school. This is a probationary period in which a student must conduct himself/herself in a way that meets the school disciplinary code. A student who violates the school rules while on Disciplinary Probation is subject to assignment to the District's Alternative Education School for the duration of their probation and/or referral to a new disciplinary hearing which may result in assignment of additional discipline. If the student violates this agreement and the student has an IEP, signed Consent to Evaluate, or 504 plan then a Manifestation Determination Review will be required in consideration of revoking probation as a result of a probation violation.

SEVERE DISCIPLINARY ACTION
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 15)
(Long-Term Suspension/Expulsion/Full Calendar Year Expulsion/Permanent Expulsion)
Definition: "Long-term Suspension" means the exclusion of a student from a public school for more than ten (10) days but not beyond the current school semester (one-half year).
Definition: "Expulsion" means the exclusion of a student from the regular classroom setting in a public school beyond the current school semester. "Full Calendar Year Expulsion" means the exclusion of a student from the regular classroom setting in a public school for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. (Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 15).
Definition: "Permanent Expulsion" means the permanent exclusion of a student from a public school system. (Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 16).
Students in grades Pre-K through 12 may be placed on long-term suspension, expulsion, full calendar year expulsion or permanent expulsion. These students have a right to a disciplinary hearing and a right to appeal the decision. If the student is an identified special education student, a manifestation determination review must be completed and a copy provided to the Student Hearing Office immediately upon completion.
Any student assigned to an alternative setting because of disciplinary infraction under Policy JD will not participate in athletics or other extracurricular activities at the regular school.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - POLICY JD-R

LONG-TERM SUSPENSION/EXPULSION PROCESS
When a serious incident occurs that may require a request for Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion, Full Calendar Year Expulsion, Permanent Expulsion, or if a student assaults or commits battery on a teacher, any school official or employee and such individual makes such a request, the principal shall:
1. Contact Campus Police/School Resource Officer regarding possible criminal charges if applicable.
2. Contact the appropriate Central Office Administrator if a PreK-5 student is involved. A PreK child cannot be disenrolled or suspended from the PreKindergarten Program without first contacting the PreK coordinator.
3. Conduct a thorough investigation using the Long-Term Suspension/ Expulsion packet of information from the Student Hearing Office.
   a. Do not suspend the student until the investigation is complete, unless the student is a threat to self or others.
   b. Interview all witnesses/victims/perpetrator(s).

1. Secure written statements from each person interviewed.
2. Make sure all sections are complete and legible:
3. If a witness/victim/perpetrator is unable to write a statement, have them verbally explain what they saw and have a staff member record their statement. Have the statement signed by the witnesses/victims/perpetrator(s).

4. If the facts of the investigation merit disciplinary action:
   a. Contact the parent.
      1. Document all contacts or attempted contacts.
      2. Explain the incident/allegations to the parent.
      3. Explain that their child has a right to have their side of the incident heard.
   b. Complete a Disciplinary Referral Form.
      1. Check the box for Long-term Suspension, Expulsion, Full Calendar Expulsion, or Permanent Expulsion.
      2. Make sure all sections are complete and legible:
         the date of referral;
         date of incident;
         time of incident and;
         name of school.
      3. Place the student on 10-day out-of-school suspension.
      4. Indicate the starting date of the 10-day suspension.
5. The Principal shall hold a conference with the parent to explain the requested action. The parent will be requested to sign the Parental Notification Form acknowledging the conference and the requested disciplinary action. If the parent refuses to attend the conference, it shall be noted on the Parental Notification Form.
6. Provide a copy of the Disciplinary Referral Form to the student, if applicable, and the parent.
   a. Hand deliver the completed request for disciplinary action, checklist, and packet of information to the Student Hearing Office within 24 hours of the beginning of the 10-day out-of-school suspension (Refer to the Student Hearing Office for packet of information).

If the student is an identified special education student or has a 504 Plan, a manifestation determination review must be completed and a copy provided to the Student Hearing Office immediately upon completion.
Any student assigned to a disciplinary alternative learning program under Policy JD will not participate in athletics or other extracurricular activities at the regular school.
Any student long-term suspended or expelled from a disciplinary alternative learning program must complete their remaining initial suspension or expulsion time at a disciplinary alternative learning program before being released to return to their regular school.

(i.e. Student receives long-term suspension from his/her school and enrolls at a disciplinary alternative learning program in October. While enrolled at a disciplinary alternative learning program, he/she violates the Student Code of Conduct and is long-term suspended from a disciplinary alternative learning program in October. When his/her long-term suspension period from a disciplinary alternative learning program has been completed, the student will return to a disciplinary alternative learning program and complete his/her initial long-term suspension time rather than being released to his home school).

FULL CALENDAR YEAR EXPULSION
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 16)
If a principal determines that a student has violated Policy JD, Rule 11, and has brought a firearm, dangerous weapon, or hazardous object to school the student shall be referred for expulsion from school for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year (Full Calendar Year Expulsion). See Procedure 7 for a description of weapons as used in this section. See Procedure 14 for severe disciplinary action.

PERMANENT EXPULSION
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 17)
If a principal determines that a student has violated **Policy JD, Rule 9 or 12**, the student shall be referred for permanent expulsion from the school system.
If a principal determines that a student has violated **Policy JD, Rule 7, 11, or 13**, then the student may be referred for permanent expulsion from the School System.

RE-ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR LONG-TERM SUSPENSION/EXPULSION/FULL CALENDAR YEAR EXPULSION/PERMANENT EXPULSION
(Student Code of Conduct Procedure 23)
Before a student returns from a long-term suspension, expulsion, or full calendar year expulsion the principal shall:
1. request by certified mail with return receipt requested or first-class mail and a telephone call that the parent schedule and attend a meeting with the principal and other appropriate school staff (including community agency staff);
2. devise, update or modify a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan using the Student Support Process. For identified special education students, the Individualized Educational Program (I.E.P.) process shall be used;
3. document the Student Support Process and place a copy in the student's permanent file.

Failure of the parent to attend shall not preclude the student from returning to the school.

A student who has been permanently expelled may apply for re-admission to the school system after the expiration of twelve (12) months. The application must be in writing and addressed to the Superintendent's Office. The Superintendent will review the re-admission application and make a recommendation to the Board. The Board will either approve or deny the recommendation. If the Board approves the re-admission application, the student will only be readmitted at the beginning of a school semester. Upon approval for re-admission the principal shall follow the re-admission requirements described above.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
(Student Code of Conduct Procedure 24)
"Students with Disabilities" includes any student covered under Section 504 as a student with a disability as well as students eligible to receive special education services under the Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Special procedural rights apply to students with disabilities in the context of student discipline. These procedural rights are established under applicable laws and regulations.

The District's Special Education Implementation Manual, Section 504 Manual and MTSS Manual set forth procedures to ensure compliance with applicable legal requirements. These documents address relevant requirements including those pertaining to notice, assessment, behavior plans, team meetings and manifestation determination review.

Manifestation determination review meetings must be conducted within ten (10) school days of any decision to change the placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a student code of conduct. A suspension from more than ten (10) days qualifies as a change in placement.

The applicable standards and procedures for manifestation determination reviews differ based on whether a student with a disability is eligible to receive services under the IDEA.

In cases where relevant student misconduct is determined not to be a manifestation of a student's disability, the student can be subjected to the same disciplinary actions as a non-disabled student. However, any such student receiving educational services under an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) must continue to receive educational services during any period of expulsion or suspension in excess of ten (10) days. Students with disabilities who are not eligible under the IDEA do not have the right to continue to receive educational services when they are expelled or suspended for conduct that is determined not to be a manifestation of their disability.

If the relevant student misconduct is a manifestation of the student's disability, the student may not be suspended for more than ten (10) days for that misconduct.

A temporary alternative educational setting of not more than 45 days can be:
1. Ordered by school personnel if the disabled student brings a WEAPON to school or possesses, uses or sells CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES OR ILLEGAL DRUGS, or inflicts serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function.
2. Ordered by a State Department of Education administrative law judge or an order from a court if the school system shows substantial evidence that keeping the child in the current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to self or others. The school system reserves the right to request consecutive 45-day placements under the same circumstances.
3. Any 45-day placement may be applied in addition to a preliminary placement of up to 10 days.

All appeals in the case of disagreement by the parent(s) must comply with due process requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (I.D.E.A.) and the State and Local Plan for Special Education.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT BY A STUDENT
(Student Code of Conduct Procedure 25)
Sexual harassment by a student is defined as:
1) Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or a related activity; or
2) "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092 (f).(6).(A).(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a). 10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a).(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291 (A). (30).

Certain legal requirements apply when District employees have actual knowledge to instances and allegations of sexual harassment in a program or activity over which the District exhibits substantial control over both the alleged harasser and the context in which the alleged harassment occurs. 34 C.F.R. 106.44(a). Any District employee with actual knowledge of such instances and allegations of sexual harassment are required to make a prompt report to the District's Title IX Coordinator. Reports can also be made directly or through the Principal.

The District's administrative response framework with respect to occurrences involving actual and alleged sexual harassment by an SCCPSS student is found in the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol.

No student shall be subject to remedial consequences (including discipline) for the specific offense of sexual harassment or sexual assault unless the remedial consequences are the result of a process conducted pursuant to the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol. Remedial measures may include authorization that the District proceed with seeking expulsion or long term suspension based on student conduct that could be considered a component of or related to sexually harassing behavior.

The District shall only expel or long-term suspend a student for the offense of sexual harassment if the formal grievance procedure under the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol is conducted as a live hearing. Other disciplinary actions can result from a formal grievance procedure under the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol that does not include a live hearing.

The time for proceeding with a disciplinary proceeding for any such offense will be suspended until the final conclusion of a Title IX formal grievance procedure. Administrative disciplinary consequences that result from a student's designated felony status are not subject to or limited by the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol's formal grievance procedures. District staff reporting criminal conduct that includes acts or allegations of sexual harassment to law enforcement officials is not a remedial or disciplinary measure.

STUDENT REPORTING OF ACTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 26)

All students shall follow these procedures when there are alleged instances of inappropriate behavior by a teacher, administrator or other school employee toward a student.

(a) Any student (or parent or friend of a student) who has been the victim of an act of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct by a teacher, administrator or other school system employee is urged to make a verbal report of the act to any counselor or administrator at his/her school.

(b) Any teacher, counselor or administrator receiving a report of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct of a student by a teacher, administrator or other employee shall make an oral report of the incident immediately by telephone or otherwise to the school principal or principals designee, and shall submit a written report of the incident to the school principal or principals designee within 24 hours. If the principal is the person accused of the sexual abuse or sexual misconduct, the oral and written reports should be made to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee.

(c) Any school principal or principals designee receiving a report of sexual abuse as defined in O.C.G.A. 19-7-5 shall make an oral report immediately, but in no case later than 24 hours from the time there is reasonable cause to believe a child has been abused. The report should be made by telephone and followed by a report in writing, if requested, to a child welfare agency providing protective services, as designated by the Department of Human Resources, or, in the absence of such agency, to an appropriate police authority or district attorney.

Reports of acts of sexual misconduct against a student by a teacher, administrator or other employee not covered by O.C.G.A. 19- 7-5 or 20-2-1184 shall be investigated immediately by school or system personnel. If the allegations concern sexual harassment, investigations shall be conducted in accordance with applicable Federal regulations in accordance with the District's Sexual Harassment Protocol. If the investigation of the allegation of sexual misconduct indicates a reasonable cause to believe that the report of sexual misconduct is valid, the school principal or principal's designee shall make an immediate written report to the superintendent and the Professional Standards Commission Ethics Division.

(d) The reporting of alleged or actual sexual abuse and misconduct to conduct to law enforcement, the Department of Family and Children Services and the Professional Standards Commission Ethics Division are not remedial or disciplinary actions that require the exhaustion of any grievance procedure.

(e) Nothing in this policy shall prevent or delay the ability to report instances and actual knowledge of sexual harassment directly to the District's Title IX Coordinator. Such reports can be submitted anytime by email, phone or mail.

Definitions

For definitions not found in this section, refer to individual Procedures.
As used in this procedure, the following words or phrases and meanings apply:

a. "Aggravated Assault": A person commits the offense of aggravated assault when he or she assaults:
   1. With intent to murder, to rape, or to rob;
   2. With a deadly weapon or with any object, device, or instrument which, when used offensively against a person, is likely to or actually does result in serious bodily injury, or,
   3. a person or persons without legal justification by discharging a firearm from within a motor vehicle toward a person or persons, O.C.G.A 16-5-21.

b. "Battery": A person commits the offense of battery when he or she intentionally causes substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm to another. As used in this Code section, the term "visible bodily harm" means bodily harm capable of being perceived by a person other than the victim and may include, but is not limited to, substantially blackened eyes, substantially swollen lips or other facial or body parts, or substantial bruises to body parts.

1. Any person who commits the offense of battery against a teacher or other school personnel, engaged in the performance of official duties or while on school property shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both. O.C.G.A. 16-5-23.1.

c. "Fight" means mutual participation in a physical conflict involving two (2) or more persons. It does not include verbal confrontations. (See Simple Assault, Simple Battery).

d. "Simple Assault" A person commits the offense of simple assault when he or she either:
   1. Attempts to commit a violent injury to the person of another; or
   2. Commits an act which places another in reasonable apprehension of immediately receiving a violent injury. O.C.G.A. 16-5-20.

e. "Simple Battery" A person commits the offense of simple battery when he or she either:
   1. Intentionally makes physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of another; or
   2. Intentionally causes physical harm to another.

f. "Terroristic threat" A person commits the offense of a terroristic threat when he threatens to commit any crime of violence or to burn or damage property with the purpose of terrorizing another or of causing the evacuation of a building, place of assembly, or facility of public transportation or otherwise causing serious public inconvenience, or in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience. No person shall be convicted under this subsection on the uncorroborated testimony of the party to whom the threat is communicated. O.C.G.A. 16-11-37.

g. A "Verbal Assault" is an intense, extreme or severe attack transmitted by speech intended to threaten and/or intimidate another person.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - POLICY JD-R

DESIGNATED FELONY STATUS, PROCESS AND PROCEDURE
(Student Code of Conduct Procedure 27)

The Department of Student Affairs endeavors to legally access and receive information regarding the indictment, judicial information filing, conviction or affirmative adjudication of any felony or delinquent act under O.C.G.A 15-11-602 and 15-11-707 by any current or enrolling SCCPSS student that would be a felony if committed by an adult. In this procedure, the legal events described in the above paragraph will be referred to as a "designated felony status occurrence."

Upon access or receipt of sufficient notice of a designated felony status occurrence, any such student enrolled or enrolling with the District will be assigned to an alternative educational program. Nothing in this policy shall require the District to enroll students who have no right to enrollment based on their disciplinary status at another district.

Upon receipt of sufficient notice of a designated felony status occurrence, the Department of Student Affairs shall initiate the change in setting process by issuing a letter to the alternative education program, the home zoned school and any other school that the student was attending at the time notice is received. The Department of Student Affairs shall also make diligent efforts to promptly notify the student and the student's parents and/or guardians of record of the District's notice of the designated felony status occurrence and the implications to the student's educational setting. Prompt notification by the Department of Student Affairs may be accomplished by a variety of means including phone call, electronic communication, mail, hand-delivered written notice or in-person conversation.

The Disciplinary Hearing Office shall notify the student (if an adult) or the student's parents or guardians of their right to request a due process hearing concerning the student's designated felony status as provided for under O.C.G.A. 20-2-768(a) and 20-2-754. Any determination regarding designated felony status will concern procedural and adjudicative status and not any underlying offense.

The fact that a designated felony offense could be considered an act or component of sexual harassment does not entitle the student to be a respondent in a formal Title IX sexual harassment proceeding prior to conducting a hearing to establish a student's designated felony status.

Assignment to alternative school setting based on a designated felony status occurrence shall apply for a minimum of one year unless otherwise determined by the Board of Education.

To satisfy the one-year period in a District alternative school setting the student must be enrolled and attending a District alternative school. Time spent in other schools shall not be credited against the one-year period unless specifically approved for credit by the Board of Education upon recommendation by the Superintendent.

Upon notification that any charges or information that established the designated felony status have been dropped, dismissed or modified, the matter shall be reviewed to determine if the alternative setting should or may be terminated in less than the standard one-year period. In such instances, the matter shall be reviewed by the Department of Student Affairs and may forward to the Superintendent for action. The Superintendent may make recommendations for Board action upon review.

Nothing herein shall prevent the District from providing a free and appropriate public education to students served or otherwise entitled to receive educational services under the IDEA or Section 504.

STUDENT HEARING OFFICE ACTIONS
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 18)
The Administrator of the Student Hearing Office shall review the principal's request and make or have made additional investigation if appropriate. This occurs after an Associate Superintendent of School Governance determines the requested disciplinary action is warranted. If an Associate Superintendent of School Governance believes that grounds exist for the requested action, the Administrator of the Student Hearing Office shall schedule a hearing and notify the student and parent in accordance with the guidelines given below. The hearing must be held no later than ten (10) school days, not including weekends, public, legal and school holidays, after the beginning of the student's short-term suspension, unless the school system and parents/legal guardians mutually agree to an extension. If the hearing cannot be held for reasons beyond the control of the school system, the student may be placed in an alternative educational program.

A student and the student's parent/guardian may waive the right to a hearing if they agree with the charges and the principal's disciplinary request. The principal's disciplinary request would then be automatically granted and the disciplinary hearing cancelled. A copy of all Hearing Office procedures can be obtained from the Student Hearing Office.

DISCIPLINARY HEARING OFFICER SELECTION & DUTIES
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 19)
The Superintendent will recommend the Disciplinary Hearing Officers from a pool of retired administrators. The list of nominated Disciplinary Hearing Officers shall be presented to the Board of Education for approval or rejection in whole or part. No Disciplinary Hearing Officers may take any official action until having been approved by the Board. The Disciplinary Hearing Officers shall preside over the hearings; decide the cases; make recommendations; and make all evidentiary and procedural rulings.

DISCIPLINARY HEARING OFFICER - PROCEDURES
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 20)
An oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Disciplinary Hearing Officer to all witnesses.

APPEAL
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 21)
Appeals may be brought to the Board of Public Education by either party aggrieved (dissatisfied) by the decision of the Disciplinary Hearing Officer or a decision rendered pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-751.6 by notifying the Secretary of the Board of Education, in writing, of their desire to appeal. A copy of Appeal Procedures can be obtained from the Student Hearing Office.

FOLLOW-UP
(Student Code of Conduct, Procedure 22)
No later than the beginning of the next school year, through request in writing to the Administrator of the Student Hearing Office, the parent or student may have any case of expulsion or long-term suspension in any school year re-evaluated.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE IFBG

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES ACCEPTABLE USE
The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System provides technology, equipment, software, and access to online services to support the vision, mission, and goals of the District. Technology resources are provided to students, staff, and other entities to support and enhance the instructional learning and operational processes of the District.

The Superintendent shall ensure that all access to electronic technology resources is consistent with all applicable laws, regulations and Board Policy. Violations of any laws or regulations are subject to the consequences cited in the Student Code of Conduct or Board Policy GAM: Staff Rights and Responsibilities.

Student access to District technology resources will automatically be provided unless the parent/guardian has submitted written notification to the District that restricted access is requested. To restrict access to services, a parent can request the form, Technology Opt-Out, from their school.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE IFBG-R

STUDENT PUBLIC WEBSITES AND SOCIAL MEDIA
SCCPSS has established platforms and guidelines for using District and school websites as a primary means of communication with families and stakeholders. The creation of websites that do not utilize the approved District platforms is prohibited. Any request to build a site outside the approved platforms must be submitted to the District Communications Department for review and approval. Staff are expected to adhere to the "District's Social Media Guidelines for Staff." Students may not access non-curricular social networking (i.e. social media) platforms using district equipment or district-provided internet access, with exceptions for staff-directed, staff-supervised, age-appropriate educational use during school activities.

Parents and legal guardians have the right to request and receive information regarding social media platforms their child may access in connection with educational offerings. Parents and guardians may exclude their child from accessing any social media platform used by the district for educational purpose.

Consequences
The use of Board technological resources is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use may result in disciplinary action and/or restriction of that privilege.

Testing Rules and Regulations:
Any student with an electronic communication device which includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, graphing calculators, iPods and CD players may result in test invalidation and the confiscation of the device. Any other inappropriate activity during testing which includes, but is not limited to, cheating, possession of study materials, unwillingness to test, etc. may also result in test invalidation.

POLICY JHC

SCHOOL-SPONSORED STUDENT CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS
Information regarding school-sponsored student clubs/organizations will be distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year. This information will provide parents/legal guardians the opportunity to withhold permission (OPT-OUT) for a student to join a club/organization. For clubs/organizations started during the school year, written permission (OPT-IN) will be required from a parent/legal guardian prior to a students participation. These requirements do not apply to competitive interscholastic activities. The information packets will provide the following:

a. A complete listing of all clubs/organizations.
b. An acknowledgement notice for the parents/legal guardians to sign and indicate any clubs/organizations in which permission is not given.

No student shall be allowed to participate in any school-sponsored student club/organization if the parent/legal guardian has indicated in writing that the student is not allowed to participate.

Students who have an overall conduct grade of unsatisfactory (U) are not eligible to participate and shall not participate in school sponsored student clubs/organizations. (see page 12).

JCDAF-R(1)

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES BY STUDENTS
Students in grades K-12 students shall not use, display, or turn on personal electronic devices (defined as any portable electronic device capable of transmitting, receiving, or accessing communications, data, or media) including smartwatches, cellular phones, video phones, audio earpieces, air pods, wearable tech (such as Smart Glasses), or headphones during Bell-to-Bell school hours, which include instructional time, assemblies, class change time, recess, breakfast, or lunch. Bell-to-Bell means the period beginning with the first bell signaling the start of instructional time and ending with the final bell signaling the conclusion of the school day. Students in grades K-12 will secure their devices in District-approved storage devices. Personal electronic devices must remain stored and powered off throughout the instructional day. All students will follow procedures for off-site events or activities, including all school-sponsored events and field trips, daily transportation, athletic and extracurricular events, and other instructional opportunities that do not occur on school grounds. Parents or guardians who need to communicate with students during the school day may contact the school directly. Provisions for personal electronic devices in grades K-12 shall also apply to any student enrolled in Pre-K.

All students will be granted access to electronic devices as required to implement applicable IEP/504 plans.

The District does not assume or accept financial responsibility or liability for the theft, loss, or damage to personal devices. All personal electronic devices on District property or used during a school-sponsored activity are subject to the Technology Resources Acceptable Use Policy, IFBG.

No student shall photograph, record, or reproduce, via any audio or video means, another student or staff member on District property without prior permission of a teacher or administrator.

All students' personal electronic devices must be collected and stored daily in accordance with the school's established procedures. During District-wide and state assessments, students are strictly prohibited from possessing personal electronic devices. Devices must be powered off completely (not placed on silent or vibrate) and turned into the designated teacher or testing proctor in alignment with testing protocols.

Students are prohibited from using any electronic device in a manner that might interfere with the school bus communications equipment or the school bus driver's operation of the vehicle to and/or from school. (O.C.G.A 20-2-751.5).

School administrators or designees may confiscate personal electronic devices. Confiscated devices will be released only to a parent or guardian following a parent conference, and school administrators are authorized to conduct a search of the device in accordance with district policy and applicable law.

Students who do not comply with this regulation, or any supporting directives related to the use of personal electronic devices, will be subject to progressive disciplinary action, as outlined in the student code of conduct. Progressive discipline consequences will include, but not be limited to warnings, confiscations, and parental/guardian notification.

The District and its staff shall not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices brought or left at school.

Students are responsible for the protection and security of their devices.

FAQ

Why do we have a Student Code of Conduct?
We have a Student Code of Conduct to help everyone understand what is expected of students concerning their behavior. This document also explains what happens if these expectations are not met and if rules are not followed.

Does the Student Code of Conduct apply to all students?
Yes, ALL students need to follow the Student Code of Conduct.

Does the Student Code of Conduct apply to students when they are off campus?
Yes, the expectations and rules should be followed when students are off campus.

Do students have to go to school every day?
Yes, all students should be in school, on time, every day that school is in session; students are expected to remain in school for the full school day. Students with 10 or more unexcused/unverified absences risk receiving “No Credit” (NC).

Are all students required to wear ID badges?
Only students in grades 6 through 12 are required to wear ID badges while in school and while attending after-school activities.

Are students required to register their vehicles?
Yes, all students are required to register their automobiles with school officials. Students are also required to sign a form indicating their cars can be searched or inspected at any time while on Board of Education property.

Can serious violations result in serious consequences?
Yes, the consequences can be serious, and can include detention, suspension, expulsion and/or referral to court.

My child was in a fight at school. How can I find out what actions were taken against the other student(s)?
FERPA does not allow staff to discuss discipline actions taken against other students.

Does the school system have the right to conduct searches?
Yes, we want to make sure our schools are safe and secure places. We have many unannounced weapon and drug searches using metal detection devices and police dogs. Lockers, desks, cabinets, and other school property can be searched. Searches of students and their belongings will occur when there is reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated a law or school policy.

What is the Board of Education’s position on drugs, weapons and violence?
The Board of Education has no tolerance for drugs, weapons or violence in schools.

If a student brings a weapon to school, will the student be held accountable by the school or police?
Yes, bringing a weapon to school is a felony.

Can students with disabilities be disciplined?
Yes, students with disabilities may be disciplined for not following the rules; however, specific steps must be followed. Services required in the Individualized Educational Program (I.E.P.), which include access to the general curriculum must continue.

If I, as a parent/guardian, have a concern about my child, what should I do?
You should first talk with the teacher. If the issue or concern is not solved, then you should talk with a school administrator. It is our expectation that issues will be resolved at the school level.

Do students receive a grade for their conduct?
Yes, students will earn a conduct grade for each grading period.

Do the consequences of the conduct grade begin immediately?
Yes, the consequences begin immediately and carry through the next grading period. A student who receives an "unsatisfactory" conduct grade (U) will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities such as athletics, cheerleading, clubs, events, band, and chorus. Field trip participation may also be denied.

Do students have to follow the mandatory dress code?
Yes, all students in Pre-K through 12 must follow the mandatory dress code.

How are district technology resources for students defined?
District technology resources provided for students include web-based resources, online applications, Web 2.0 tools, and email accounts.

Is the school district liable if my child's electronic device is lost after being taken due to the violation of the code of conduct?
No. The District and its staff shall not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices brought or left at school.

SCCPSS

The Board aspires to meet the obligations and requirements that it sets in its policies and procedures. These policies and administrative regulations are designed for guidance and to assist the Board in providing due process and complying with state and federal laws and standards. Any actual or alleged failure by the Board to comply with policy or procedure is not a valid defense to improper student conduct.

NOTES

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NOTES

Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

PARENT HANDBOOK FOR SUCCESS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

(Use black ink only)

STUDENT INFORMATION

Last Name (Legal):	First Name (Legal):	Middle Name (Legal):
Grade:	Birth Date:	Homeroom Teacher:
School:		

I acknowledge that I have received and read the Student Code of Conduct.
Expectations and consequences also include school bus behavior.

_____

Student's Printed Name Student's Signature Date

_____

Parent's Printed Name Parent's Signature Date

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

190 Technology Circle / Savannah, Georgia 31407

(912) 395-5600

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Superintendent of Schools

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District 8

The Savannah-Chatham County Board of Public Education does not discriminate in educational programs, activities or employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

For further information or to file a complaint, contact:

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Title IX Coordinator
190 Technology Circle
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(912) 395-1319

Dr. Michelle Finch
Section 504 & ADA Coordinator
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