Elementary School

2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOK

Grades K-5

DAVIDSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Your future. Our focus.

Davidson County Schools Academic Calendar 2026-2027

DAVIDSON COUNTY SCHOOLS
Your future. Our focus.

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Board Approved 2/2/26

JULY 2026

3 Holiday

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

10,11 Non-Instructional/Optional
12,13 Non-Instructional/Required
14,17 Non-Instructional/Optional
18,19,20 Non-Instructional/Required
21 Non-Instructional/Optional
24 First Day for Students
24 1st Quarter Begins

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

7 Holiday

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

OCTOBER 2026

16 1st Quarter Ends
19 Non-Instructional/Optional
20 2nd Quarter Begins
30 Report Cards Released

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

NOVEMBER 2026

3 Election Day
3 Non-Instructional/Required
11 Holiday
25 Annual Vacation Leave
26,27 Holiday

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

DECEMBER 2026

14-18 High School Testing Window
18 2nd Qtr/1st Semester Ends
21 Non-Instructional/Optional
22,23 Annual Vacation Leave
24,25,28 Holidays
29,30,31 Annual Vacation Leave

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		

JANUARY 2027

1 Holiday
4 Non-Instructional/Required
5 3rd Quarter Begins
15 Report Cards Issued
18 Holiday

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

FEBRUARY 2027

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

MARCH 2027

11 3rd Quarter Ends
12 Non-Instructional/Required
15 4th Quarter Begins
25 Report Cards Issued
26 Holiday
29,30,31 Annual Vacation Leave

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	△	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2027

1 Annual Vacation Leave
2 Non-Instructional/Optional

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

MAY 2027

17-28 Elem & Middle Testing Window
24-28 High School Testing Window
28 4th Quarter Ends
28 Students last day
31 Holiday

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

JUNE 2027

1 Non-Instructional/Required
2,3,4 Non-Instructional/Optional
15 Report Cards Issued

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

NO ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS:

Holiday	11
Optional Teacher Work Day	11
Annual Vacation Leave	10
Required Teacher Work Day	9

Note: Students must have a minimum of 185 days or 1,025 hours of instruction. The start date can be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26 and the end date can be no later than the Friday closest to June 11. DCS is not eligible for an approved weather-related waiver/earlier start date for the 2026-2027 school year. The school calendar may be amended by the Board of Education to provide additional instructional time on student days, Saturdays, at the end of the school year, or on any other current non-instructional day to meet NC General Statute 115C-84.2 requirements. One or more inclement weather days can be waived (excused) for students if the instructional hours requirement will be met or exceeded.

MAKE-UP DAYS

These days may not be used in the order listed.

10/19 11/25 1/4 3/12
3/29 3/30 3/31 4/1 4/2
6/1 6/2 6/3 6/4
6/7 6/8 6/9 6/10

OTHER NOTES:

△ Report Cards Issued

High School Graduation: Each school will establish the date and time per DCS Board Policy 2.7 (D).

Overall Calendar Days = 215

TOTAL IN-CLASS STUDENT DAYS					=	174
1st=	39	+	2nd=	39	=	78
3rd=	47	+	4th=	49	=	96

Davidson County Schools

WWW.DAVIDSON.K12.NC.US

AUGUST 2026 MEET THE TEACHER DATES

HIGH SCHOOLS - **AUGUST 18, 2026**
6pm - 8 pm (floating)
9th grade orientation meeting at 6 pm

MIDDLE SCHOOLS - **AUGUST 19, 2026**
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm (floating)
6th grade orientation meeting at 6:30 pm

ELEMENTARY - **AUGUST 20, 2026**
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm (floating)

SOUTH MS/HS - **AUGUST 18, 2026** - Extended Hours 5 pm - 8 pm
6th grade orientation at 6 pm & 9th grade orientation at 7 pm

STONER THOMAS - **AUGUST 21, 2026**
4 pm - 6 pm

Please always visit the DCS Website>Calendars>2026-2027 Traditional School Calendar for the most up-to-date version.

GENERAL INFORMATION

DAILY SCHEDULE

School begins at 8:00am.
Students are tardy after 8:00am.
School ends at 2:35pm.

TARDIES AND EARLY DISMISSAL POLICY

It is extremely important for students to attend school regularly and to be at school the **full** school day. When they are on time in the morning, they are able to get settled in and organized to get a good start on the day with the rest of the class. The last 20 minutes of the day are important to make sure they have their assignments, to review what they have learned that day, and to talk about the next day's plans. Teachers lose valuable time when making up lessons and assignments for students who are excessively tardy, leave early, or are absent. Parents can be helpful by scheduling their child's appointments after school when possible, or on days when school is not in session.

A student who arrives **after 8:00 a.m.** is tardy and must come by the office before going to the classroom to pick-up a tardy pass. **Parents must park and walk your student to the office after 8:00am to sign them in. Each tardy will be documented.** *Please be aware that according to School Board Policy 6.4, students who are excessively tardy to school may be suspended for up to 2 days for such offenses.*

If you wish to pick your child up from school early, please make certain the reason is important and not just for convenience. **Each early dismissal will be documented.**

IF YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR CHILD EARLY, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES: **Students leaving early must be picked up by 2:00 PM. No early dismissals will occur after this time. It is our top priority to make sure each student arrives at their destination in the afternoon safely. Dismissals after 2:00 PM create confusion for students and staff. If you must pick your child up early, please arrive in the office no later than 2:00 PM.**

1. Report to the office – NOT the classroom.
2. Your child(ren) will be released only to the person whose name is specified in the note sent to the teacher.
3. Someone from the office will send for your child(ren) after your arrival.
4. Sign the student(s) out of school and give a reason for the early dismissal on the form provided in the office. This is for the safety and protection of your child(ren) should they need to be located at a later time.
5. Be prepared to show a photo ID if requested. This procedure will help ensure that the child(ren) leaves with properly designated persons.

ATTENDANCE AT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students who are absent or assigned out-of-school or in-school suspension on a particular school day are not allowed to attend extracurricular activities on that same day.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

All transportation changes MUST be in writing AND received in the office NO LATER THAN 1:30 PM. Transportation changes after 1:30 create confusion for students and staff. Our top priority is for students to arrive safely at the correct destination in the afternoons. Therefore, we will not accept transportation changes after 1:30. We also will not take any bus or car changes over the telephone. This is a safety concern and we need a parent signature on any changes. Students will also not be allowed to get off their school bus at a different stop, nor will they be allowed to ride a different bus than the one to which they are assigned.

ATTENDANCE (Policy 6.4)

Students will be considered in attendance if present at least half the instructional day. The half day point is 11:15am. Students are expected to be at school on time and to remain at school until dismissed.

When a student must miss school, a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian must be presented on the day the student returns after an absence. Absences due to extended illnesses may also require a statement from a health care practitioner. Failure to submit appropriate documentation as to the reason for the absence(s) within **three (3) days** of returning to school will result in the absence being coded as unexcused. The school social worker will be asked to visit the home at least by the sixth unexcused day.

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Because class attendance and participation are critical elements of the educational process, any absences, whether excused or unexcused, can have a negative impact on a student's academic achievement. Regular attendance must be prioritized within each school and encouraged throughout the community. School administrators shall monitor and analyze attendance data to develop and implement strategies for reducing chronic absenteeism. Such strategies should involve engaging students and parents, recognizing good and improved attendance, providing early outreach to families of students missing school, and identifying and addressing barriers to attendance.

Once a student reaches six (6) daily absences within a semester relating to illness, the principal or designee should make a referral to the Student Assistance Team to gather multiple sources of data for the purposes of determining whether the student has a disability under Section 504 and/or IDEA.

When a student's absences exceed twelve (12) days in the same academic year, further absences will be coded as unlawful unless documentation from a medical professional is provided to the school within three (3) days of the absence.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Students with Chronic Health Problems

No penalties will be imposed for absences due to documented chronic health problems. This documentation does not solely include an Individualized Health Care Plan as these plans are not completed by a licensed medical provider. Documentation from a licensed medical provider will still be required for any absences after twelve (12).

EXCUSED ABSENCES

An absence may be **excused** for any of the following reasons with a written excuse from the parent or guardian. Excused absences for any of the reasons listed below are calculated as part of the sixteen (16) absences allowed in a school year.

1. Illness or injury which prevents the student from being physically able to attend school
2. Quarantine which is isolation ordered by local health officer or the State Board of Health;
3. Death in the immediate family (including but not limited to the grandparents, parents, brothers and sisters) of the student;
4. Medical or dental appointments with appropriate documentation provided to the school;
5. Attendance at the proceedings of a court or administrative tribunal if the student is a party to the action or under subpoena as a witness;
6. Religious observance (school principals are required to authorize a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious observances required by the faith of a student or a student's parents or legal guardian. The student shall be given the opportunity to make up any tests or other work missed due to these excused absences.);
7. Educational opportunity such as travel or service as a legislative or Governor's page with prior approval from the principal/designee not to exceed 5 days per year;

8. Child care for illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the student is the custodial parent (G.S. 115C-375.5);
9. A minimum of two days each academic year for visitation with the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is not identified as at risk of academic failure because of unexcused absences and the student's parent or legal guardian (a) is an active duty or inactive member of the uniformed services as defined by policy 6.39.6, Children of Military Families, and (b) has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Unlawful absences will be defined as the following:

1. A student's willful absence from school with or without the knowledge of the parent
2. A student's absence for any reason other than those listed above
3. When students are not allowed to attend school because they lack proper immunization
4. When students are not allowed to attend school for lack of a required health assessment

MAKEUP WORK AFTER AN ABSENCE

Students are permitted to make up all work missed during an absence. All work must be made up within five (5) days following the student's return to school unless the principal/designee determines that extenuating circumstances might support an extension of this time restriction.

BOOSTER CLUBS

Davidson County Schools values the support and partnership of our booster clubs in enhancing opportunities for our students, staff, and school communities. Booster clubs are independent, nonprofit organizations that operate separately from Davidson County Schools. While our schools and booster clubs work collaboratively to support students and school programs, a booster club is responsible for its own governance, finances, fundraising activities, events, communications, and volunteer management.

Decisions regarding booster club operations, membership, and activities are made by its elected officers and governing board in accordance with its bylaws and applicable laws and regulations. Participation in booster club activities is voluntary. Questions regarding booster club programs, fundraising, finances, or policies should be directed to the booster club officers rather than school administration.

BUS RIDERSHIP AND SAFETY

Bus transportation is a privilege, not a right; behavior on buses that impacts safe travel can result in privileges being revoked. The following outlines general information for students who will utilize school bus transportation.

- Students may only ride the bus to which they have been assigned. Students are not allowed to ride a bus with a friend or family member.
- **PK-3rd grade students MUST have an adult visible at the bus stop in order to be let off the bus.** If no one is at the stop, your child will be brought back to school and will need to be picked up. If this happens more than twice in a school year, your child may be suspended from riding the bus.
- Students must follow board and school behavior policies while on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity and while waiting at any bus stop.
- School administrators may assign consequences from the following list for violation of expectations on buses or at bus stops. Additionally, consequences may extend to the school day for violation of some policies.
    - warning/conference with student
    - warning/conference with parent

- 1 day suspension from bus
- 3 day suspension from bus
- 5 day suspension from bus
- 10 day suspension from bus
- Semester suspension from bus

Students who are not active riders for 10 consecutive days may be removed from the route and may need to resubmit a transportation request with the school.

CELL PHONES & SMART WATCHES (Policy 6.46)

For the purpose of this policy, "wireless communication devices" or "devices" shall include any portable wireless device that has the capability to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two or more parties, which may include, but is not limited to: cellular telephones, paging devices, two-way radios and similar devices, smartphones, smart watches, smart glasses, tablet computers, laptop computers, gaming devices, and other such internet accessing devices (whether by cellular, wired, or wireless connection).

The appropriate use of cell phones and other devices covered by this policy on all yellow school buses and activity buses during the instructional day should be monitored by supervising adults. Appropriate use is generally defined as for communication, texting or talking with parents, and/or listening to recorded music. Inappropriate use is generally defined as distracting behavior to the driver and others in safely transporting students; for example, listening to music without earphones, taking pictures and/or videos of others, and wearing earphones boarding and departing of the bus. Students are allowed to use devices on yellow buses during transit from home to school or school to home and activity buses being operated in connection with extracurricular activities such as student organizations, band participation, and interscholastic athletics. In the event the driver and/or faculty member responsible for the supervision and safe operation of the activity bus determines that these devices are being used inappropriately, in violation of this policy, or in such a way that the noise or the use of such devices may interfere with the safe operation of the bus, said use may be prohibited for the duration of the trip.

Authorized Use During School Hours

Elementary and Middle Schools

Students are permitted to possess wireless communication devices at school but must keep them turned off between morning and afternoon bells and may not display, wear, use, or make them visible during this time period unless one of these exceptions applies:

- Use of the wireless communication device during school hours is specifically authorized or required by a student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan or by the individualized health plan (IHP) developed by school nursing staff for that particular student.
- The school administration has elected to allow classroom teachers, through the development of a school-wide policy or procedure, to authorize such devices to be displayed, worn, used, or visible for instructional purposes during instructional time, provided that teachers supervise students during such use, and the use is consistent with the teacher's authorization.

Consequences for a violation of this policy shall be as follows:

First Offense: The device is confiscated and the parent will be contacted. The student may pick up the device at the end of the school day.

Second Offense: The device is confiscated and the parent can pick up the device at the end of the school day or the student may pick up the device at the end of five school days.

Third Offense: The device is confiscated and the parent can pick up the device at the end of the school day or the student may pick up the device at the end of five school days and the student is placed in in-school suspension for one day.

Fourth Offense and thereafter: The device is confiscated and the parent can pick up the device at the end of the school day or the student may pick up the device at the end of five school days and the student is placed in in-school suspension for two days.

Aggravating factors may subject a student to more stringent disciplinary consequences, up to and including long term suspension or expulsion. Examples of such aggravating factors include, but are not limited to using wireless communication devices: (1) to reproduce images of tests, to access unauthorized school information, or assist students in any aspect of their instructional program in a manner that violates any school board policy, administrative regulation, or school rule; and (2) to take, send, share, view or possess illicit photographs, text messages, emails or other material of a sexual nature.

CLASS PLACEMENTS

The principal has ultimate authority in class placement decisions based on G.S. 115C-288(a) and state and local standards. Elementary principals work to ensure the best learning environment for every student. Any questions regarding the placement process or the consideration of parent input should be directed to the school principal.

CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS

To preserve instructional time during the school day, School Board Policy states that each classroom is allowed only two (2) celebrations per year. Teachers and the administration will establish these dates. Any time refreshments are served; guidelines from the Davidson County Schools Health Advisory Council will be followed. **Foods must be commercially prepared, rather than home-prepared.** This would include prepackaged foods and foods which are purchased at a bakery and brought to school. All foods should be portioned, distributed, and in every way handled by the teacher or teacher assistant, unless that food is individually wrapped.

No birthday parties are allowed at school. Birthday party invitations can be sent home only when they are provided for all students and given to the teacher to be passed out to children as they leave at dismissal time. If teacher approved, birthday snacks may be sent in for classes to enjoy as long as they are commercially prepared (no home-made snacks allowed) and meet the Smart Snack guidelines (under 200 calories). Snacks must be left in the office and will be delivered down to the classroom for you.

COMMUNICATION

We value input and communication with our parents and school community. Teachers will communicate with parents through ClassDojo or by email. Administrators will communicate important school events through a weekly phone message, ClassDojo, and parent newsletters. You can also visit our district website or your school's Facebook page to view exciting events throughout the school year.

Anytime you have a concern about something at school, we ask that you please contact your school's principal first.

DRESS CODE & STUDENT APPEARANCE (Policy 6.37)

Student Dress and Appearance

The Davidson County Board of Education respects a student's right to choose his or her style of dress or appearance. However, students are expected to adhere to standards of cleanliness and dress that are compatible with the requirements and expectations of a school-learning environment. If a student's dress or lack of cleanliness is such that it constitutes a threat to health or safety, the principal or principal's designee may require the student and student's parent

or guardian to take appropriate actions to remedy the situation. In addition, if a student's dress or appearance is so unusual, inappropriate, or lacking in cleanliness that it clearly disrupts class or learning activities, or presents a safety issue, the student may be required to change his or her dress or appearance. The principal or principal's designee shall handle student violations of this policy. The first violation of this policy will result in a warning and parent contact. The second violation during the same school year may result in a short-term suspension from the school for up to ten days. A third or subsequent violation during the school year may result in a long-term suspension for the remainder of the school year. Principals will maintain guidelines to assist students in determining appropriate dress and appearance for school, copies of which will be made available to parents and students. Items listed below shall be included in all school guidelines and shall apply to all students. Reasonable accommodation will be made by the school principal or principal's designee for those students who, because of a sincerely held religious belief, cultural heritage, or medical reason, request a waiver of a particular guideline for dress or appearance. Reasonable accommodations shall be made by the principal to accommodate students involved in special duties, activities, or projects approved by the school. This would involve, but not be limited to: athletics, vocational classes and projects, special events, or other activities that would allow for nonconforming dress on a school campus.

Inappropriate Dress or Appearance for Elementary Students (Grades K-5)

The following attire is considered inappropriate for elementary students:

A. Clothing or attachments that are disruptive to the teaching or learning process and are revealing, indecent, vulgar, or obscene. (Examples include tank tops, short shorts, low-cut or overly tight clothing that shows the midriff, and clothing that has thin straps.)

B. Clothing which promotes alcoholic beverages or the use of controlled substances by words or symbols, or is of a disruptive nature.

C. Clothing that contains profanity, contains nudity, depicts violence, or is sexual in nature by words or symbols.

D. Hats, sweatbands, bandannas, or sunglasses inside school buildings.

E. Clothing that is sheer or mesh. Undergarments that are visible.

F. Sagging pants which cause undergarments to be visible.

G. Footwear that may present a hazard to health and safety. (Examples include flip-flops, sandals, or other footwear that prevents a child from being able to run and climb on playground equipment safely. Students are required to wear tennis shoes for physical education.)

Legal References(s): G.S. 115C36,47,288,308,391(a)

FEES & PAYMENTS

STUDENT FEES (Policy 6.26)

Each year the Davidson County Board of Education approves fees that will be assigned to students for various purposes. Students will be provided with an application to apply for a waiver of these fees on the first day of each school year. Fees must be paid or waived within a school year or the fees will carry over into the next school year. Parents may apply for a waiver of fees during the current year only.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

School Cash Online is a fast, convenient, and safe way to make payments online. It only takes 5 minutes to register at dcs.schoolcashonline.com. Information is available in our front office with step-by-step directions for how to enroll and make payments. This will prevent you from having to write a check to the school or send cash with your student for any field trips, school fees, agendas, t-shirt money, etc.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an extension of the curriculum and part of the regular school day. Each grade level may choose to attend up to two (2) educational field trips each year. Due to safety and liability concerns, employees of the Davidson County School System will act as chaperones on field trips and will be responsible for handling any discipline issue or emergency situation that may arise. **Please note that field trips are a privilege and may be taken away from students due to behavior/safety concerns and/or attendance concerns. This is up to the principal.**

Parents are invited to attend field trips when allowed by the facility and/or the grade level; however, they must provide their own transportation. Parents will not be allowed to chaperone a group of students on the field trip. When attending a class field trip we ask that you and your child stay with the teacher and the class so that your child will get the full benefit of the curriculum objectives being met through the field trip experience. To preserve the educational effectiveness of trips, siblings are not invited to attend. We appreciate your involvement and interest in the education of your child. ***Permission forms must be returned for all field trips or your child will not be permitted to attend. Permission must be granted in writing; we cannot accept verbal permission for field trips.***

FOOD & NUTRITION

The Davidson County School System participates in the National School Lunch Program sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), which permits the school system to offer free and reduced priced meals to students who qualify. Due to reporting requirements, the School Nutrition Department cannot permit excessive and recurring charges of meals. Customers may, however, pay for meals in advance.

Families who wish to apply for free or reduced meals must complete an application each year. The family of any DCS student may apply at any time. Applications are available in each school's cafeteria, main office, or on the DCS website. Applicants are responsible for meals until a free or reduced application is completed and approved.

	Reduced/Free	**Full Pay**
Breakfast	No cost	$1.50
Lunch	No cost	Elementary $2.75/Secondary $3.00

The following elementary schools participate in Community Eligibility Provision and students will receive breakfast and lunch at no cost:

- Brier Creek Elementary, Churchland Elementary, Davis-Townsend Elementary, Denton Elementary, Fair Grove Elementary, Hasty Elementary, Pilot Elementary, Reeds Elementary, Silver Valley Elementary, Southmont Elementary, Southwood Elementary, Tyro Elementary, and Welcome Elementary

If you send your child's lunch, please note that no bottled, canned or carbonated drinks are allowed in the cafeteria. Restaurant and/or fast food items are not allowed in our school cafeterias. Please do not bring these items for your child at lunch or for yourself. He/she will not be able to eat it at school. Please be considerate of all students.

GRADING/RETENTION/PROMOTION

GRADING GUIDELINES

Davidson County Schools has established consistent grading procedures for grades 3-12. These procedures can be found on the DCS website>Departments>Curriculum and Instruction>District-wide Grading Procedures.

GRADING SCALE
Public schools in North Carolina use the following 10-point grading scale:

A= 90-100	C= 70-79	F= Below 60
B= 80-89	D= 60-69	

AWARDS
The process and set criteria for quarterly and/or yearly awards is set by the school principal. Please direct any questions or concerns regarding this process to your school principal.

HOMEWORK (Policy 6.16.7)
The "10-Minute Rule" conveys to students and parents the expectation that homework assignments combined last about as long as 10 minutes multiplied by the student's grade level. For example, first graders could expect 10 minutes per night, second graders could expect 20 minutes, third graders 30 minutes, etc. If you have questions or concerns about the amount of homework your child receives, you should contact your teacher or principal.

INFINITE CAMPUS
Parents are encouraged to establish an account for their student if they have not already done so. Infinite Campus Parent Portal allows parents immediate access to their child's most current academic progress and attendance data.

PROMOTION STANDARDS
The principal has ultimate authority in promotion decisions based on G.S. 115C-288(a) and state and local standards.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

ILLNESS & INJURY
In order for us to ensure a healthy learning environment, we ask that you keep your child at home when sick. Students should be without a fever for 24 hours before returning to school. If your child becomes ill while at school, you will be contacted and asked to pick up your child. The Davidson County Health Department recommends that if a child has a temperature of 100 degrees or greater, they should be picked up from school. In the event you are contacted, please pick your child up within the half-hour.

If your child is injured at school, we will contact you for advice unless the injury is serious enough that emergency treatment is needed at once. In that case, you will be contacted to meet us at the medical treatment center. For minor injuries, students will be treated in the office and will return to class. All elementary schools have trained first aid responders, diabetic care managers, and CPR certified staff members. This includes all bus drivers, cafeteria staff, teachers assistants, and office staff members. If your child has a chronic illness, such as asthma, diabetes, heart problems, or life threatening allergies, please inform your child's school immediately so that an Individualized Health Care Plan can be created.

INDIVIDUALIZED HEALTHCARE PLANS
Individualized Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are designed to provide school staff with guidance on how to support a student's chronic medical condition during the school day. The IHP is developed collaboratively by the parent/guardian and the school nurse and outlines any necessary health-related accommodations, interventions, or procedures needed to ensure the student's safety and well-being at school.

An Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP) does not exempt a student from the district's attendance requirements or alter attendance procedures. Students with an IHP are still required to provide appropriate documentation for absences in accordance with district policy. Parents/guardians may submit documentation for up to twelve (12) absences. Absences beyond twelve (12) must be supported by documentation from a licensed medical provider.

MEDICATION (POLICY 6.29.3)
To minimize disruptions to the school day, students should take medications at home rather than at school whenever feasible. School officials may deny a request to administer any medication that could be taken at home or when, in the opinion of the superintendent or designee in consultation with school nursing personnel, the administration of the medication by school personnel would pose a substantial risk of harm to the student or others.

Authorized school employees may administer medication to students when all of the following conditions are met:

- **Parental Consent:** The student's parent must make a signed written request that authorizes school personnel to administer the medication to the student.
- **Medication Authorization/Order**: A health care practitioner must prescribe the prescription medication for use by the student and provide explicit written instructions for administering the medication. For over-the-counter medications, the parent must provide written permission with instructions on dosage.
- **Certification of Necessity**: The student's health care practitioner must certify that administration of the prescription medication to the student during the school day is necessary to maintain and support the student's continued presence in school.
- **Proper Container/Labeling:** If the medication to be administered is available by prescription only, the parent must provide the medication in a pharmacy-labeled container with directions for how and when the medicine is to be given. If the medication is available over-the-counter, it must be provided in the original container or packaging, labeled with the student's name.
- **Proper Administration:** The employee must administer the medication pursuant to the health care practitioner's written instructions provided to the school by the student's parent, and in accordance with professional standards.

The form on which to provide all of the above information can be obtained from the school or from the district website.

Over-the-Counter Medication
Consistent with the above requirements, over-the-counter medications will only be given during school hours by school personnel if the medication sheet is complete with instructions and parent signature. Parents who want school personnel to administer over-the-counter medication must provide and deliver the medication to school personnel pursuant to the requirements of this policy.

Emergency Medication
Students who are at risk for medical emergencies, such as those with diabetes, asthma, or severe allergies, must have an emergency health care plan developed for them to address emergency administration of medication. Authorization and instructions from the health care practitioner and written consent of the parent are required for emergency medication to be administered by school personnel while the student is at school, at a school-sponsored activity, and/or while in transit to or from school or a school-sponsored event.

Authorization to Self-Administer Medication
Before a student will be allowed to self-administer medication pursuant to this section, the student's parent must provide to the principal or designee all of the documents listed below:

a. Written authorization from the student's parent for the student to possess and self- administer the medications;
b. A written statement from the health care practitioner verifying that:
    1) The student has diabetes or asthma, or an allergy that could result in anaphylactic reaction;
    2) The health care practitioner prescribed the medication for use on school property during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to or from school or school-sponsored events; and
    3) The student understands, has been instructed in self-administration of the medication, and has demonstrated the skill level necessary to use the medication and any accompanying device;
c. A written treatment plan and written emergency protocol formulated by the prescribing health care practitioner for managing the student's diabetes, asthma, or anaphylaxis episodes and for medication use by the student;

d. A statement provided by the school system and signed by the student's parent acknowledging that the board of education and its employees and agents are not liable for injury arising from the student's possession and self-administration of the medication; and
e. Any other documents or items necessary to comply with state and federal laws. Prior to being permitted to self-administer medication at school, the student also must demonstrate to the school nurse, or the nurse's designee, the skill level necessary to use the medication and any accompanying device.

A student who is authorized in accordance with this policy to carry medication for self- administration must carry the medication in the original labeled container with the student's name on the label. A student who uses his or her medication in a manner other than as prescribed or who permits another person to use the medication may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school disciplinary policy. However, school officials shall not impose disciplinary action on the student that limits or restricts the student's immediate access
to diabetes, asthma, or anaphylactic medication.

The student's parent must provide backup medication that school personnel are to keep in a location to which the student has immediate access in the event the student does not have the required medication. All information provided to the school by the student's parent must be reviewed by the school nurse and kept on file at the school in an easily accessible location. Any permission granted by the principal or designee for a student to possess and self-administer medication will be effective only for the same school for 365 calendar days. Such permission must be renewed each school year. Parents are responsible for making the school aware of any potentially serious medical conditions their child may have (ex. allergic reactions, seizures, etc.).

SCHOLASTIC ACCIDENT INSURANCE

DCS carries basic/excess accident coverage for all students. This policy is **secondary** to insurance carried by parents and **primary** if students are not covered under another policy. This policy does not cover sport-related injuries and is only for basic medical services for accidents/injuries that occur during the school day on school property or at school sponsored/supervised events.

It is strongly recommended that parents review the voluntary scholastic accident insurance program available to students at a nominal cost. The voluntary scholastic insurance program offers extra coverage for both school-time activities and for extra-curricular activities (excluding varsity football) for a nominal charge. An information brochure is available at each school and on the district website.

STUDENT WELLNESS (Policy 7.11)

Davidson County Schools has adopted a policy to encourage students to be healthy and active, including compliance with the State Board of Education's Healthy Active Children. More information about the content and implementation of the policy can be found on the district website or by contacting the Director of Student Services (336) 249-8182.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

Communication that school must be closed because of weather related concerns will include the following:

- A phone message using the district's automated system (*Parents should ensure that the school has the most up-to-date contact information*)
- Posts on the district/school websites
- Posts on district/school social media
- Announcements on local media outlets

Please use these outlets to find the information before contacting the school.

LICE POLICY

Any student identified with head lice will be sent home at the time live bugs are found for treatment of the lice and removal of nits (eggs) from the hair. A packet containing lice and nit removal instructions will be sent home for the parents. It should be counted as an excused absence if a student is sent home prior to having been at school long enough to be counted present for the day. Students should return to school no later than the following day. Returning students should be accompanied by an adult and report to the school office to be screened again by the school designee for any remaining live lice. If live lice are found after being checked, the student should return home for an oil treatment or other alternative non-chemical treatment. It will be treated as the same occurrence. A student will be excused no more than two (2) back-to-back days for three (3) occurrences due to the presence of live lice. The family will be referred to the school nurse and/or student services (social worker or school counselor) for assistance as needed to review treatment and removal efforts, give suggestions to remedy the problem, and assist the family with a plan. All unexcused absences are subject to the consequences as set forth in the Davidson County Schools' attendance policy. Every effort should be made to keep the child in attendance to remain on track academically.

If your child is found to have live lice, they will be sent home. You must bring the child to the office for a lice check before the child will be allowed to return to class the following day. When a child is being sent home for lice, any sibling(s) will be checked as well. It is important to remember that head lice can affect anyone. This requires that we work together to monitor and control the problem to prevent it from spreading.

STANDARDS FOR EXPECTED STUDENT BEHAVIOR

To maintain a safe, secure, and orderly learning environment, school administrators have the authority to investigate situations involving alleged violations of school rules, district policies, or applicable laws that occur on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, on school transportation, or when student conduct substantially impacts the school environment.

As part of an investigation, administrators may interview students, review available evidence, inspect school property assigned to students (including lockers, desks, and district-issued technology), and take other reasonable steps necessary to determine the facts. These actions may occur without prior parental notification or consent when immediate action is necessary to protect student or staff safety, preserve evidence, or ensure the integrity of the investigation.

Parents or guardians will be notified as appropriate based on the nature and outcome of the investigation, in accordance with applicable laws, Board of Education policies, and district procedures.

AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL (Policy 6.10.1)

Teachers and other school personnel have the authority to manage or remove disruptive or dangerous students from the classroom and other locations within the school building. School personnel may use reasonable force to control behavior or to remove a person from the scene in those situations when necessary:

(1) to correct students;
(2) to quell a disturbance threatening injury to others;
(3) to obtain possession of a weapon or another dangerous object on the person, or within the control, of a student;
(4) for self-defense;
(5) for the protection of persons or property; or
(6) to maintain order on school property, in the classroom, or at a school-related activity whether on or off school property.

Except as restricted by G.S. 115C-391.1, school personnel may use appropriate seclusion and restraint techniques reasonably needed in the circumstances described above as long as such use is consistent with state law and applicable board policies and procedures. Students must comply with all directions of principals, teachers, substitute teachers, student teachers, teacher assistants, bus drivers and all other school personnel who are authorized to give such directions, during any period of time when they are subject to the authority of such personnel.

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT (Policy 6.33.3)
Davidson County Schools prohibits bullying and harassing behavior, or the encouragement of bullying or harassing behavior, that takes place (1) in any school building or on any school premises before, during or after school hours; (2) on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity; (3) at any bus stop; (4) during any school-sponsored activity or extracurricular activity; (5) at any time or place when the student, employee, or other person is subject to the authority of school personnel; or (6) at any time or place when the bullying has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline in the schools.

Reporting Bullying and Harassing Behavior
The board encourages students or parents/guardians of students who have been the victim of or who have witnessed bullying or harassing behavior in violation of this policy to immediately report such incidents to a teacher, counselor, coach, assistant principal, or the principal. Reports may be made orally or in writing and may be made anonymously. All reports of serious violations and complaints made under this policy will be investigated expeditiously. Anonymous reports will be investigated to the extent reasonably possible under the circumstances.
If, at any time, school officials determine that the alleged bullying or harassing behavior appears to be based on sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or religion, the matter will be investigated in accordance with the applicable policy.

DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 1)
Students are prohibited from disrupting teaching, the orderly conduct of school activities, or any other lawful function of the school or school district. The following conduct is illustrative of disruptive behavior and is prohibited:

- intentional verbal or physical acts which result or have the potential to result in blocking access to school functions or facilities or preventing the convening or continuation of school- related functions;
- appearance or clothing which (1) violates a reasonable dress code adopted and publicized by the school, or (2) is substantially disruptive, or (3) is provocative or obscene; or (4) endangers the health or safety of the student or others;
- possessing or distributing literature or illustrations which significantly disrupts the educational process or which is obscene or unlawful;
- failing to observe established safety rules, standards and regulations, including on buses and in the hallways; and
- interfering with the operation of school buses, including delaying the bus schedule, getting off at an unauthorized stop, and willfully trespassing upon a school bus.
- although school personnel generally do not monitor student's internet activity conducted on non-school system computers during non-school hours, when a student's online behavior has a direct and immediate effect on school safety or maintaining order and discipline in the schools, the student may be subject to discipline in accordance with this policy.

DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 2, 3)
A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause substantial damage, as determined by appropriate school officials, to valuable property, or steal or attempt to steal valuable public property either on the school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds. Repeated damage or theft involving public property of small value also shall be a basis for long-term suspension or expulsion from school.

ASSAULTS, THREATS, AND HARASSMENT (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 4)
The board will not tolerate assaults or threats from any student. Any student engaging in such behavior will be removed from the classroom or school environment for as long as is necessary to provide a safe and orderly environment for learning. Prohibited behavior includes:

- assaulting, physically injuring, attempting to injure or intentionally behaving in such a way as could reasonably cause injury to any other person. Assault includes engaging in a fight. Neither self-defense nor action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person is to be considered an intentional act under this rule. A student who is attacked may use reasonable force in self-defense, but only to the extent necessary to free oneself from the attack and notify proper school authorities.

- directing toward any other person any language that threatens force, violence or disruption, or any sign or act that constitutes a threat of force, violence or disruption.

WEAPONS, BOMB THREATS, TERRORIST THREATS, AND CLEAR THREATS TO SAFETY (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 5)
The board will not tolerate the presence of weapons or destructive devices, bomb or terrorist threats, or actions that constitute a clear threat to the safety of students or employees. Any student who violates this policy will be removed from the classroom or school environment for as long as is necessary to provide a safe and orderly environment for learning.

Prohibited Weapons and Weapon-Like Items

Students are prohibited from possessing, handling, using or transmitting, whether concealed or open, any weapon or any instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon.

- loaded and unloaded firearms, including guns, pistols and rifles;
- destructive devices as described in subsection of the policy, including explosives, such as dynamite cartridges, bombs, grenades and mines;
- nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons of mass destruction as defined in G.S. 14-288.21(c);
- knives, including pocket knives, bowie knives, switchblades, dirks and daggers;
- slingshots and slung shots;
- leaded canes;
- blackjacks;
- metal knuckles;
- BB guns;
- air rifles and air pistols;
- stun guns and other electric shock weapons, such as tasers;
- icepicks;
- razors and razor blades (except those designed and used solely for personal shaving);
- fireworks;
- gun powder; ammunition, or bullets;
- any sharp pointed or edged instruments except unaltered nail files and clips and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction and maintenance; and
- mace, pepper spray, and other personal defense sprays (*The mere possession of a personal defense spray is not a violation of this policy unless (1) the device is used for a purpose other than self-defense, as defined under state law or (2) the principal or designee determines that the student intended to use it to harm, threaten harm, or create a disturbance.)*

Examples of other objects that may be considered weapons are box cutters and other types of utility blades and blowguns and starter pistols. No student may knowingly or willfully cause, encourage or aid another student to possess, handle or use any of the weapons or weapon-like items listed above. A student who finds a weapon or weapon- like item, who witnesses another student or other person with such an item, or who becomes aware that another student or other person intends to possess, handle or use such an item, must notify a teacher or the principal immediately.

NARCOTICS, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, STIMULANT DRUGS AND OTHER PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 6)
A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, conspire to transmit or distribute, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, prescription medication, synthetic stimulants, such as MDPV and mephedrone (e.g. "bath salts") and synthetic cannabinoids (e.g. "Spice", "K2), "counterfeit drugs" (substances claimed to be a prohibited substance) alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, inhalant or intoxicant of any kind, any chemicals, substances or products procured or used with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior or any controlled substance as defined in Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, or any substance containing cannabidiol (CBD) or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), regardless of whether it constitutes a controlled substance under state or federal law.

ABUSE OR DISTRIBUTION OF OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 7)
Distribution (for sale or otherwise) of over-the-counter medications (OTC), consuming an excessive quantity (more than the recommended dosage) of an over-the-counter medication and/or receiving (for money or otherwise) any over-the-counter medication from other students in any quantity is considered a violation of this policy.

REPEATED SCHOOL VIOLATIONS (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 8)
A student shall not repeatedly fail to comply with directions of teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, principals, or other authorized school personnel during any period of time when he is properly under the authority of school personnel.

STUDENT TOBACCO USE (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 9)
Students shall not use, possess, sell, distribute or deliver any type of tobacco products in any school building, on any school campus or on any other school property owned or operated by the school board, including school vehicles. This includes other educational activities, school sponsored events, field trips, and athletic functions while participating in an activity or being under the direct supervision of a school staff member. For the purposes of this policy, the term "tobacco product" means any product that contains or that is made or derived from tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, bidis, hookahs, smokeless or spit tobacco, snuff, electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic cigarillos, electronic pipes. The use, possession, distribution and/or delivery of vaping devices, vaping products and vaping paraphernalia shall be governed pursuant to 6.11 Rule 14: Vaping Devices and Vaping Paraphernalia Prohibited.

INTEGRITY AND CIVILITY (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 10)
In addition to any standards or rules established by the schools, the following behaviors are in violation of the standards of integrity and civility and are specifically prohibited:

- cheating, including the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized assistance or the actual giving or receiving of an unfair advantage on any form of academic work;
- plagiarizing, including copying the language, structure, idea, and/or thought of another person or of a work produced by artificial intelligence and representing it as one's own original work;
- violating copyright laws, including the unauthorized reproduction, duplication and/or use of printed or electronic work, computer software, or other copyrighted material;
- cursing or using vulgar, abusive or demeaning language toward another person;
- playing abusive or dangerous tricks or otherwise subjecting a student or an employee to personal indignity;
- engaging in behavior which is immoral, indecent, lewd, disreputable or of an overly sexual nature, whether on or off school property, including, but not limited to sending, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, emails, or other material of a sexual nature in electronic or any other form on a computer, cell phone, or other electronic device;
- students are strictly prohibited from engaging in sexting. Sexting shall be defined as the sending, taking, disseminating, transferring, sharing, or receiving of obscene, pornographic, lewd, indecent, or otherwise sexually explicit messages, photographs or images on or by electronic devices;
- students shall not make or publish false statements on the internet, by Fax, or by any other means of communication that defame the character or reputation of a school employee or student. While students have a constitutional right to criticize school personnel or students, that right does not include making false statements accusing school personnel or students of engaging in criminal or immoral acts that are intended to injure, harass and/or harm an individual;
- students shall not use profanity, obscenity, fighting or abusive words, or otherwise engage in speech that disrupts (written, symbolic or verbal) and/or materially and substantially disrupts the classroom or other school activities.

Nothing herein is intended to limit a student's right to express his or her thoughts and opinions at reasonable times and places, consistent with the protections of the First Amendment. In general, schools may place restrictions on a student's

right to free speech when the speech is obscene, abusive, promoting illegal drug use, or is reasonably expected to cause a substantial disruption to the school day.

GANG-RELATED ACTIVITY (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 12)
Gang-related activity is strictly prohibited within the schools. For the purposes of this policy, "gang-related activity" means: (1) any conduct that is prohibited by another board policy and is engaged in by a student on behalf of an identified gang or as a result of the student's gang membership; or (2) any conduct engaged in by a student to perpetuate, proliferate or display the existence of any identified gang.

THEFT, TRESPASS, AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 13)
The board will not tolerate theft, trespass or damage to property by any student. Any student engaging in such behavior will be removed from the classroom or school environment for as long as is necessary to provide a safe and orderly environment for learning.

Students are prohibited from

- stealing or attempting to steal school or private property and/or from knowingly being in possession of stolen property.
- damaging or attempting to damage school or private property.
- trespassing on school property. A student will be considered a trespasser and may be criminally prosecuted in any of the following circumstances
    - the student is on the campus of a school to which he or she is not assigned during the school day without the knowledge and consent of the officials of that school;
    - the student is loitering at any school after the close of the school day without any specific need or supervision; or
    - the student has been suspended from school but is on the property of any school during the suspension period without the express permission of the principal.

VAPING DEVICES AND VAPING PARAPHERNALIA (Policy 6.11.1 Rule 14)
The use of vaping devices, vaping products and vaping paraphernalia in school by students connotes school approval, if not sponsorship of such habits. The use of vaping devices, vaping products and vaping paraphernalia at an early age is a definite health hazard and often a social liability. The Davidson County School System has a legal and moral obligation to our students to develop policies that protect the health and future of our students. Additionally, in recent years there has been a significant and marked increase in the number of incidents involving student use of vaping devices, vaping products, e-cigarettes, Juuls and other similar type vaping paraphernalia within and without the school system. In particular, there has been a significant increase in the use of such devices to inhale, ingest or otherwise introduce a substance of unknown or undeterminable ingredients or chemical compound for the purpose and intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria or otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior, often times resulting in an unattended or an adverse medical reaction, some of which have been and can be life-threatening. These devices are often illegal for students to possess and/or use, are significantly harmful to their health and well-being and a distraction to the learning environment.

EXPECTATIONS FOR USE OF SCHOOL TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES (Policy 7.6)
General student and employee behavior standards, including those prescribed in applicable board policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and other regulations and school rules, apply to use of school technological resources, including access to the Internet. In addition, anyone who uses school system computers or electronic devices, accesses the school's electronic storage or network, or connects to the Internet using school system-provided access must comply with the additional rules for responsible use listed in Policy 7.6.

All students must be trained about appropriate online behavior as provided in policy 7.6, Acceptable Computer Use and Internet Safety. Failure to adhere to the requirements of this policy will result in disciplinary action, including revocation

of user privileges. Willful misuse may result in criminal prosecution under applicable state and federal law, disciplinary action for students, and/or adverse personnel action for employees.

Restricted Material on The Internet
The Internet and electronic communications offer fluid environments in which students may access or be exposed to materials and information from diverse and rapidly changing sources, including some that may be harmful to students. The board recognizes that it is impossible to predict with certainty what information on the Internet students may access or obtain. Nevertheless, school system personnel shall take reasonable precautions to prevent students from accessing material and information that is obscene, pornographic, or otherwise harmful to minors, including violence, nudity, or graphic language that does not serve a legitimate pedagogical purpose. The superintendent shall ensure that technology protection measures are used as provided in policy 7.6, Acceptable Computer Use and Internet Safety, and are disabled or minimized only when permitted by law and board policy. The board is not responsible for the content accessed by using a cellular network to connect a personal device to the Internet.

Privacy
Students, employees, visitors, and other users have no expectation of privacy in anything they create, store, send, delete, receive, or display when using the school system's network, devices, Internet access, email system, or other technological resources owned or issued by the school system, whether the resources are used at school or elsewhere, and even if the use is for personal purposes. Users should not assume that files or communications created, transmitted, or displayed using school system technological resources or stored on servers, the storage mediums of individual devices, or on school managed cloud services will be private. Under certain circumstances, school officials may be required to disclose such electronic information to law enforcement or third parties, for example, as a response to a document production request in a lawsuit against the board, in response to a public records request, or as evidence of illegal activity in a criminal investigation.

The school system may, without notice, (1) monitor, track, and/or log network access, communications, and use; (2) monitor and allocate file server space; and (3) access, review, copy, store, delete, or disclose the content of all user files, regardless of all medium, the content of electronic mailboxes issued by the school system, and system outputs, such as printouts, at any time for any lawful purpose. Such purposes may include, but are not limited to, maintaining system integrity, security, or functionality, ensuring compliance with board policy and applicable laws and regulations, protecting the school system from liability, and complying with public records requests. School system personnel shall monitor online activities of individuals who access the Internet via a school-owned device. By using the school system's network, Internet access, electronic devices, email system, devices, or other technological resources, individuals consent to have that use monitored by authorized school system personnel as described in this policy.

Use of Personal Technology on School System Property
Users may not use private WiFi hotspots or other personal technology on campus to access the Internet outside the school system's wireless network. Students' devices are governed also by policy 6.46, Use of Wireless Communication Devices.

GENERATIVE AI STUDENT EXPECTATIONS AND RELATED POLICY
Students will adhere to the parameters set by teachers on the acceptable level of Generative AI use on assignments. Failure to adhere to assignment expectations will be in violation of Board policy 6.11.1 which states that utilizing Generative AI and representing it as your own work is considered plagiarism.

Use of Generative AI Tools

1. Students and teachers must adhere to the age restrictions outlined in Terms of Service for any digital tool including Generative AI tools.
2. Students must always start by asking the teacher for permission to use GenAI for assigned work.

3. Once obtaining permission, students should document their usage of the GenAI and specify which information was contributed by AI and which was the student's original work.
4. Cite the tool used when the work is submitted.

PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED FOR SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS OF STUDENTS (Policy 6.11.2)
North Carolina General Statutes gives the principal of a school the authority to grade and classify students and to exercise discipline over the students. In exercising the authority concerning suspensions granted by this statute, the principal shall follow the procedures detailed in Policy 6.11.2 in order to ensure that any student who is to be suspended is afforded due process of law.

STUDENT SEARCHES (Policy 6.12.1)
School administrators have the authority to conduct reasonable searches and seize students' unauthorized materials for the purpose of maintaining a safe, orderly environment and for upholding standards of conduct established by the board or school. Any searches or seizures must be conducted in accordance with the standards described in this policy and any other applicable legal requirements. All school officials carrying out a search or seizure are expected to be knowledgeable about the legal rights of students and the appropriate procedures for conducting the search or seizure. A search must be justified at its inception, permissible in scope, and conducted using methods that are narrowly tailored to be minimally intrusive. School officials shall make reasonable, good faith efforts to investigate allegations of misconduct before a student search is conducted. This policy does not apply to investigations conducted by law enforcement officials or to investigations conducted exclusively for the purpose of criminal prosecution. This policy applies to searches conducted on school grounds, in school facilities, or at school-sponsored events.

STUDENT RECORDS

STUDENT RECORDS (Policy 6.14)
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of students' education records. FERPA gives parents/guardians the right to refuse release of directory information by filing a note of "Don't Release" in the school's office at the beginning of the school year. Parents/guardians (or eligible students) have the right to inspect their child(ren)'s records. These rights transfer to the student when the student becomes 18 years of age. Parents/eligible students have the right to request a correction to records. If the parents/eligible students do not feel the school's response is adequate, a formal hearing may be requested. A rebuttal statement by the parents/eligible student(s) may be placed within the record. FERPA protects the release of directory information except in the following circumstances:

- School officials with legitimate educational interest
- Other schools to which a student is transferring
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation
- Appropriate parties offering financial aid to a student
- Approved agencies conducting research in DCS
- Accrediting organizations
- Judicial order or subpoena compliance
- Health, safety, court and law enforcement officials

TITLE IX GRIEVANCES

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICIES (1.7/4.19/6.33) & EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY (Policy 6.39.4)
Davidson County Schools prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, disability or age (40 or over), and will provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups as required by law. Davidson County Schools will not tolerate any form of unlawful discrimination or harassment in any of its educational activities or programs. Every student should be given an equal opportunity for a sound basic education.

Students, visitors, and other non-employee individuals who believe that they may have been discriminated against or harassed should report such conduct as soon as possible through the process provided in Section B of policy 6.33.

Title IX coordinator: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Section 504 Coordinator: Director of Student Support Services
ADA coordinator: Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
Davidson County Schools ~ P.O. Box 2057, Lexington, NC 27293 ~ (336) 249-8182

TOBACCO & VAPE FREE CAMPUS

The Davidson County Board of Education recognizes that the use of tobacco is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors, and school facilities. The Board believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property or a school-related or school-sponsored event is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors. The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for the students. The Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted smoke and tobacco use for the student, employees, and visitors on the school campus. Finally, the Board recognizes that it has the legal authority and obligation pursuant to G.S. 115C-407 Policy Prohibiting Tobacco Use in School Buildings as well as the federal Pro-Children's Act Title X of Public Law 103-227 and the No Child Left Behind Act.

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

Parents are encouraged to maintain contact with their child's teacher. Permission to volunteer is required from the teacher in advance. Remember that time-on-task for a student is crucial to maximize the learning process. This cannot be a conference time. It is strongly encouraged that parent-teacher conferences be scheduled throughout the year as needed; however, conferences **must be** scheduled when teachers are not responsible for students. Having a scheduled conference date and time will allow teachers to have work samples and other information available to share with you at the scheduled time.

All visitors/parents to the school are required to stop by the office upon entering the school to sign in. A visitor's badge will then be issued that is to be worn during the visit. All staff members are required to survey visitors for a badge and to request that they return to the office to obtain one if they have not done so. For safety purposes, no one will be allowed to enter our buildings without a badge.

VOLUNTEER POLICY: Any volunteers who wish to work in our school and within our classrooms must complete the DCS Volunteer Contract. Parents and community volunteers are NOT to be in classrooms until the office verifies that this contract has been received. We must always know who is in our school building and why; this is a safety precaution.

DCS Board Policy Manual

Our Parent/Student Handbook serves to present policies and procedures that are most pertinent to students and families in Davidson County Schools. It is not an all-inclusive document. For detailed information pertaining to Davidson County Schools' Board Policies, please visit: www.davidson.k12.nc.us Under the Administration tab, click on School Board and then School Board Policy Manual.

THE DAVIDSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS DEDICATED TO MAKING YOUR CHILD'S ELEMENTARY EXPERIENCE A GREAT ONE! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND ADHERENCE TO THESE POLICIES.

Student Name _____

Classroom Teacher _____ **Grade** _____

We have read and reviewed the Parent/Student Handbook together. I understand and agree that my child will abide by the rules and regulations set by the Davidson County School District in order to create a positive and safe learning environment for all students.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Date: _____