

2026

Ebenezer Avenue

Empowering LEADERS & LEARNERS

2027

A Leader in Me School



Family/Student Handbook

Ebenezer Avenue Elementary School

Our Vision: Ebenezer Avenue is where our empowered community of leaders and learners celebrate our growth and successes.

Our Mission: Ebenezer Avenue pledges to: Build Strong Relationships, Model & Live the 7 Habits, and create opportunities for all.

242 Ebenezer Avenue

Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

(803) 981-1435

The rules, regulations and consequences in this handbook are based on policies of the Board of Trustees for Rock Hill Schools. These policies are concurrent with state and federal laws and guidelines. If the district policies, state or federal laws or guidelines are updated, changed, or modified in any way during the school year, the rules, regulations and/or consequences in this handbook may undergo modifications. Such changes will be posted on the school's website.

Dear Eagle Families,

Welcome to an exciting year at our school! We are thrilled to partner with our students, families, and community as we begin a new year of learning, leadership, and growth.

Our vision, Empowering Leaders and Learners, guides everything we do. We believe every child has unique strengths, talents, and leadership potential. Through high expectations, meaningful relationships, and engaging learning experiences, we are committed to helping each student grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

We value the partnership between home and school and encourage families to stay connected, communicate openly, and actively participate in their child's educational journey. Together, we can create a positive and supportive environment where every student feels valued, challenged, and inspired to succeed.

We look forward to a fantastic 2026-2027 school year filled with learning, leadership, and memorable experiences.

Together, we will empower leaders and learners every day!

Eagles First,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheleea Leonard". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Sheleea" and the last name "Leonard" clearly distinguishable.

Sheleea Leonard
Principal

Ebenezer Avenue-School Policies & Procedures

IMPORTANT SCHOOL TIMES

7:00-Student Drop-Off Begins

7:30- Breakfast Cut-Off

7:40- Warning Bell

7:42 Drop Off for car line is closed

7:45- Tardy Bell

1:45-No Early Dismissals After This Time

2:10 Dismissal for Students

(Office hours 7am-3pm)

[District Calendar Link](#)

ARRIVAL

The car rider line will open at **7:00 am** each morning. Safety Patrol is there to assist with our arrival and dismissal procedures. **The first bell rings at 7:40 and at that time our Safety Patrol will transition to classrooms. Students arriving after 7:42 should be signed in by an adult in the main office and will be marked tardy. After 7:42 students are not able to make it to their classrooms in a timely manner to be in the classroom by 7:45. Students cannot enter the building unaccompanied.**

DISMISSAL

Car Rider Procedures-Students will begin transitioning to dismissal locations at 2:10. **ALL** car riders will be dismissed in the back car rider line. Each afternoon we do our best to begin car rider dismissal at 2:10 once our walkers and bus riders have cleared the building. Parents/Guardians will be required to have the car tag assigned to the student(s) being picked up in order for the student to be dismissed. If the driver does not have the required tag he or she will be asked to go to the main office, present their driver's license, and be issued a tag if their name is listed on the student contact information.

Walker Procedures-Students who walk will exit from the far gate of the outside breezeway opposite the Montessori wing. Students under the age of nine must be accompanied by an adult when walking home. **Cars are not permitted to park in front of the school to pick up walkers.** You will be asked and required to drive to the car rider pick up line. There is a busy intersection in front of our school and this is a heavy traffic area. Keeping both sides of the street clear protects the safety of everyone. In an effort to assure the safety of all students and adults, please do not bring pets on school grounds when walking to pick up students.

Bus Rider Procedures-Bus riders will be dismissed to the bus loop at the front of the school. All Pre-K through second grade students must be met at the bus stop by an adult. If there is no adult at the bus stop to receive the student he or she will be brought back to the school and a parent or emergency contact will be required to come to the school for the student.

Important Note: If a change of dismissal or transportation needs to be made it must take place prior to 1:30 pm and be submitted in writing with no exceptions. This is for the safety of our Eagles.

ATTENDANCE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Elementary Guidelines Spanish Version

Guidelines for Implementing Student Attendance Regulations

Any student who misses school must present a written excuse, signed by a parent/guardian, or a medical or legal statement. If a written excuse or medical/legal statement is not provided to your school's Attendance Office within three days after the student is back in school, the absence will be unexcused. The maximum number of parent notes accepted and recorded for illness as a lawful/excused absence is five per school year.

Tardies: All students who are not in their classroom by 7:45 a.m. will receive an unexcused tardy. The only exceptions are for students who are tardy due to a medical appointment or a late bus. A tardy will only be excused when a medical note is presented at the time of arrival to school or approved by the principal for extenuating circumstances.

Students will be considered absent lawfully and excused when:

- They are ill and their attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others.
- There is a death or serious illness in their immediate family —with proper documentation (bulletin, death notice)
- There is a recognized religious holiday of their faith.
- The student is suspended out of school.
- There is a necessary medical or legal appointment that cannot be scheduled during non-school hours.

Students will not be excused or receive a lawful absence for family vacations, non-sponsored school events or any personal reason not associated with the school will not be excused. This is part of SC State Compulsory Attendance Law.

Early Dismissal: Students are not allowed to leave school after 1:45 p.m. UNLESS a doctor's excuse/appointment card is presented to the office by the parent at the time of dismissal. In addition, no transportation changes will be made AFTER 1:45 p.m.

Student Attendance Intervention Plans

After three consecutive or a total of five unlawful absences, regulations require that school officials contact the parent/guardian for a conference. The purpose of this conference is to identify reasons for your student's absences and to complete a Student Attendance Intervention Plan.

The maximum number of days a student is allowed to miss is TEN per school year (lawful or unlawful.) When a student is absent more than 10 days, attendance is a key factor used in the promotion/retention decisions for grades K-5.

Citation: South Carolina Code of Laws 59-65-50, 60 & 70, and South Carolina Board of Education Regulations.

ADDRESSING YOUR CONCERNS

At times a parent/guardian may have concerns about his or her child's performance or about a discipline issue. Here are steps you need to follow to address your concerns:

Step One: The parent/guardian should first discuss the issue with the specific teacher by telephone or in person after making an appointment.

Step Two: If this telephone conversation or meeting does not resolve the parent's/guardian's concerns, the parent/guardian should contact school administration and discuss the issue by telephone or in person after making an appointment.

BULLYING/HARASSMENT

The board prohibits the acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying of a student by students, staff and/or third parties that interfere with or disrupt a student's ability to learn and the school's responsibility to educate its students in a safe and orderly environment whether in a classroom, on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises, or at another program or function where the school is responsible for the student.

The school board has adopted a policy on harassment, intimidation and bullying. A copy of JICFAA policy can be obtained by contacting the school or by accessing the following website:

https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=york3_rock_hill

BUS TRANSPORTATION AND CONDUCT

59-67-245 INTERFERENCE WITH OPERATION OF SCHOOL BUS

No person shall willfully and wrongfully, either public or private, by boarding, restricting movement or using threats, either physical or verbal, to the driver or any passenger while the bus is engaged in the transportation of pupils to and from school or any lawful school activity or while passengers are entering and leaving the bus nor shall any person willfully fail or refuse to obey a lawful order of a school bus driver relating to the occupancy of a school bus. The use of threatening, obscene, or profane language, leaving or waiting for a school bus, is disorderly conduct, and any person convicted of the use of such language shall be punished as provided in 16-17-530. Nothing contained herein shall be interpreted to infringe upon the power and duties of duly constituted authorities. (Fine up to \$200 - First Offense)

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS

School bus transportation is authorized only for pupils regularly enrolled in public school in grades K-12. This is a privilege to enjoy rather than a right. The transportation division of Rock Hill School District Three will do everything within its power to provide the best equipment, drivers, and the safest program possible. We ask for cooperation in making this possible.

If you have questions regarding bus transportation, please email the Rock Hill Schools Transportation Department at BUSHHELP@RHMAIL.ORG.

In an effort to cut down on transportation questions, please download the "Traversa Ride 360" app through the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Once you have downloaded the app, register at the

following link: <https://scrockhillsd3.traversaride360.com/>

This app will allow you to access your students' bus number for both morning and afternoon routes, as well as the ETA for both routes.

Specific student behavior expectations are established for the safe and efficient operation of the school district transportation system in accordance with state laws and regulations. Bus transportation is considered an extension of the regular school program and students who violate behavior expectations while riding a bus are subject to suspension from riding the bus and/or all other penalties established for misbehavior while students are on school premises.

[Full Student Transportation Regulations link](#)

Bus rules include:

- Eating, drinking or using profanity on the bus is prohibited.
- Stay seated in your seat at all times.
- Keep the aisle clear of feet, book bags, etc.
- Use your inside voice.

Consequences of violations:

- I. Minor Violations
 - 1st, 2nd - Warning
 - 3rd - One day off the bus
 - 4th - One day off the bus
 - 5th - Two days off the bus
 - 6th - Two days off the bus
 - 7th and up - Three days off bus
- II. Major Violations
 - 1st - Warning
 - 2nd - 1st suspension conditional (1 week)
 - 3rd - 2nd suspension (1 week)
 - 4th - 3rd suspension (2 weeks)
 - 5th - 4th suspension (all year)

Additional bus information can be accessed here: <https://www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us/Domain/303>

Common Disallowed items on School Buses

Carry-on items: Compliance with federal standards is mandatory by the State Department of Education. No animals, insects, weapons, balloons, glass or pressurized containers or class projects that are large, wooden, etc. **none of these** are to be carried on buses by drivers, teachers or students. Up to 22x28 paper posters are allowed if driver vision is not obstructed. Band instruments or other items carried on

the bus must be of such size that all must be carried in the students lap and cannot be above the seat top. Items on the seats, floor- (projectiles) or obstructing the isles endanger all passengers on the bus. Class projects and large band instruments must be transported to/from school via private vehicle. Secured oxygen tanks are approved for use on Special Needs buses only. Unsecured objects become projectiles upon sudden stops.

School bus drivers are instructed to stop such items from being brought onto the bus. Every item/object must be scrutinized. Students/parents must present items to the school principal for a principal's signature-note, which must be given to the bus driver prior to approaching the bus.



CLASS PLACEMENT

Each year our team spends a considerable amount of time preparing for the next year. There are many variables that affect class placement. These variables include learning styles, learner needs, teaching styles, and many other factors. With this we do not take specific teacher requests.

CONFERENCES

Communication is an essential part of the educational program. We feel it is important for parents to keep in close contact with their child's teacher concerning his/her progress. Teachers, parents, or the principal may call for a conference when desired or necessary. Parents may call the school office (803-981-1435) to set up an appointment. We prefer conferences be scheduled after 2:15 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays. However, attempts will be made to arrange a time convenient to all. It is our expectation that at least once during the school year an in-person conference takes place for every student.

CODE OF CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

It is necessary that children learn to develop self-discipline in order to further their learning. We ask that you discuss with your children the importance of and need for good behavior and a good attitude while at school. Failure to comply with school or classroom rules could result in disciplinary actions. Each classroom teacher will establish and communicate all classroom rules to students and families along

with any classroom based consequences for the violation of those rules. Classroom teachers will make every attempt to inform a family of a violation of a rule in hopes the family will support the teacher and school in the reinforcement of our rules.

Students whose behaviors break rules continuously, or who are interfering with other students' learning, will be managed by the classroom teacher or referred to a member of the school's administrative team. At that time the administrator will issue consequences. Please note that a teacher does not have the authority to send a student to a Recovery Room or suspend a student. If both administrators are unavailable a student may be sent to work with our Behavior Management Assistant until an administrator is available to conference with the student.

Simple discipline is the behavior management system used by Rock Hill Schools. Referrals will be reviewed and processed by administrators and then sent electronically to parents/guardians to communicate the infraction and consequence. Minor referrals are also processed in this program by teachers. These infractions are handled in the classroom by the teacher.

If a student has an office discipline referral, these are possible consequences:

- Student conference with an administrator and/or Dean of Students
- Parent conference with an administrator and/or Dean of Students
- Loss of privileges
- In School Suspension
- Suspension from school

These consequences will be administered by an administrator.

[District Behavior Matrix](#)

Policy: [JICDA Code of Conduct](#), [AR JICDA-R Code of Conduct](#), [JKD Suspension of Students](#), [AR JKD-R Suspension of Students](#), [JKE Expulsion of Students](#), [JKE-R Expulsion of Students](#), and [JK Students Discipline](#)

Issued 5/16, 5/16, 10/16, 10/16, 6/17, 6/17, and 8/16 respectively

Academic Dishonesty

The act of receiving or attempting to receive an unfair advantage in academic work; plagiarizing, providing, receiving, or viewing answers to an assignment that is prohibited to include the use of an electronic device. This will result in a recorded grade of a zero, parents will be notified, work can be re-submitted, but not for full credit.

Leader in Me & Core Behavior

At Ebenezer Avenue Elementary School, our behavior expectations are centered around the principles of the Leader in Me program. This year marks our first year of implementing this process, which is built on the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and aims to empower students to take charge of their learning and personal development.

Our Core Behavior Expectations:

1. **Be Proactive:** Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions and make positive choices.
2. **Begin with the End in Mind:** Students are guided to set goals and work towards achieving them with a clear vision.
3. **Put First Things First:** Students learn to prioritize their tasks and manage their time effectively.
4. **Think Win-Win:** Students are taught to seek mutually beneficial solutions in their interactions with others.
5. **Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood:** Students develop effective communication skills by listening attentively before expressing their thoughts.
6. **Synergize:** Students are encouraged to collaborate with peers, valuing diverse perspectives and working together to achieve common goals.
7. **Sharpen the Saw:** Students are guided to take care of their well-being by balancing their physical, emotional, and mental health.

As we embark on this journey, we are excited about the positive impact the Leader in Me systems will have on our school community. These habits will help create a positive school culture where every student is a leader. We believe that by fostering these behaviors, we support the development of lifelong learners who are ready to contribute positively to their communities.



Eagles Leadership Expectations Matrix

Eagles Lead Through Our Habits	Hallway	Classroom & Special Area	Bathroom	Cafeteria	Playground
Habit 1 Be Proactive	Walk quietly and safely; control your body and actions	Come prepared and ready to learn	Keep your body inside your stall and respect everyone's privacy	Ask politely for lunch choices; monitor your voice level and behavior	Include others and solve problems peacefully
Habit 2 Begin With the End In Mind	Walk directly to your destination	Stay on task and complete assignments	Use restroom time wisely; Flush, wash and dry your hands quickly	Enter quietly, use table manners and clean up after yourself	Choose games, follow rules, and be a positive leader during play
Habit 3 Put First Things First	Pay attention to movement of line, keep up with your class	Track the speaker and limit distractions	Wait patiently and watch for your turn	Focus on eating first so you are ready to learn and play.	Play safely, then line up on time
Habit 4 Think Win-Win	Move quietly so others can learn	Treat others the way you would want to be treated	Use an appropriate amount of supplies; leave the space clean for others	Clean up your area, wiping up any spills.	Play fair and take turns
Habit 5 Seek First to Understand, Then To Be Understood	Listen to directions	Actively listen when others are speaking	Respect the privacy of others	Follow the directions of cafeteria monitors	Listen to others' ideas and help to resolve conflicts respectfully
Habit 6 Synergize	Walk together safely and quietly as a team	Collaborate with classmates	Report issues kindly; help to keep the space clean	Help others clean up if they need help	Include others in games and activities
Habit 7 Sharpen the Saw	Use quiet hallway time to reflect, breathe, and prepare for learning	Balance schoolwork with positive breaks	Take care of your personal needs and return ready to learn	Make healthy food choices and enjoy time with your classmates	Play, have fun, and be kind to your body and others.
At Ebenezer Avenue, Eagles <u>Lead</u> by living the Habits every day—in the classroom, hallway, cafeteria, bathroom, and on the playground.					

DRESS CODE

In an effort to maintain an atmosphere conducive for learning we have established guidelines for student dress:

- All clothing will be worn in the manner intended by the manufacturer with appropriate undergarments and void of any suggestive writing, pictures, and/or patches.
- Tank tops, see-through blouses or shirts, crop tops, and bare midriffs are prohibited.
- Leggings, tights, leotards, etc. should be worn only with the appropriate skirts, dresses, or long shirts.
- Head coverings are not allowed except for religious reasons (scarves, stocking caps, hoods, hats, ears, towels, sunglasses, bandanas, etc.) or for school spirit days (which will be made known to families in advance).
- Shorts/skirts/dresses must be fingertip length without pulling and adjusting.
- Costumes and furry outfits, tails, footwear, ears, and any related accessories are not permitted on campus. (School spirit days will be made known to families in advance.)
- Please ensure closed toed shoes on PE days for the safety of activities.

Students who fail to comply with these standards will receive a warning. Repeated violations will require a parent or guardian to bring an appropriate change of clothing to school.

It is important to note, the faculty and staff at Ebenezer Avenue will work with all individuals to honor and support those with religious or cultural reasons for being exempt from the dress code. If there are any questions or concerns please reach out to our school team.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS

No student, regardless of age, will possess, use, sell, purchase, barter, distribute, or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or controlled or unauthorized substances including vaping in the following circumstances:

- on school property (including buildings, grounds, vehicles)
- at any school-sponsored activity, function, or event whether on or off school grounds (including any location where an interscholastic athletic contest is taking place)
- en route to or from school, at the bus stop, or during any field trip, or during any trip or activity sponsored by the board or under the supervision of the board or its authorized agents

No student will aid, abet, assist, or conceal the possession, consumption, purchase, or distribution of any alcoholic beverage or controlled or unauthorized substances by any other student or students in any of the circumstances listed above.

No student will market or distribute any substance which is represented to be or is substantially similar in color, shape, size, or markings to a controlled or unauthorized substance or to an alcoholic beverage in any of the circumstances listed above.

All principals will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies and will report to them all information considered pertinent or beneficial in their efforts to stop the sale, possession, and use of alcoholic beverages and controlled or unauthorized substances.

Principal or his/her designee will suspend students who violate this policy and may recommend them for expulsion. The board intends to expel all students who distribute any controlled or unauthorized substance on school grounds.

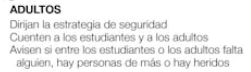
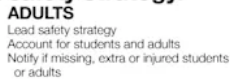
EMERGENCY DRILLS

Emergency drills are necessary for the safety of students, staff, and faculty. Everyone is given specific directions for reaching safety points from those areas of the school building in which he/she may be. Specific information for emergency drills is posted in each room. In the event of a radiation disaster, students will be transported by school bus to designated shelter areas. You will receive information about these procedures in another notification.

Rock Hill School District utilizes the Standard Response Protocol. This protocol helps create a unified language for all district staff and students during an emergency. When an emergency

IN AN EMERGENCY

TAKE ACTION



Guidelines for Participation

- All students must return signed permission forms by the stated deadline.
- Students are expected to wear appropriate clothing and follow any dress code specific to the activity. They must follow instructions given by teachers and field study supervisors at all times.
- Participation requires regular attendance and good standing in behavior and academic performance.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Parents of any student who has a financial obligation to the school/district (lost book, library fines, fees, etc.), should pay the fine within the prescribed time or sanctions will be taken by the school/district to collect the outstanding debt. Montessori tuition will begin being drafted on August 15th and continue to be drafted monthly until May 15th for all three and four year old students. Three notices of insufficient funds will result in dismissal from the program. For families choosing to make one payment in-full the payment needs to be received on August 15th. Families making two installments will need to pay on August 15th and January 7th.

FOOD SERVICES

[Rock Hill's School Nutrition link](#). All menus can be found on our district website.

GRADING GUIDELINES

K-2nd Grades

The Standards-Based Progress Report and Report Card will inform you on how well your child is doing in regards to meeting the goals in each subject area. The standards listed under each subject area are the concepts we expect children to know and be able to do for that grade level. A child should be provided the opportunity to make up missed assignments within each 9 week grading period.

Students may earn the following in *English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies*:

- 1 = Beginning:** Limited mastery of standard for this reporting period.
- 2 = Developing:** Partial mastery of the standard for this reporting period.
- 3 = Meeting:** Grade level mastery of the standard for this reporting period. Students demonstrate mastery of subject matter knowledge without support.
- 4 = Exceeding:** Exceeding grade level mastery of standard for this reporting period. Student applies knowledge and skills to develop new understandings and solution

Students may earn the following in *Learning Behaviors*:

- C = Consistently** demonstrates expectations.
- S = Sometimes** demonstrates expectations.

R = Rarely demonstrates expectations.

3rd - 5th Grades

- Grading Scale: 100 - 90 A; 89 - 80 B; 79 - 70 C ; 69 - 60 D; 59 - 0 F
- Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, South Carolina law requires that grades reflect a student's actual academic performance.
- Students will have the opportunity to retest for major assessments after new teaching with one retest/retake in the areas of ELA, Math, and Science if a student earns below 75 on the initial assessment. The retest/retake maximum grade is 75.
- A child should be provided the opportunity to make up missed assignments within each 9 week grading period.

HEALTH ROOM

Any medication a child should need at school **must** be brought to school by the parent or legal guardian. Please do not send medication in student book bags. No prescribed medication will be administered at school without the signature of the parent **and** the doctor on the legal form provided by the school district. Over-the-counter medications cannot be administered without parent signature on the legal [form](#) provided by the school district.

If your child becomes ill at school, we will contact you immediately. Please keep your student's contact information current with correct phone numbers so you or your emergency contact can be reached. For any questions or concerns, please see the district's website under [Nursing Services](#).

HOMEWORK

Homework extends active involvement beyond the classroom. Homework is an excellent way for parents to keep abreast of a child's progress. Good communication between home and school and mutual cooperation are imperative in fostering the full development of the student's potential. Please check with your child's teacher throughout the year concerning homework. The amount of homework per day from individual teachers may vary. Through the use of technology teachers have a variety of methods to communicate with families. Each teacher has a preferred method(s) and will share those with families.

ICE CREAM ON THURSDAYS

We sell ice cream for \$1 each Thursday. Students need to turn money into their teacher in the morning. The office does not accept money and it is the students responsibility to turn in. Communication on when ice cream sales begin for the 26-27 school year will be communicated after we begin the school year.

LOST AND FOUND

We urge parents to put the child's name in coats, jackets, and sweaters in an effort to easily identify who the item belongs to and reduce the collection of clothing in Lost and Found. Our

Lost and Found is located in the hall outside of the Media Center. All items will be either hung or folded and placed on a shelf. Students should look in this location first for a missing item. Since storage is limited we cannot keep items for long periods of time. Items not claimed in a timely manner will either be discarded or donated to a charitable organization.

McKinney Vento

- **The McKinney-Vento Act provides rights and services to children and youth experiencing homelessness, which is defined as children who lack a fixed, regular or adequate nighttime residence. School-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act if your family lives in any of the following situations:**
 - **a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodations**
 - **a car, park, abandoned building, or a bus or train station**
 - **doubled-up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship**
 - **a shelter**
- **Please contact your child's school counselor for more information and to determine if you might qualify**

MEDIA CENTER

The library will be open at 7:30 a.m. and remain open throughout the day until 2:00 p.m. Students are encouraged to use the library as much as possible. Students are responsible for all textbooks and library books issued to them during the school year. All lost or damaged books must be paid for by the student. All payments are recorded by the school bookkeeper and paid to the proper fund for replacement purposes. If a lost book is found, money will be refunded.

MONTESSORI PROGRAM OPTION

Our school is proud to offer a Montessori program as part of our diverse learning opportunities. Montessori is a Program Option within our school and follows the educational philosophy developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, emphasizing hands-on learning, mixed-age classrooms, and student choice within a structured environment.

The Montessori approach fosters:

- Independence
- Intrinsic motivation
- Responsibility
- Respect for self, others, and the environment

Students in the Montessori program are guided to become independent learners and decision-makers. Through the use of specialized materials and a carefully prepared classroom environment, children are empowered to take ownership of their learning, work at their own pace, and engage in purposeful tasks that promote deep understanding.

While the Montessori program operates under the same district guidelines as our other programs, it has unique instructional methods and classroom expectations. Placement in the Montessori program is based on a lottery application and availability through the district's Program Options process. Families interested in this program should inquire with the school office or visit the district's Program Options website for more information.

We recognize that each child is unique, and while the Montessori model supports many learners, it may not be the best fit for every student. If concerns arise that Montessori may not be the most effective learning environment for a student, the teacher and school support team will partner with the family to develop a plan. This may include observations, progress monitoring, and a review of the child's learning needs to determine the best instructional setting for their continued growth and success.

MONTESSORI-TUITION BASED 3K/4K PROGRAM

Please note that all students enrolled in our tuition-based 3K and 4K programs must be fully potty trained. This requirement ensures a smooth and comfortable experience for all students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

PARTIES

A Valentine Party will be held in each classroom and you may be asked to assist with donations for this event. This is the only party to be held during the school year.

PROMOTION/RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Students not mastering performance indicators at their grade level will be considered for retention. The first notification of a possible retention is sent at the end of the first semester. If necessary, the second notification is sent at the end of the third grading period. Final decisions concerning retention are made in early May. Students may be retained due to poor academic performance or failure to attend school regularly.

PTO

The Ebenezer Avenue Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization is open to relatives and teachers of students. The main purpose of the PTO is to work with the school in creating a safe, happy environment where our children can learn and grow. Contact: ebenezeravepto@gmail.com

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Ebenezer Avenue has a School Improvement Council composed of elected parents, teachers, and

community members appointed by the principal. If you are interested in being a part of this council, please contact Ms. Leonard.

STUDENT LIGHTHOUSE TEAM (LEADER IN ME)

We are committed to empowering students by helping them find their voice as leaders. The Student Lighthouse Team consists of student representatives chosen by their peers from grades 3-5 who synergize to have a positive impact on students, staff, families and the community. Successful members possess the following qualities: are dependable, reliable and respectful, complete classwork and homework on time, possess a strong work ethic, demonstrate exemplary conduct and citizenship in and out of school, have excellent attendance, demonstrate good judgement and decision-making skills, may be comfortable with public speaking, and have the ability and willingness to teach and demonstrate the 7 Habits to other students.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Samples of your child's work are sent home periodically. In an effort to improve home/school communication, a special folder will be provided to each student for this purpose. The entire staff will send all notices, work samples, newsletters, etc. on Wednesday of each week. Please expect all communications on this day, review them, and return the folder to the school. You will receive more specific information from your child's teacher.

Report cards are designed to inform you of your child's level of instruction, academic progress, and growth in desirable habits and attitudes. The report card provides a means of communication between you and your child's teacher which is very important to his success and happiness in school. Report cards are issued every nine weeks.

The evaluation of student achievement is one of the important functions of the teacher. Each student is evaluated with reference to his or her own instructional level.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS and DELAYS

Announcements concerning school closings or delayed openings will be provided to parents through the parent notification phone system and will be broadcasted on all local radio and TV stations and on the district website as soon as the decision is made. When schools operate on a delayed opening due to bad weather, do not bring your child at the regular time. There will be no one available to supervise your child. The breakfast program does not operate on delayed start days.

If hazardous weather develops during the school day, a decision to close school early will be announced via the parent notification phone system, on all local radio and TV stations, and on the district website. Please have a plan for this situation and discuss this plan with your child.

SEARCH and SEIZURE

As authorized by State law, district and school administrators and officials may conduct reasonable searches on District property of lockers, desks, vehicles, and personal belongings such as purses, book bags, wallets, and satchels, with or without probable cause, subject to the limitations and requirements of this policy.

Board policy permits district personnel to conduct random blanket searches of school property with professionally trained handlers and dogs for the purposes of detecting the presence of illegal materials.

Policy: [JIH Student Interrogations, Searches and Arrests](#), [Administrator Rule JIH-R Student Interrogations, Searches and Arrests](#), [JIHC Weapons Screenings/Use of Metal Detectors](#), and [AR JIHC-R Weapons Screenings/Use of Metal Detectors](#)

Issued 8/16, 8/16, 6/19 and 6/19 respectively

Snacks and Outside Food

Families may not send snacks for the entire class unless they have been pre-approved by the classroom teacher and comply with our district's Health and Wellness Policy. No homemade snacks or food items will be permitted. Only store bought items with labels can be brought into the school. This is to protect our students with allergies. Again, families need to coordinate class-wide snacks with the teacher. Bringing pizza for an entire class is an example of what is no longer permitted.

Early Childhood Classes:

- Only early childhood classes (Pre-K, Early Childhood Montessori, and Kindergarten) have designated snack times during the school day.

Other Grades:

- For all other grades, students are not provided with a separate snack time.
- Students who bring a snack from home are welcome to eat it during their lunch period or recess time.

This helps ensure that classroom instruction time remains uninterrupted and that students have the opportunity to enjoy their snacks during appropriate breaks.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Please make sure all telephone numbers and addresses are accurate, clearly written, and updated when there are changes. Remember to always update the name and telephone number of a local person who can be contacted in case you cannot be reached. It is very important that our records are kept up to date.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Supervision will be provided in designated areas for a reasonable length of time before and after regular school time for classes. Supervision will be provided for students who ride a bus upon their arrival and until such time as the bus departs after classes are dismissed. All other students will be provided supervision no earlier than **7:00 a.m.** and **up to 15 minutes after**

classes are dismissed.

TARDINESS

Students not in the classroom by 7:45am are considered tardy. Chronic tardiness will require a Student Attendance Intervention Plan. Students arriving after 7:42am will need to come by the main office to enter the building and be signed in by an adult at the time of drop off.

TEXTBOOKS

Students will be issued textbooks that are on loan from the South Carolina State Department. It is your child's responsibility to take care of the textbook throughout the year. Fines for missing or damaged textbooks are the responsibility of the parent. Failure to pay any accrued fines may result in your child not receiving his/her final report card.

TELEPHONE

There are limited telephone lines in the school. The school phone is a business phone and is not to be used by students. All arrangements for end-of-the-day transportation **should be communicated in writing.**

TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT

Rock Hill Schools prohibits the use and/or possession of all tobacco products or paraphernalia including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco and snuff by all students, staff and visitors. Rock Hill Schools is a 100% tobacco-free, smoke-free environment for all students, staff and visitors within all district facilities, vehicles and grounds and at all district-sponsored events or when district facilities are being used.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGE

Please notify the teacher in writing if there is to be a change in the transporting of your child. If no notification is received, your child will follow his/her regular method of getting home. If a situation arises after the start of school and you need to call to make a change in your child's transportation home, please do so by 1:30 p.m. We can no longer make transportation changes over the phone. It must be in writing.

VISITORS

Visitors who are on school business are welcomed at school; however, immediately upon entering the school grounds, all visitors must sign-in at the school office **with a state-issued ID or driver's license** and state the nature of their visit. Once the visit is over, visitors need to sign-out in the office. In-district students will not be allowed to visit between schools of the district. Out-of-town student visitors or relatives must obtain prior permission or special invitation to visit the school. Anyone failing to comply with the check-in procedure will be asked to leave the campus. **All classroom visits must be scheduled with the principal and teacher and conference with the principal and/or teacher after the visit to discuss any notices of the student.**

Parents are welcome to each lunch with their child however we ask that lunch visits begin after the first two weeks of school. This ensures we give our students and staff time to adjust to new schedules and routines for the upcoming school year.

All visitors should adhere to all policies and support our school in maintaining a calm, nurturing environment.

Policy: KI Visitors, AR KI-R School Visitors Code, KGBA Student Mentoring Program, Policy KM Kindness and Civility in Education

Issued: 10/20, 9/13, 10/20, and 11/23 respectively

VOLUNTEERS

Parents and guardians are encouraged to be volunteers at the school. Interested persons may call the school office to offer their services. Volunteers are used in the teacher work room, as classroom helpers, and with PTO projects. Our goal is to have every parent involved in our school. All volunteers must be approved by completing the volunteer application located on the district web page (<https://bib.com/SecureVolunteer/Rock-Hill-School-District/>). A volunteer ID card will be issued upon approval and must be presented along with a photo ID to serve as a volunteer.

Policy: IJOB/IJOC and IJOB/IJOC-R Resource Persons/School Volunteers

Issued 5/15 and 4/15 respectively

WITHDRAWAL OF STUDENTS

If you are moving and withdrawing your child from school, please call or come by the school a few days prior to the withdrawal date. Your cooperation is always greatly appreciated.

Student Support Services

Section 504: Section 504 provides accommodations for students with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. A 504 Plan helps ensure eligible students have equal access to learning and school activities. Parents with questions should contact the school's Section 504 Coordinator.

Special Education (ESE): Special Education services are available for students who qualify under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Eligible students receive an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that outlines specialized instruction and supports to help them succeed in school.

Multilingual Learner (ML) Services: Students whose primary language is not English may qualify for Multilingual Learner (ML) services. These services help students develop English language

skills while participating in grade-level instruction. Students' progress is monitored regularly until they meet state exit criteria.

DISTRICT POLICIES

Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

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

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will arrange for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write to the school principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to privacy of personally identifiable information in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school Board; a person or company with whom the school has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.
4. Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it

states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.]

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

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-8520

Notificación de derechos según FERPA para Escuelas de Educación Primaria y Secundaria:

La Ley de Derechos Educativos de la Familia y la Privacidad (FERPA, por sus siglas en inglés)) otorga a los padres y a los estudiantes mayores de 18 años de edad ("estudiantes elegibles") ciertos derechos con respecto a los registros educativos del estudiante. Estos derechos son: 1. El derecho a inspeccionar y revisar los registros educativos del estudiante dentro de los 45 días a partir del día en que la escuela recibe una solicitud de acceso. Los padres o estudiantes elegibles deben presentar al director de la escuela [u otro funcionario escolar apropiado] una solicitud por escrito que identifique el registro o los registros que desean inspeccionar. El funcionario escolar organizará el acceso y notificará al padre o al estudiante elegible sobre el momento y el lugar en el que los registros podrán ser inspeccionados. 2. El derecho a solicitar la modificación de los registros educativos del estudiante que el padre o el estudiante elegible consideren inexactos, engañosos o que de otro modo violen los derechos de privacidad del estudiante según FERPA. Los padres o estudiantes elegibles que deseen solicitar a la escuela que modifique un registro deben escribir al director de la escuela [u otro funcionario escolar apropiado], identificar claramente la parte del registro que desean cambiar y especificar por qué debe cambiarse. Si la escuela decide no modificar el registro según lo solicitado por el padre o el estudiante elegible, la escuela notificará al padre o al estudiante elegible sobre la decisión y les informará sobre su derecho a una audiencia en relación con la solicitud de modificación. Información adicional sobre los procedimientos de la audiencia se proporcionará al padre o al estudiante elegible cuando se les notifique sobre el derecho a una audiencia. 3. El derecho a la privacidad de la información personalmente identificable en los registros educativos del estudiante, excepto en la medida en que FERPA autorice la divulgación sin consentimiento. "Una excepción, que permite la divulgación sin consentimiento, es la divulgación a funcionarios escolares con intereses educativos legítimos." "Un funcionario escolar es una persona empleada por la escuela como administrador, supervisor, instructor o miembro del personal de apoyo (incluyendo personal de salud o médico y personal de la unidad de policía escolar); una persona que sirve en la Junta Escolar; una persona o empresa con la cual la escuela ha subcontratado servicios o funciones que de otra manera realizaría con su propio personal (como un abogado, auditor, consultor médico o terapeuta); un padre o estudiante que sirve en un comité oficial, como un comité disciplinario o de quejas; o un padre, estudiante u otro voluntario que ayuda a otro funcionario escolar a realizar sus tareas." Un funcionario escolar tiene un interés educativo legítimo si el funcionario necesita revisar un registro educativo para cumplir con su responsabilidad profesional. 4. Bajo solicitud, la escuela divulga registros educativos sin

consentimiento a funcionarios de otro distrito escolar en el cual un estudiante busca o tiene la intención de inscribirse o ya está inscrito, si la divulgación es con fines de inscripción o transferencia del estudiante. [NOTA: FERPA requiere que un distrito escolar haga un intento razonable de notificar al padre o al estudiante sobre la solicitud de registros a menos que indique en su notificación anual que tiene la intención de remitir los registros cuando se soliciten]. 5. El derecho de presentar una queja ante el Departamento de Educación de los Estados Unidos en relación con presuntas violaciones por parte de la escuela en el cumplimiento de los requisitos de FERPA. El nombre y la dirección de la Oficina encargada de administrar FERPA son: Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-8520

Información del directorio La siguiente información es divulgable a pedido a discreción del director de cada escuela: el nombre del estudiante, dirección, número de teléfono, fecha y lugar de nacimiento, foto, materias de estudio, participación en actividades y deportes oficialmente reconocidos, peso y altura de los miembros de los equipos atléticos, fechas de asistencia (tanto en una base anual como diaria), diplomas y premios recibidos, y la agencia o institución educativa más reciente/anteriormente asistida por el estudiante. Cualquier padre o tutor de un estudiante que asiste a las Escuelas de Rock Hill que prefiera que cualquiera de la información designada arriba no sea divulgada sin el consentimiento previo del padre o tutor, debe notificar por escrito a la Oficina del Superintendente, Escuelas de Rock Hill, P.O. Drawer 10072, Rock Hill SC 29731, antes del martes siguiente al Día del Trabajo. Si se proporciona dicho aviso, se notificará a la escuela a la que asiste el estudiante.

Directory Information

The following information is releasable upon request at the discretion of the principal of each school: the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, photo, subjects' study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight, and height of members of athletics teams, dates of attendance (on both an annual and daily basis), diplomas and awards received, and the most recent/previous educational agency or institution attended by the student. Any parent or guardian of a student attending Rock Hill Schools who would prefer that any of the information designated above not be released without the parent's or guardians' prior consent should notify in writing the Office of the Superintendent, Rock Hill Schools P.O. Drawer 10072, Rock Hill SC 29731 by the Tuesday following Labor Day. If such notice is given, the school attended by the student will be notified.

Policy: [JRA Student Records](#), [AR JRA-R Student Records](#), File [JRA-E\(2\)](#), File [JRA-E\(1\)](#)

Issued 4/17 and 4/17

(2025-2026 Directory Opt Out Form at end of handbook)

Additional District Policies:

IDE Extracurricular Activities (Eligibility Requirements)

Issued 4/15

To be eligible for participation in any co-curricular activity, students must be considered present or in attendance at school on the day of the contest if the contest is held on a regular school day.

It does not require that they attend all classes, but must be considered in attendance for accounting purposes. Schools are encouraged to sponsor and hold extracurricular activities on weekdays, thereby allowing students time on weekends for home and family. Any school-sponsored extracurricular activities to be held on Sunday must have special permission by the principal or his/her designee. This includes practices and rehearsals.

Adopted 8/90; Revised 4/23/07, 4/27/15 York 3/Rock Hill School District

JICJ POSSESSION/USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES OR DISTRICT-OWNED DEVICES

Issued 6/23

Purpose: To establish the basic rules for the board's permission of personal electronic devices or district-owned devices on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds.

ELECTRONICS/TECHNOLOGY (CELL PHONES, PERSONAL DEVICES)

Cell phones and other devices should remain turned off and in the student's book bag when on school grounds. The first violation will result in a warning, the second will require a parent conference, and further violations as a result of any inappropriate messages or posts via text or social media accounts from a personal device during school hours will result in consequences outlined in our district's Acceptable Use Policy. [Cell phone district policy link](#)

Students are to use provided technology devices/network and internet connection for educational purposes. Use of such resources is a privilege, not a right. Students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner. Unauthorized or inappropriate use, including any violation of these guidelines, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the Student Handbook and/or civil or criminal liability. If a district device is lost or not returned, a report will be filed with the Rock Hill Police Department.

Personal Electronic Device

For purposes of this policy, *personal electronic device* includes, but is not limited to, cell phones; pagers; smart watches; gaming devices; or other devices that emit an audible signal; vibrate; display a message; display or record an image; or otherwise summon or deliver a communication to the possessor. Personal electronic devices are not permitted to be on or visible during the school day and should be stored in lockers or backpacks while on campus between student arrival and dismissal bell.

Unauthorized use of a personal electronic device may include, but is not limited to, taking pictures or recording without permission, cheating, harassment or bullying, use during any emergency drill, use during unauthorized times, or use for unlawful activities.

A student in possession of a personal electronic device in conflict with this policy will be subject to discipline as provided under administrative rule JICJ-R.

Violations of this policy may result in the confiscation of the device and all its components. Students are not allowed to erase the history or remove the battery, SIM card or any other part of the device before giving it to the school official. Students will receive the phones at the end of the school day.

The district is not responsible for the loss or damage of any personal electronic device brought on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds.

District-Owned Device

The district may provide students with electronic devices including, but not limited to, tablets or laptop computers in an effort to enhance students' learning experience. The district will determine the device that best suits the needs of the students.

Students will have no expectation of privacy with respect to any information contained on these devices. District-owned devices may contain tracking software to recover lost or stolen devices. Students are not allowed to erase the history or remove the battery, SIM card, or any other part of the device. Students will abide by the district's acceptable use policy (IJNDB) established for the use of technology resources. Students who violate the acceptable use policy or do not follow instructions for the proper use of the device on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds, will be subject to discipline according to administrative rule JICJ-R.

Students are responsible for the care of the district-owned device. Parents/Legal guardians will cover the cost of damage to or loss of the device. Students will return the device at the end of the school year or when directed by an administrator. [Technology Fee Agreement](#)

Adopted 7/28/03; Revised 6/28/10, 6/25/12, 8/27/12, 5/23/16, 8/22/16, 6/13/23

JII Student Concerns, Complaints and Grievances

Issued 8/16

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for a student grievance procedure.

The district provides a grievance procedure as a formal method for the resolution of any grievances concerning the treatment of students by district personnel. These grievances may arise from allegations of violations of student legal rights or district policy. In addition, the board recognizes there may be conditions in the school system that the district could improve and that students should have some means by which they can effectively express their concerns. The district will resolve student complaints and grievances through orderly processes and at the lowest possible level:

- A teacher will provide any student or his/her parent/legal guardian the opportunity to discuss a decision or situation that the student considers unjust or unfair.

- If the incident remains unresolved, the student, his/her parent/legal guardian or the teacher may bring the matter to the principal's attention for consideration and action.
- The student may also bring the matter to the attention of class officers or the student council (in grades and schools where such are elected) for possible presentation to the principal.
- If the matter is still unresolved after the procedure outlined above, the complaining party may bring the matter to the superintendent or his/her designee for consideration.
- If the matter is still unresolved, the complaining party may bring it in writing to the board for review.

A student/parent/legal guardian should expect an initial contact from a teacher, administrator, or district office personnel acknowledging the concern, complaint, or grievance within 24 hrs. If further investigation is warranted to resolve the concern, complaint, or grievance, the student/parent/legal guardian should expect resolution within five business days.

The district will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, immigrant status, English speaking status, national origin, or disabling condition. Title VI Students who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their race, color, immigrant status, English Speaking status, or national origin have the right to appeal to their principals.

Title IX Complaints: Students who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their sex have the right to appeal to their principals. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the principal, he/she may appeal to the district Title IX coordinator/superintendent and then to the board.

Section 504 Complaints: Students who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their disabling condition have the right to appeal to their principals. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the principal, he/she may appeal to the district Section 504 coordinator or superintendent and then to the board. The superintendent will schedule appeals to the board.

Adopted 7/23/79; Revised 5/28/90, 11/25/02, 2/25/08, 8/22/16

Legal references: Federal Law: Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, 29 U.S.C.A. Section 794 - Prohibits discrimination against "otherwise qualified" disabled persons by federal grantees. Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C.A. Section 2000c - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, among other factors, by public elementary and secondary schools. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C.A. Section 2000d - Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin or immigration status, among other factors, in programs receiving federal financial assistance. Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Section 1681, et seq. - Prohibits sex discrimination by federal

education grantees. JII JII 1 of 2 Federal Cases: Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982). York 3/Rock Hill School District

JLDBB Self-Esteem Promotion/Suicide Prevention

Issued 4/17

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for the district's suicide awareness and prevention program. The board recognizes that suicide is a major killer of young people between the ages of 10 and 24. The district staff, students, and parents/legal guardians all can contribute significantly towards the prevention of adolescent suicide. Therefore, the board directs the superintendent to consider each of these segments of the school community when developing appropriate awareness and prevention programs in the district. Local mental health agencies and training guidelines from the South Carolina Department of Education are resources that can provide the necessary assistance that will help the district staff, parents/legal guardians and students to do the following:

- Understand the developmental stages of adolescence.
- Understand how feelings of depression and despair can lead to suicide.
- Recognize the early warning signs of suicide.
- Learn how to help in a suicidal crisis.
- Identify community resources where students can obtain help.
- Address the impact of such a tragedy.

The superintendent will ensure implementation of the required training in this area for the renewal of credentials for individuals employed in an elementary, middle, or high school.

Adopted 4/24/17

Legal References: S.C. Code, 1976, as amended: Section 59-26-110 - Youth suicide prevention teacher training. York 3/Rock Hill School District

Policy JICFB Gavin's Law (Sexual Extortion) (Student)

Issued 12/23

The district is committed to maintaining a learning environment free from intimidating or harassing behavior of any kind, including sexual extortion. In keeping with this commitment, the district prohibits any student, staff, or third parties from engaging in any behavior that would satisfy the definition of sexual extortion or aggravated sexual extortion as described in state law. Further, the district will not tolerate retaliation against a person who has made a report or filed a complaint alleging sexual extortion or who has participated as a witness in an investigation.

Definitions

Adult means a person 18 years or older.

Minor means any person under 18 years of age at the time of the alleged offense.

Great bodily injury means bodily injury which causes a substantial risk of death, or which causes serious, permanent disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member or organ.

Private image means an image depicting sexually explicit nudity, sexual activity, or sexual conduct as defined in state law.

Image means a photograph, film, videotape, recording, live transmission, digital or computer generated visual depiction, or any other reproduction made by electronic, mechanical, or other means.

Disclose means exhibit, transfer, publicize, distribute, or reproduce.

Sexual extortion means intentionally and maliciously threatening to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing an act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value.

The following information provides descriptions of the different sexual extortion offenses and includes the applicable criminal penalties. The district's authority does not extend to enforcement of criminal penalties. However, the district will assist with the process by notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency of violations as is anticipated by state regulation governing minimum standards of student conduct and disciplinary enforcement procedures to be implemented by local school districts.

Felony Sexual Extortion

A person commits felony sexual extortion if the actor intentionally and maliciously threatens to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing any act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value.

A person convicted of felony sexual extortion is subject to the following:

- imprisonment for not more than five years for a first offense
- imprisonment for not more than ten years for a second offense; or
- imprisonment for not more than twenty years for a third or subsequent offense

Aggravated Felony Sexual Extortion

A person commits aggravated felony sexual extortion if the actor intentionally or maliciously threatens to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing any act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value and either: the victim is a minor or a vulnerable adult and the person convicted of sexual extortion is an adult; or the victim

suffers great bodily injury or death and the finder of fact finds beyond a reasonable doubt that the sexual extortion of the victim was the proximate cause of the great bodily injury or death. A person convicted of aggravated felony sexual extortion is subject to imprisonment for not more than twenty years.

Misdemeanor Sexual Extortion

A minor convicted of sexual extortion is guilty of a misdemeanor and must be sentenced by the family court. As a condition of sentencing the family court may order behavioral health counseling from an appropriate agency or provider.

Notification

This policy and information regarding Gavin's Law will be communicated through a variety of efforts to educate students, staff, parents/legal guardians, contract and other workers, volunteers, visitors, and other members of the public.

Reporting

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to sexual extortion is encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent. Complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and confidentially. All staff members are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal or his/her designee. Reports by students or staff may be made anonymously but formal disciplinary action by the district will not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against a student or staff member who has filed a complaint or report of sexual extortion. The district also prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of intimidation, bullying, or harassment.

District Level Discipline

Students, staff, parents/legal guardians, contract and other workers, volunteers, visitors, and other members of the public are required to comply with this policy. The district will enforce this policy through appropriate disciplinary actions for violators.

Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline and graduated consequences, up to and including expulsion, and will be referred to law enforcement officials, as appropriate, consistent with policy JICDA, Code of Conduct.

Staff members found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination and will be referred to law enforcement officials, as appropriate, consistent with district policy, including GBEB, Staff Conduct and GBEBB, Staff Conduct with Students.

Visitors or volunteers found in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate sanctions and will be referred to law enforcement officials, as appropriate.

Adopted 12/12/23

Legal References:

S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

Section 16-15-305 Disseminating, procuring, or promoting obscenity unlawful; definitions; penalties; obscene material designated contraband.

Section 16-15-375 Applicable definitions.

Section 16-15-430 - Gavin's Law.

S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:

R43-279 - Minimum standards of student conduct and disciplinary enforcement procedures to be implemented by local school districts.

York 3/Rock Hill School District

Title One Compact

2026-2027



EBENEZER AVENUE
SCHOOL/FAMILY/STUDENT COMPACT
Sheleea Leonard, Principal

242 Ebenezer Avenue
Rock Hill, SC 29730
803.981.1435
(FAX) 803.981.1925

Vision: Ebenezer Avenue, where our empowered community of leaders and learners celebrate our growth and successes!

School Staff/Teachers will:	Family/Parents/Caregivers will support by:	Students will apply the 8 Habits by:
☐ Provide high quality and effective instructional practices daily ☐ Use student achievement data to make instructional decisions and address diverse learning styles ☐ Create a positive learning environment where all students can be leaders and learners ☐ Welcome parents as partners in education, communicate regularly, and provide volunteer opportunities ☐ Help students resolve conflict fairly and build a positive community ☐ Participate in professional development to build learning capacity ☐ Model the 8 Habits and lead by example in fostering leadership and personal responsibility ☐ Focus on and uphold the school's mission and vision to empower our community of leaders and learners	☐ Encouraging high standards for academic achievement and positive behavior ☐ Ensuring my child maintains and structured and consistent routine and be on time by 7:40 each day ☐ Attending conferences and communicate with staff about how my child is progressing ☐ Welcoming teachers, staff, and the school as partners in my learners education ☐ Being an active participant in my learner's education ☐ Reading and discussing the Ebenezer Avenue student handbook and follow guidelines (Also posted on our website.) ☐ Talking with my child daily about their experience at school ☐ Maintaining positive communication with school staff and encourage kindness and respect in all interactions.	☐ Maintaining positive behavior and respect to peers, staff, and all Eagles ☐ Being safe in all schools areas by following school wide expectations ☐ Coming to school prepared to learn each day. Getting a good night's sleep ☐ Working hard to do my best in class and completing school work and any homework ☐ Asking the teacher questions about my classwork ☐ Discussing with my parents/family/ caregivers what I am learning at school ☐ Ensuring my device is taken care of properly (Kindergarten-5th grades) ☐ Being a leader, taking responsibility, and being a reflective learner

Staff Member: _____ Parent/Family Member: _____ Student: _____

**EBENEZER AVENUE**

Escuela/Familia/Contrato
Sheleea Leonard, Principal

242 Ebenezer Avenue
Rock Hill, SC 29730
803.981.1435
(FAX) 803.981.1925

Visión: Ebenezer Avenue, ¡donde nuestra comunidad empoderada de líderes y estudiantes celebra nuestro crecimiento y nuestros éxitos!

El personal escolar/los maestros:	La familia/padres/cuidadores harán lo siguiente:	Los estudiantes aplica los 8 hábitos diariamente:
❑ Proporcionar prácticas instructivas efectivas y de alta calidad diariamente. ❑ Utilizar datos sobre el rendimiento estudiantil para tomar decisiones educativas y abordar diversos estilos de aprendizaje. ❑ Crear un ambiente de aprendizaje positivo donde todos los estudiantes puedan ser líderes y estudiantes. ❑ Dar la bienvenida a los padres como socios en la educación, comunicarse regularmente y brindar oportunidades de voluntariado. ❑ Ayudar a los estudiantes a resolver conflictos de manera justa y construir una comunidad positiva. ❑ Participar en el desarrollo profesional para desarrollar la capacidad de aprendizaje. ❑ Modele los 8 hábitos y lidere con el ejemplo fomentando el liderazgo y la responsabilidad personal. ❑ Centrarse en la misión y la visión de la escuela y defenderlas para empoderar a nuestra comunidad de líderes y estudiantes.	❑ Proporcionar prácticas instructivas efectivas y de alta calidad diariamente. ❑ Utilizar datos sobre el rendimiento estudiantil para tomar decisiones educativas y abordar diversos estilos de aprendizaje. ❑ Crear un ambiente de aprendizaje positivo donde todos los estudiantes puedan ser líderes y estudiantes. ❑ Dar la bienvenida a los padres como socios en la educación, comunicarse regularmente y brindar oportunidades de voluntariado. ❑ Ayudar a los estudiantes a resolver conflictos de manera justa y construir una comunidad positiva. ❑ Participar en el desarrollo profesional para desarrollar la capacidad de aprendizaje. ❑ Modele los 7 hábitos y lidere con el ejemplo fomentando el liderazgo y la responsabilidad personal. ❑ Centrarse en la misión y la visión de la escuela y defenderlas para empoderar a nuestra comunidad de líderes y estudiantes.	❑ Mantener un comportamiento positivo y respeto hacia los compañeros, el personal y todos los Eagles. ❑ Manténgase seguro en todas las áreas de la escuela siguiendo las expectativas de toda la escuela. ❑ Ven a la escuela preparado para aprender cada día. Duerme bien. ❑ Trabajar duro para hacer lo mejor que pueda en clase y completar el trabajo escolar y cualquier tarea. ❑ Hazle preguntas al profesor sobre mi trabajo de clase. ❑ Hablar con mis padres/familia/cuidadores sobre lo que estoy aprendiendo en la escuela. ❑ Asegurarse de que mi dispositivo reciba el cuidado adecuado (desde jardín de infantes hasta quinto grado) ❑ Sea un líder, asuma la responsabilidad y sea un aprendiz reflexivo.

Los Maestros: _____ Familia/Padres: _____ Estudiante: _____

ROCK HILL SCHOOLS

2026-2027 DIRECTORY INFORMATION OPT-OUT

Directory Information is releasable upon request at the discretion of the principal of each school for specific and valid reasons. I understand that directory information includes:

- Student name
- Student address
- Telephone listing
- Email addresses
- Date and place of birth
- **Photographs (including for individual participation in yearbooks, class pictures, and newspaper articles)**
- Participation in officially recognized activities and athletics teams
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Dates of attendance (both on an annual and daily basis)
- Grade level
- Major field of study
- Degrees received
- Most recent educational agency attended by the student
- Awards received

As the parent/guardian of a student attending Rock Hill Schools, I am requesting to opt my student OUT of the release of any of the directory information listed above and request that my child's directory information is NOT made available to a third party which includes school yearbooks, newspapers, class pictures, etc. I understand that my child will not be allowed to take school pictures and/or pictures for the yearbook.

Student's Name _____ Grade Level _____
 First MI Last
 Parent's Name _____ Date _____
 Print
 Parent's Signature _____

Please submit this request to the Office of the Superintendent, Rock Hill Schools, P.O. Drawer 10072, Rock Hill SC 29731 by the Tuesday following Labor Day. If such notice is given, the school attended by the student will be notified.

***This request is valid for the 2026-2027 school year only.**

For School Use Only:

SCHOOL: _____

Date Received: _____

Date of "Alert" in PowerSchool: _____

SIS Clerk Initials: _____

Parents' Right to Know: A school that receives Title I funds must provide each individual parent a timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Thank you for accessing your Parent/Student Handbook. Please verify by completing the Handbook Verification Form that you have read and understand student expectations.