

South Doyle Middle School

Student Handbook

2026-27



PRINCIPAL
Anthony Norris

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

6th Grade - Mark Labig & Kim Maples
7th Grade - Scott Reed & Tonia Johnson
8th Grade - Aaron Maples & Julia Roper-Walker
Related Arts - Kim Maples

COUNSELORS & BEHAVIOR SUPPORT TEAM

6th Grade - Jessica Wellner & Derek McCarter
7th Grade - Rose Casagrande & Shauna Welch
8th Grade - Tara Butler & Sam Mitchell
Jelena Brown, School Social Worker

3900 Decatur Road

Knoxville, TN 37920

(865) 579-2133

<https://southdoylems.knoxschools.org/>

SUPPLY LIST LINKS - *(it is recommended that families wait until after the 1st full day of school to purchase supplies)*

6th Grade Supply List - [link](#)

7th Grade Supply List - [link](#)

8th Grade Supply List - [link](#)

Principal Letter:

Dear Students and Parents,

I would like to welcome everyone to the 2026-27 school year! Our administrators, teachers, and staff have all been working hard to prepare our school for the best year ever!

At South-Doyle Middle, we believe in a culture of collaboration, celebration, and learning. It is our desire to create an environment where students, teachers, parents, and administrators are all working together to provide the best possible education for each child. We continually strive to have open lines of two-way communication between the school and home. Please contact us if you ever have any questions or concerns. We will work together to come to a resolution.

Our motto is BE A KEE - be kind, bring energy, and give effort! These qualities are the foundation for success in all you do!

Middle school is a big adjustment period in students' and parents' lives. It is our goal to do all we can to support our students' development educationally, socially, and emotionally. We want our students to want to be at school! If we can assist you in any way, please contact your student's grade level support team. We look forward to working, and are excited to have you all as a part of #OneTribe.

Sincerely,

Anthony Norris
Principal

Grade Level Support Contact Info

6th Grade -

Administrative Team

- Mark Labig - mark.labig@knoxschools.org
- Kim Maples - kim.maples@knoxschools.org

Counselor

- Jessica Wellner -
jessica.wellner@knoxschools.org

Behavior Support

- Derek McCarter -
derek.mccarter@knoxschools.org

7th Grade -

Administrative Team

- Scott Reed - scott.reed@knoxschools.org
- Dr. Tonia Johnson -
tonia.johnson@knoxschools.org

Counselor

- Rose Casagrande -
rose.casagrande@knoxschools.org

Behavior Support

- Shawna Welch -
shawna.welch@knoxschools.org

8th Grade -

Administrative Team

- Aaron Maples - aaron.maples@knoxschools.org
- Dr. Julia Roper-Waker -
julia.walker@knoxschools.org

Counselor

- Tara Butler - tara.butler@knoxschools.org

Behavior Support

- Sam Mitchell - sam.mitchell@knoxschools.org

Related Arts -

- Kim Maples - kim.maples@knoxschools.org

Student Handbook Acknowledgment:

Parents and students, we ask that you complete the electronic signature link below to acknowledge that you have read and discussed with your child the school's rules and procedures as presented in this student handbook. These policies are consistent with the policies approved by the Knox County School Board.

[Electronic signature link](#)

A complete copy of School Board policies can be found on the Knox County School official website as follows:
knoxschools.org

If you have any questions, please contact your grade level administrators.

South Doyle Middle School 2026-2027

Mission:

South Doyle Middle School will become a magnet that draws people to our community and a foundation for the people who call SoKno home.

Vision:

SDMS will create a culture where students feel a sense of belonging, experience academic growth and social well-being through active engagement in learning and the overall school experience.

Motto:

Be A Kee - be kind, bring energy, give effort!

Goals:

- Increase achievement in all academic areas.
- Increase participation in college and career activities.
- Increase engagement and clarity in all classes.

Behavior Matrix:

KINDNESS belonging	ENERGY well-being	EFFORT engagement
- Value everyone. - Praise others when they do well, forgive others when they do wrong, and have patience for everything in between. - Listen to others, have compassion for their situation, and be thoughtful of how your actions impact others. - Choose helpful rather than harmful words and actions. - Speak honestly but be polite and respectful.	- Have integrity in all your actions. - Show gratitude for the good things, - Focus on what can be rather than what can't. - Be confident, not boastful. - Find the best in others and situations. - Build others up rather than tearing them down. - Smile at others, say hello, please, and thank you. - Complaining is draining.	- Always do your best. - Be consistent and persistent...don't ever give up! - Be willing to learn from mistakes. - Give help to others and accept help from others. - Be a source of reliability. - Be where you should be, when you should be, doing what you should be doing.

SOUTH-DOYLE MIDDLE SCHOOL **KEE** BEHAVIORS (abbreviated for posting)

	Classrooms	Hallways	Restroom	Cafeteria	Arrival & Departure	Technology
K indness	✓ Follow 1st request ✓ Use positive words and body language ✓ Keep desk and floor clean	✓ Use positive language ✓ Respect personal space ✓ Greet others with positivity and respect	✓ Maintain privacy ✓ Report problems to an adult ✓ Put away phone	✓ Follow 1st request ✓ Practice good table manners ✓ Pay for what you eat	✓ Be kind to bus drivers and staff ✓ Use positive words and body language ✓ Respect personal space	✓ Follow device agreement ✓ Respect school property
E nergy	✓ Actively participate ✓ Communicate and engage with positive interactions ✓ Bring a growth-mindset	✓ Have permission and a hall pass ✓ Walk directly and promptly to arrive on time ✓ Follow dress code ✓ Report problems to an adult	✓ Go to the restroom during appropriate times ✓ Be present the first and last 10 minutes of class	✓ Stay in your seat ✓ Raise your hand and ask permission if you have a need	✓ Follow dress code ✓ Arrive and leave on a positive note ✓ Dismiss with correct group	✓ Use laptop for school approved use only
E ffort	✓ Put away phone ✓ Do your own work ✓ Best effort on all assignments ✓ Work turned in on time	✓ Keep hallway and locker clean ✓ Walk on the right side of the hallway ✓ Keep hands and items to self	✓ Keep floors and sinks clean ✓ Wash hands ✓ Use restroom for intended purposes	✓ Get utensils on the way to sit down ✓ Keep the table and floor clean	✓ Keep hands and items to self ✓ Sit in seat at all times ✓ Go directly to assigned area in morning	✓ Bring computer charged daily ✓ Report problems with your laptop



South Doyle Middle School

26-27 Daily Schedule

Times are subject to change. Students and guardians will be notified if permanent changes are made.

	6TH GRADE	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
*KEE TIME	8:30-8:55	8:30-8:55	8:30-8:55
1ST PERIOD	8:55-9:58	8:55-9:58	8:55-9:58
2ND PERIOD	9:58-11:00	10:00-11:15 (11:00-11:15 Outside)	10:02-11:25 (PLAN)
3RD PERIOD	11:00-12:02	11:45-1:15 (PLAN)	11:42-12:45 (11:25-11:40 Outside)
LUNCH	12:02-12:40	11:15-11:45	12:48-1:18
4TH PERIOD	1:00-2:02 (12:40-12:55 Outside)	1:20-2:28	1:23-2:25
5TH PERIOD	2:05-3:30 (PLAN)	2:28-3:30	2:25-3:30

***KEE Time:** Students will participate in the Character Strong curriculum on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Daily attendance will be taken during this time.

KCS 1/2 Days:

Please take note of the KCS scheduled ½ days for students for the 2026-27 school year. Lunch will not be served due to the release time of 12 noon for middle school students.

- 8/10
- 9/16
- 11/18
- 12/18
- 1/27
- 3/24

KCS | KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

2026-2027 Knox County Schools Calendar

Monday, August 3	First Day for Teachers (School Based In-Service Day)
Tuesday, August 4	Systemwide In-Service Day (PreK-12)
Wednesday, August 5	Administrative Day (Teacher Work Day)
Thursday, August 6	Administrative Day (Teacher Work Day)
Friday, August 7	Systemwide In-Service Day (½ Day School-based; Administrative Day (½ Day Teacher Work Day); 6th and 9th Grade Orientation)
Monday, August 10	First Day for Students (½ Day)
Monday, September 7	Labor Day Holiday (Knox County Schools Closed)
Wednesday, September 9	End 4½-weeks Grading Period
Thursday, September 16	Half Day for Students
Monday, October 5 - Friday, October 9	Constitution Day (Knox County Schools Open)
Friday, October 16	Fall Break
Tuesday, November 3	End First 9-weeks Grading Period
Tuesday, November 17	Systemwide In-Service Day (PreK-12) (Student Holiday)
Wednesday, November 18	End 4½-weeks Grading Period
Wednesday, November 25 - Friday, November 27	Half Day for Students
Friday, December 18	Thanksgiving Holidays (Knox County Schools Closed)
Monday, December 21 - Friday, January 1	½ Day for Students; End Second 9-weeks Grading Period; End First Semester
Monday, January 4	Winter Break
Tuesday, January 5	Systemwide In-service Day (½ Day School-based; Administrative Day (½ Day Teacher Work Day)
Monday, January 18	First Day for Students after Winter Break (Full Day)
Wednesday, January 27	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Knox County Schools Closed)
Friday, February 5	Half Day for Students
Monday, February 15	End 4½-weeks Grading Period
Monday, March 8 - Friday, March 12	Systemwide In-Service Day (PreK-12) (Student Holiday)
Friday, March 19	Spring Break
Wednesday, March 24	End Third 9-weeks Grading Period
Friday, March 26	Half Day for Students
Monday, March 29	Holiday (Knox County Schools Closed)
Wednesday, April 7	Holiday (Knox County Schools Closed)
Friday, April 23	Systemwide In-Service Day (PreK-12) (Student Holiday)
Wednesday, May 26	End 4½-weeks Grading Period
Thursday, May 27	Last Day for Students (½ Day); End Fourth 9-weeks Grading Period; End Second Semester
Friday, June 18	Administrative Day (Teacher Work Day) - Last Day for Teachers
	Juneteenth Holiday (Knox County Schools Closed)

Calendar Summary	
180	Instructional Days*
4	Administrative Days
2	Unscheduled In-Service Days
1	Unscheduled Parent-Teacher Contact Hours Day
6	Scheduled In-Service Days
10	Vacation Days

*In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3004 - 177 student instructional days plus 3 days accumulated under the daily 7-hour schedule.

Note: This calendar allows cancellation of up to 8 instructional days due to inclement weather or serious outbreaks of illness before any make up days will be required.

KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS
Board of Education Policies
2026-27

Guardians and students should review all Knox County Board of Education Policies by visiting the Knox County Schools website, Our District, Board of Education, Board Policy, or using this quick reference link - [KCS Policy Link](#).

The following are important policies that you are asked to review.

KCS Policies

Policy Title/Topic	Policy Number
Civility Code	B-230
Attendance	J-120
Procedural Due Process	J-181
Code of Behavior and Discipline	J-190
Student Suspension	J-193
Zero Tolerance	J-194
Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority	J-195
Interrogations and Searches	J-200
Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying or Cyber-Bullying	J-210, J-211
Use of Wireless Communication Devices in School	J-240
Bus Conduct	J-250
Dress Code	J-260
Uniform Grading Policy	J-341
Guidelines for Medication	J-352

Disciplinary Terms

Confiscation: Items that are prohibited on school grounds or are a distraction will be labeled as to ownership and turned over to the office. These items may be returned to the student or parents at the Administrator's discretion. (Note: beepers, cell phones, etc. may be turned over to Knox County Security.)

Hazing: Name-calling, inflammatory or disrespectful remarks, harassment (verbal or physical) is prohibited at all times and is subject to disciplinary consequences.

Alternative to School Suspension (A.T.S.): ATS is a consequence given for inappropriate behavior. This consequence involves placement of the student in a small classroom setting with at least one designated staff member, usually two. Students are expected to complete regular academic assignments, participate in behavior specific reflection plans, and follow the schedule and guidelines outlined by the staff member in charge. Students have access to physical activity time and must earn points to demonstrate adherence to the classroom expectations.

Out of School Suspension (O.S.S.): This is a consequence given for persistent misbehaviors of such a serious nature as to warrant being prohibited from school attendance. Students who receive O.S.S. are subject to the following rules:

- The student is not allowed on campus at any time.
- The student is not allowed to attend any school function, including, but not limited to, athletic events, dances, or school performances.

Long Term Suspension: Any out-of-school suspension that is longer than four consecutive days is considered "long term." A disciplinary hearing will be held before any long-term suspension has been given.

Initial Hearing/Disciplinary Hearing: When information is received by the Administration indicating that a student has committed a violation that could result in a suspension of more than four days, meetings will be scheduled for the following purposes in the order given below:

Hearing Notification (Includes Administrator and Student + Parent/Guardian)

- To present information concerning the violation.
- To hear the student's statement or statements of others who may have information relative to the violation.

I.E.P. Team

- To determine if the violation is a manifestation of the Special Ed certification.
- To determine if placement/programming is needed.

Disciplinary Hearing (For Special Ed. if not manifestation and all regular Ed.)

- To determine guilt or innocence.
- To determine the appropriate consequences for the violation.

Search and Seizure: According to Knox County Board Policy Handbook (JCAB), school lockers, backpacks, pocketbooks, etc. are subject to search. (Guidelines concerning such searches are outlined in the Knox County Policy Handbook available in the school office.) Parents will be contacted after the student is searched.

FORWARD

The 2026-2027 Parent/Student Handbook contains information for parents and students of South-Doyle Middle School (SDMS). Parents are asked to read this and go over the information provided to you.

SDMS takes pride in our positive approach toward student behavior. Major emphasis is placed on training and developing individual responsibility and mutual respect. The aim of this approach is to create a school environment favorable to the development of self-discipline and self-direction.

2026-2027 Procedures/Policies

SDMS Athletic Handbook

SDMS PROCEDURES & INFORMATION

Academic Program

All students will have either Grade Level or Honors courses in Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. Related arts classes include physical education, art, music, computer, health, band, chorus, science enrichment, college and career exploration, computer science, keyboarding, and STEM.

Additional programs for qualified students include intervention classes, advanced and honors classes. 8th graders that meet qualifications may have the opportunity to participate in high school credit classes such as Physical Science, Algebra I, Computer Applications, and World Geography.

Title 1

SDMS is a Title 1 school. The purpose of Title I is to provide all children a significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps. Title 1 presentations and information will be made available at our annual Title 1 sponsored Open House.

Clubs and Organizations

We encourage students to be involved in school activities to support the development of the whole child. At SDMS, students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of before and after school clubs and organizations. These include but are not limited to: Robotics, Debate Club, Girls Tribe, Art Club, BETA Club, Student Government Association, Project-U, Shades of Development, YOKE, Cherokee Singers, 4-H, Environmental Club, and Japanese Club.

SDMS school based sports include boys basketball, girls basketball, cheerleading, boys and girls track, and cross country. Many other community sponsored sports are available as well.

The following is a link to the SDMS Player Handbook for student athletes:

Positive Behaviors

SDMS's goal is for every student to consistently exhibit the behaviors reflected in the Be A Kee table noted previously in this handbook. Be A Kee - be kind, bring energy, give effort.

SDMS will be using the Character Strong curriculum to support our Be A Kee initiative. Sessions are designed to build and develop an understanding and sense of well-being, belonging, and engagement. Every student will have the opportunity to participate in these sessions through their homeroom.

SDMS is a restorative school that seeks to encourage, teach, and reward positive behaviors through our KEE Coin incentive system. KCS progressive discipline will be followed for behaviors that do not meet expectations. This may include behavior interventions, peaceful schools agreement, no communication agreement, restorative conversations, loss of privileges, and other interventions to support improvement.

Conflicts between students may result in a No Communication or a Peaceful Schools Agreement. Students will be given a copy of these contracts to bring home when initiated with the student. Violation of these agreements may result in disciplinary action.

Taking Care of School Property

SDMS belongs to you, and it is your responsibility to help keep it clean. Anyone who damages or destroys school property will be expected to pay for that property and will be subject to disciplinary action. Let's show pride in SDMS!

Daily Schedule

A copy of the master schedule can be found in this handbook. Transition times will be set by the grade level and shared with students the first days of school. Grade level teachers will review the schedule and expectations for transition times the first week of school.

Students will utilize eHallpass when requesting to leave class for any reason. Students are not allowed to leave the classroom during the first and last 10 minutes of class unless it is an emergency.

Chromebooks

Each student will be issued a KCS-provided Chromebook and charger. Students are to charge the device every night and bring it to school each day. Students will need to have their Chromebook for all classes. Information regarding distribution will be shared in the back-to-school packet. Inappropriate use of this device may result in loss of privileges, which may include becoming a day user or paper-only student (leave the device at school each day and over the weekend). Any student that has unpaid damage totals over \$100.00 while enrolled at SDMS will automatically become a day user. Students that repeatedly do not have their Chromebook at school and/or charged may be required to become a day user. Per KCS policy, administrators reserve the right to have students become day users at any time. As a reminder, day users are not allowed to take devices home.

Students who did not turn in their device from the previous year will not receive a Chromebook. Once the student brings in the device or pays the bill for that device, they will be issued a Chromebook.

SDMS and KCS will address device damage and repairs. Students who do not have device insurance offered by KCS will be billed for damages. Students will be given insurance and device damage information in the back-to-school packet. Also, please see insurance information on the final pages of this handbook.

Please direct specific questions regarding repair or loss to our TPaCK coach by calling 865-579-2133. Questions regarding loss of privileges should be directed to the grade level administrator.

Technology Links

Families and students will use a variety of applications and software to monitor students' progress, complete assignments, and receive school communications. Please see the information below for assistance:

KCS Technology Help - canvas, chromebook, teams
<https://www.knoxschools.org/studentsfamilies/thelpdesk>

SDMS website - Aspen, Canvas, ParentSquare
<https://southdoylems.knoxschools.org/>

Attendance

Student Arrival On Campus

Students are allowed to arrive on campus at 7:30 am. Students arriving on campus before 8:00 am will report to the following locations:

- 6th Grade - Gym - seated on the side of the gym closest to locker rooms
- 7th Grade - Gym - 7 seated on the side of the gym closest to the cafeteria
- 8th Grade - Auditorium - seated in the auditorium

Students will sit by their homeroom. Once students are seated, they are not permitted to stand up, move seats on the bleachers, or go to the cafeteria.

Students will be dismissed and escorted to their team area as follows:

- 8:00 – 6th Grade
- 8:05 – 7th Grade
- 8:10 – 8th Grade

Students wishing to eat breakfast will be escorted through the cafeteria and then to the team area. Breakfast will be eaten in their homeroom.

Absence Procedure

Students are responsible for turning in absentee notes to the front office upon arrival to campus. A parent or doctor's note should be turned in within 5 days of the student returning to school. Parents can utilize 10 parent notes per school year. Parent notes should include PRINTED student first and last name, the student's homeroom teacher's name, date(s) of absence, reason for absence, parent's first and last name, parent signature, and parent contact phone number.

Students should request make-up assignments from teachers within 3 days of returning to school and will have 10 days to complete those assignments.

Please review the KCS policy J-120 for additional information regarding attendance.

Tardy Procedure

Students are released to homeroom from their grade level assigned area beginning at 8:00 am each morning. Students who arrive after 8:30 am must report to the student office to sign in and receive a tardy slip for entry into class.

Early Dismissal

A parent or guardian must come to the school office to check out a student early. Persons picking up students must be on that student's record and have photo identification. No student is dismissed after 3:15 pm due to safety reasons.

Afternoon Dismissal -

Students will be dismissed via intercom at 3:30 pm. The dismissal order will be walkers, bus riders, and then car riders. Students are asked to

leave campus quickly and appropriately. Parents should follow the parking lot alphabet signs to ensure a quick and safe dismissal.

Primary Dismissal Transportation

Parents will designate the student's primary transportation (walker, car, or bus #). Parents will designate this by circling their response on the bottom of the student information verification form. If the student has a consistent pattern for a different form of transportation, please write it on the back of the form, and a note will NOT be necessary. (ie: every Thursday student is a car rider instead of a bus rider; one week bus and one week walker - try to specify the rotation if possible). This form is in the back-to-school packet.

A parent note will be required for any changes to designated form of transportation (ie: designated walker needs to be a bus rider for a specific day). This note should include PRINTED student first and last name, student's last period teacher name, change in dismissal transportation requested, parent first and last name, parent signature, and parent contact phone number. Students will turn in notes to the office upon arrival on campus. These notes will be verified, approved, and given to the last period teacher. Notes will not be necessary for the consistent pattern of transportation noted on the back of the form.

Student Progress Reports

Knox County Middle Schools operate on a semester schedule. Progress reports will be available electronically 4½ weeks. Report cards will be available electronically at the end of each semester. The electronic system used by KCS is Aspen. In compliance with KCS policy I-381, Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) performance results will compose 10% of second semester (spring semester) grades in the subject areas of mathematics, reading/language arts, science, and social studies for Knox County Schools Students in grades three through eight. Only required statewide assessments that have not experienced problems in administration or grading shall be used in a particular school year. Students participating in high school credit classes that require an End of Course (EOC) exam will have this score as part of their grade. The EOC weight is 15% of the final grade. This is subject to change based on decisions by Knox County Schools. Parents and students will be notified of changes that occur. The Director of Schools shall be responsible for developing a methodology and procedure for teachers to use in numerically computing these grades.

KCS Grade Scale

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

Student Awards Programs

Students are recognized for outstanding achievement and behavior by school personnel. These achievements may include but are not limited to the honor roll, citizenship, perfect attendance, personal improvement, meeting Be A Kee expectations, and other positive behavior goals. These celebrations include school-wide and grade levels events. Information will be provided to students and parents by the grade level administrator.

Lockers

Due to increased enrollment, lockers may not be issued for the 26-27 school year. If students are assigned a locker, we highly suggest having a combination lock. A copy of the combination should be given to the homeroom teacher. If a key lock is used, a duplicate key should be given to the homeroom teacher. Students must use their assigned locker. SDMS is not responsible for items reported as missing due to the lack of a lock. If you have any questions regarding lockers, please contact your grade level administrator.

Restroom

Students are provided pre-planned restroom breaks throughout the day to avoid students missing instructional time by leaving class. Teachers' expectations and procedures will be shared the first week of school which will include a check-in, check-out system referred to as eHallpass. Students will not be permitted to leave the classroom during the first and last 10 minutes of class as this is when key instructions are given. If a student has a medical condition that will require flexibility of access, please contact the grade level administrator.

Dress Code

SDMS will follow and enforce KCS dress code policy noted previously in this handbook. For safety reasons, students will not be permitted to wear hats, hoods, toboggans, the hoods attached to their sweatshirt, or any other full head coverings in the building. Blankets should not be brought to school or worn during the school day. Skirts, dresses, and

shorts must be beyond mid-thigh length. Shirts or tops must cover the waistband of pants, shorts, or skirts with no midriff visible. Failure to comply will be addressed as dress code violations.

Student Names

If a student requests to be called another name other than the name on school records (first or middle name) or a derivative of that name, the school will reach out to guardians to verify the request.

Backpacks

Students are encouraged to use sling bags or string bags to carry school materials and personal items. All other types of school bags should be stored in the student locker or area designated by the teacher and/or administrator.

Wireless Communication Devices

Students will follow the use of wireless communication devices policy J-240 by KCS. A “wireless communication device” (WCD) is a personal portable wireless device that has the capacity to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two or more parties. WCDs include, but are not limited to cell phones, smart watches, smart glasses, and tablets.

WCDs may be stored in backpacks, purses, or personal carry-alls. However, the use of the devices during the school day is prohibited for all students except in the following circumstances:

1. The principal authorizes a teacher to approve the use of WCDs for educational purposes during instructional time;
2. A student uses a WCD in the event of an emergency or to manage the student’s health;
3. A student’s use of a WCD during instructional time is included in the student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 plan, or Individual Learning Plan (ILP); or
4. A student with a disability uses a WCD to operate assistive technology to increase, maintain, or improve the student’s functional capabilities.

These restrictions are not intended to discourage the use of these devices for instructional purposes, but to establish parameters and appropriate oversight for their use. Improper use or storage of WCDs may result in confiscation of the device until it can be released directly to a student’s parents and/or legal guardians. A student in violation of this policy is subject to related disciplinary action as defined in Policy J-191.

Knox County Schools is not liable for loss or damage to any wireless communication devices brought onto school campuses. Although Knox

County Schools will take reasonable steps to protect a student’s WCD should it be confiscated, KCS does not expressly or implicitly assume, and does not assume, any responsibility for loss of or damage to any WCD.

Students will be authorized to use WCDs for communication purposes in the event of an emergency or possible emergency. However, the principal or principal’s designee will remain the primary point of contact for families in the event of an emergency or possible emergency. All emergency communication from the school or district will be shared through the district’s mass communication system.

Clarifying points:

- Please note, this is a state law, not KCS or SDMS rule.
- Devices must be stored out of sight in a bag, purse, locker. Devices may not be on their person.
- Begins upon arrival on campus through leaving campus.
 - Student will power off device
 - Teacher confiscate & lock in device locker
 - Teacher will return device to student at end of class period
 - Reminder of new procedure
- 1st offense -
 - Student will power off device
 - Teacher confiscate & lock in device locker
 - Give to administrator as soon as possible
 - Teacher enter into Aspen
 - Administrator conference
 - Device to student at end of day
 - Parent contact
- 2nd offense -
 - Student will power off device
 - Teacher confiscate & lock in device locker
 - Give to administrator as soon as possible
 - Teacher enter into Aspen
 - Administrator conference
 - Device to student at end of day
 - Parent contact
- 3rd offense -
 - Student will power off device
 - Teacher confiscate & lock in device locker
 - Give to administrator as soon as possible
 - Teacher enter into Aspen
 - Administrator conference
 - Isolated lunch during next available lunch
 - Device plan will be implemented with administrator assigning consequence
 - Device to student at end of day
 - Parent contact with 4th & beyond offense discussion

- 4th offense & beyond -
 - Student will power off device
 - Teacher confiscate & lock in device locker
 - Give to administrator as soon as possible
 - Teacher enter into Aspen
 - Administrator conference
 - Non-compliance with wireless devices - administrator will follow KCS policy J-191 for consequences.
 - Parent contact
 - Parent may be asked to pick up device from the school

Bikes/Skateboards/Scooters

SDMS allows students to utilize bikes, skateboards, and scooters to arrive on campus. Once on campus, students should dismount and walk/carry their device. A bike rack is available and located in the back parking area of the campus off Taylor Road. Other devices may be left in the front office or with their grade level administrator. SDMS is not responsible for lost property.

Learning Environment

Students are prohibited from bringing items to school that are unnecessary or disruptive to the learning environment. These may include but are not limited to basketballs, tennis balls, speakers, rubber bands, snacks or candy to distribute to others without advanced permission from a staff member, or toys which include stuffed animals. These types of items will be confiscated by staff members and given to the grade level administrator. Guardians may contact administrators to make arrangements to pick-up.

Restricted Areas

Students are not allowed in:

- Parking lots during school hours without administrative permission.
- Rooms or areas designated as staff only.
- Any unsupervised area during classes without administrative permission.
- In the building or on campus before 7:30am or after 4:00pm without staff supervision for a school activity.

Students found in restricted areas are subject to search and possible disciplinary consequences.

School Nurse Office

SDMS has a nurse to provide assistance to students and staff. The nurse office is located in the main office to the left of the front desk. The door is marked as "clinic". Students needing to see the nurse

will be escorted using the buddy system or a staff member. Students should seek permission via eHallpass to see the nurse.

Cafeteria

SDMS provides free breakfast and lunch for all students. Students may purchase additional items such as ice cream and chips. Once a student goes through the serving line and has received his/her meal, he/she is not to go back to buy extra food. All purchases should be made before the student leaves the serving line. Open food items are not allowed to be taken from the cafeteria. Parents or visitors who wish to eat lunch at SDMS will be charged the published adult rate (see the School Nutrition webpage for current breakfast and lunch prices).

Visiting the SDMS Campus

Anyone visiting SDMS must report to the office to check-in and receive a visitor's pass. This requirement is for the safety of all students. Violators will be asked to leave the campus.

If you are planning to visit a classroom, you must have prior permission from an administrator. This may be obtained via email or phone call. The classroom visit will be scheduled by the administrator and communicated to the parent.

While not encouraged, parents may request to eat lunch with their student. Arrangements should be made at least 24 hours in advance with their grade level administrator and special seating will be arranged. No student is allowed to eat lunch with an adult other than their own parent/guardian. The drop-off of fast foods/restaurants by parents or food delivery companies will not be allowed.

Unscheduled Parent Meeting Request

Parents/guardians are to contact the grade level administrators if they need to schedule a parent conference. If parents/guardians arrive on campus without an appointment and it is not an emergency (imminent safety concern), they will be asked to leave their contact information with the office secretaries. The grade level administrators will contact the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience.

Off Campus Trips

Field trips are activities based on or related to the curriculum. Participation is a privilege. Students must meet academic and behavioral expectations that are set forth by school staff in order to participate. These requirements will be shared with parents and students as events are planned. The school is not obligated to refund field trip money. Signed

permission slips are needed for participation in off campus trips and some after school events.

Items Dropped Off for Students

To avoid excessive announcements and interruptions, only emergency messages or packages from parents or guardians will be accepted for distribution to students during school. These may include but are not limited to forgotten lunches, lunch money, chromebooks, instruments, and other academic materials. Flowers, balloons, messages, and other outside deliveries will not be accepted. All students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch. **Outside food deliveries will not be accepted.**

Habit School

Toby, a Therapy Dog, may be visiting SDMS on a weekly basis from the University of Tennessee's College of Veterinary Medicine. Dude is a Goldendoodle that has been medically and behaviorally screened by the University's HABIT program. HABIT provides therapy animals for many places in 19 counties in East Tennessee. These animals work in a variety of health-related institutions and schools.

The dog assigned to our school may be seen in the halls and even spend 5-10 minutes with your child sharing space or just enjoying each other's company. We are proud to be able to offer this opportunity for our students and know it will be both an emotional and educational experience. We may have additional dogs participate throughout the year.

Additional information will be in our back to school packet. This will include information if you prefer that your child not interact with the dog.

SDMS Library and Media Center

Books

Students may visit the library during the school day with teacher permission via eHallpass. All students may check out 2 books at a time. Special permission for more materials may be granted when necessary for an assignment. The loan period for students is 3 weeks. An electronic database of materials available in the library is available via our school website under students - library/media center.

Lost and/or Damaged Books

If a book is lost or damaged, the book **MUST** be paid for before additional books can be checked out. Your signature for signing the handbook means that you agree to pay for lost or damaged books that are checked out to your student. Payment for a lost book is reimbursed should the book be found and returned in good condition. Debts remaining at the

end of the school year may be turned in to the office and become a part of the student's permanent file. When a student withdraws from school, any items that are checked out must be returned and/or paid for upon withdrawal.

Back to School Packet & Information

Students will be given a packet of information during the first week of school. This packet will contain essential information that will assist the school with communication and family involvement. Please make sure all information is up to date and accurate.

SHADES - After School Program

SHADES is an after school program designed to provide SDMS students with an opportunity to participate in activities that are designed to promote Safe Healthy Adventures Developing Essential Skills.

It is the goal of SHADES of Development to strive to provide an afterschool program that is sensitive and responsive to the needs of the children and families we serve. We hope that through your input and involvement, SHADES of Development will be able to reach that goal.

Information on enrollment will be sent home with students during the first month of school. The SDMS contact is Celine Hughes.

KEE Store

The KEE Store will be open from 8:00-8:30 am. Students must report to their homeroom and create an e-hallpass to access the KEE Store. Students may purchase items from the KEE Store with KEE Coins earned throughout the year. Before going to the KEE Store, students must be logged into their Critter Coin account, have item prepurchased, and their QR code ready to scan. Going to the KEE Store is at the teachers discretion as it is a privilege, not a right. More information will be shared with students.

KEE Cafe

The KEE Cafe will be open from 8:00-8:30. Items in the cafe must be purchased with money. Students may use tap and pay, cash card, or cash. Students must report to their homeroom and create an e-hallpass to access the KEE Cafe. Going to the KEE Cafe is at the teachers discretion as it is a privilege, not a right. More information will be shared with students.

KCS & SDMS CHROMEBOOK INFORMATION

KCS Device Agreement - Due: Monday, Aug. 17th

Link: <https://bit.ly/26kcsagreement>

Device Deployment Dates:

August 17th - Students with Signed Device Agreement

August 18th - Absent/Late Students and Day Users

- Use the QR code to sign the device agreement for the '26-'27 school year. All device agreements must be signed online. There are no paper copies available.
- All students **WITHOUT** a signed device agreement will get a device as a Day User on Aug. 18th

For assistance signing the device agreement, contact KCS Tech Support at 865-594-1830 or techsupport@knoxschools.org



KCS Chromebook Insurance - Due: Sept. 30th

Link: <https://bit.ly/26deviceinsurance>

Parents/Guardians are being given the option to pay a \$20 non-refundable, annual fee for device insurance this year.

- There is no Insurance Agreement to fill out (paperwork). The only thing needed is payment.
- Payment is due on or before September 30, 2025.
- We are using Givebacks for digital monetary collections.
 - Instructions for creating your account and linking your student(s) can be found by scanning the QR CODE.



JOIN THE PTSO

The Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) welcomes you and offers you an opportunity to join this dynamic group making a positive difference at South Doyle Middle School (SDMS).

Every dollar invested through Membership Dues is used to support students and staff. Funds collected from memberships is one of our largest fundraisers.

Joining the PTSO does not obligate you to volunteer. Anyone can join- parents, guardians, grandparents, staff, teachers, administrators, students, and friends.

Membership is free for staff and \$10 for all others.



<https://sdmsptso.givebacks.com/shop>

FOLLOW US

Facebook: South Doyle Middle PTSO

Instagram: southdoylemiddleptso

Email: sdmsptso@gmail.com

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of every month

Please review this policy carefully as it has been changed to meet the new state law guidelines.

PURPOSE

Wireless communication devices have many applications, some of which may be appropriate for student use during the school day. This policy outlines the permissible and appropriate use of such devices during school hours.

DEFINITIONS

A “wireless communication device” (WCD) is a personal portable wireless device that has the capacity to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two or more parties.¹ WCDs include, but are not limited to cell phones, smart watches, smart glasses, and tablets.

A “district-issued device” refers to an electronic device, such as a laptop or tablet, purchased for student educational use during and outside of instructional time.

For the purposes of this policy, “instructional time” refers to scheduled in-class time in which students are expected to be learning during the school day. “Non-instructional time” refers to scheduled out-of-class time during the school day, such as breakfast and lunch or transition time between classes. The “school day,” for the purposes of this policy, is further defined as on-campus time between the designated start and end of the school day, as defined in Policy A-140.

USE OF DISTRICT-ISSUED DEVICES

Knox County Schools is a 1:1 district, meaning every student is equipped with a district-issued device to assist with learning in and outside of the classroom. Use of district-issued devices are therefore exempt from the parameters outlined within this policy and may be used at the discretion of the school to facilitate learning.

USE OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

WCDs may be stored in backpacks, purses, or personal carry-alls. However, the use of the devices during the school day is prohibited for all students except in the following circumstances:¹

1. The principal authorizes a teacher to approve the use of WCDs for educational purposes during instructional time;
2. A student uses a WCD in the event of an emergency or to manage the student’s health;
3. A student’s use of a WCD during instructional time is included in the student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 plan, or Individual Learning Plan (ILP); or
4. A student with a disability uses a WCD to operate assistive technology to increase, maintain, or improve the student’s functional capabilities.

1 These restrictions are not intended to discourage the use of these devices for instructional purposes, but
2 to establish parameters and appropriate oversight for their use. Improper use or storage of WCDs may
3 result in confiscation of the device until it can be released directly to a student's parents and/or legal
4 guardians. A student in violation of this policy is subject to related disciplinary action as defined in Policy
5 J-191.

6
7 Knox County Schools is not liable for loss or damage to any wireless communication devices brought
8 onto school campuses. Although Knox County Schools will take reasonable steps to protect a student's
9 WCD should it be confiscated, KCS does not expressly or implicitly assume, and does not assume, any
10 responsibility for loss of or damage to any WCD.

11 12 **LOSS OF DEVICE PRIVILEGES**

13
14 Any device used outside these parameters may result in confiscation until it can be released directly to
15 the student's parent or legal guardian. A teacher may withhold a WCD from a student during a class if
16 the device is a distraction to the class or student.² A student who possesses a WCD in violation of this
17 policy is subject to related disciplinary action, as defined in Policy J-191. Continued violation of this
18 policy may also result in loss of WCD privileges. Additionally, students may lose WCD privileges for
19 any policy violation that is related to or is the result of the use of a WCD.

20 21 **PROHIBITED USE OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

22
23 In addition to the parameters established above, use of a WCD to bully, harass, or intimidate others will
24 be subject to related disciplinary action, as defined in Policy J-191. Using a WCD for any illicit activity
25 including but not limited to take, disseminate, transfer, or share obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise
26 illegal images, photographs, or similar material whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise may
27 constitute a crime under State and/or Federal law. Any student taking, disseminating, transferring,
28 possessing or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, illegal, or otherwise inappropriate images or
29 photographs of other students or any other individual, particularly underage, at school, on a school bus or
30 while attending any school event or activity will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the school
31 district and reported to law enforcement and other appropriate State or Federal agencies.³

32 33 **COMMUNICATION IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY OR POSSIBLE EMERGENCY**

34
35 Students will be authorized to use WCDs for communication purposes in the event of an emergency or
36 possible emergency. However, the principal or principal's designee will remain the primary point of
37 contact for families in the event of an emergency or possible emergency. All emergency communication
38 from the school or district will be shared through the district's mass communication system.

39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 **Legal References:**

- 47 1. T.C.A. § 49-6-(cite pending).
48 2. T.C.A. § 49-6-4002.
49 3. T.C.A. § 37-1-403.

KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

MISBEHAVIOR AND CONSEQUENCES GUIDELINES

The following pages detail Knox County Schools misbehavior and disciplinary options. These expectations and guidelines will be followed and enforced by SDMS.

<u>Section J:</u> Students	Knox County Board of Education		
	Descriptor Term: Code of Behavior and Discipline	Descriptor Code: J-190	Issued: 7/95
		Reviewed: 3/26	Revised: 5/26

The Director of Schools shall be responsible for the overall implementation and supervision of the Board's policies of behavior and discipline and shall ensure that students at all schools are subject to a uniform and fair application of the policies.

CODES OF CONDUCT

The Board delegates the responsibility of developing specific codes of conduct appropriate for each school level to the Director of Schools. Students in pre-kindergarten are not subject to the standard code of conduct, and alternative disciplinary approaches should be implemented. All K-12 students will be disciplined through a trauma-informed and restorative lens. Exclusionary discipline shall only be used as a measure of last resort. The development of each code shall involve principals and staff members at each grade band and shall be based on evidence-based behaviors, supports, interventions and a restorative student transition.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

The principal of each school shall be responsible for implementation and administration in the school and shall apply the policies uniformly and fairly to each student at the school without partiality and discrimination. Any school administrator or employee who, after a proper investigation, is found to have knowingly engaged in discrimination toward a student(s) on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, religion or sex, will be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, termination of employment. A finding against an employee of knowing failure to report discrimination and/or otherwise act against discrimination, including, but not limited to the failure to discipline another employee with a finding of discrimination, will be subject to the same type of disciplinary action.¹

Staff members have the authority to enforce the code of conduct and shall ensure that disciplinary measures are implemented in a manner that:

- Balances accountability with an understanding of traumatic behavior;
- Teaches and provides opportunities for students to practice school and classroom rules while reinforcing that violent or abusive behavior is not allowed at school;
- Minimizes disruptions to education with an emphasis on positive behavior support and/or behavioral intervention plans;
- Creates consistent and positive rules and consequences; and
- Models respectful, non-violent relationships.

DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES

The KCS Discipline Guidelines, described in detail in Administrative Procedure AP-J-191, include levels of possible responses to inappropriate behavior. Each behavior is assigned to one or more levels of response. Principals and school staff should use the levels suggested for each behavior. If a behavior is

assigned to two or more levels of response, the lowest level of intervention should generally be used first. Behaviors are likewise defined in Administrative Procedure AP-J-191.

When choosing a higher-level response within the range of possible responses, an administrator should consider:

- The student's age, health, disability, decision-making ability, and prior discipline history;
- The student's willingness to repair the harm;
- The seriousness of the act;
- The potential to cause harm or the harm caused, including any injuries;
- The extent of actual disruption to the learning environment; and
- Whether the act was intentional, knowing, or reckless.

The administration will document the discipline referral and the reasons for using the selected response. In each case, KCS administrators and staff will apply consequences to minimize the amount of instructional time lost while providing a safe and orderly learning environment. It is the duty of school principals to administer and implement the school behavior and discipline code.

Principals and school faculty shall use these guidelines for responses to behavior. Responses and interventions are at the discretion of the school principals. Suspension is required if the behavior is a Zero Tolerance Offense.²

INVESTIGATION AND DUE PROCESS

Before school authorities take any disciplinary action, they will investigate to determine the truth of what happened. For lower-level behavior violations, when corrective measures are taken by the classroom teacher, no formal procedure is required. However, the teacher should make an inquiry into the incident to ensure that the student involved is accurately identified, and that the student understands the nature of their behavior, its impact, and the associated response or corrective action.

In cases of possible suspension or expulsion, the student will be advised of the nature of the alleged misconduct, questioned about it, and allowed to explain (in writing if possible) or rebut the accusation. Students may be questioned by teachers, principals, or other school officials about any matter pertaining to the operation of a school or the enforcement of rules. Questioning will be conducted discreetly to avoid unnecessary embarrassment to the student being questioned. Any student answering falsely, evasively, or refusing to answer a question or refusing to be properly searched will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension. KCS Codes of Conduct and disciplinary policies apply to students' conduct on school buses, school property, and school-sponsored outings or when student conduct causes substantial disruption to the educational/learning environment.

School expectations shall contain the type of behavior expected from each student, the consequences of failure to obey such standards and the importance of the standards to the maintenance of a safe learning environment where orderly learning is possible and encouraged. All such expectations shall be uniform to the extent of maximum consideration for the safety and well-being of students and employees.²

A copy of the school expectations shall be posted at each school and school counselors and teachers shall be supplied copies for discussion with students. All schools shall reference Board Policy in their school expectations. All teachers, administrative staff and parents shall be provided access to copies of school expectations and code of conduct.