

SOUTHERN FULTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Student & Family Handbook

2026-2027 School Year



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1 – Welcome to Southern Fulton Elementary School

- Welcome Message
- Mission Statement
- School Information
- School Hours

Section 2 – Communication & Family Partnerships

- Home-School Communication
- ClassDojo
- Visitor Procedures
- Volunteers

Section 3 – Attendance & School Operations

- Attendance Requirements
- Absences and Tardiness
- Educational Trips
- Transportation Changes
- School Closings and Delays
- Arrival and Dismissal Procedures
- Emergency Contact Information

Section 4 – Academics & Student Learning

- MTSS Framework
- WIN Time
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Assessments
- Homework
- Grading and Report Cards
- Promotion and Retention
- Student Recognition

Section 5 – Student Behavior & School Climate

- PBIS Expectations
- PBIS Rewards
- Student Expectations

- Dress Code
- Behavior Supports
- Discipline Procedures
- Bullying Prevention
- Student Support Services
- Student Rights and Responsibilities

Section 6 – Health, Safety & Transportation

- School Safety
- Emergency Drills
- Health Services
- Immunizations and Health Screenings
- Medications
- Transportation Procedures
- Bus Expectations and Discipline
- Student Safety

Section 7 – Technology & Digital Learning

- Chromebook Expectations
- Acceptable Use
- Digital Citizenship
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Personal Electronic Devices
- Technology Violations

Section 8 – District Policies & Legal Notices

- Student Records (FERPA)
- Child Find
- Homeless Education (McKinney-Vento)
- Special Education & Section 504
- Gifted Education
- English Learners
- Nondiscrimination
- Pest Management & Asbestos Information
- Student Conduct Policies
- ESSA & PPRA
- Right-to-Know Information
- Annual Notices

SECTION 1

WELCOME TO SOUTHERN FULTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Families,

Welcome to Southern Fulton Elementary School.

At Southern Fulton Elementary, we believe that every student matters, every day counts. Our goal is to provide a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment where students are encouraged to reach their full potential academically, socially, and emotionally.

Our staff works hard to create meaningful learning experiences while building strong relationships with students and families. Through our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and high-quality instruction, we strive to meet the needs of every learner.

At SFES, we focus on three core expectations:

Be Kind.

Be Safe.

Be Responsible.

We value the partnership between home and school and believe that student success is strongest when families and educators work together.

Thank you for your continued support of Southern Fulton Elementary School. We look forward to a successful school year.

Sincerely,

Tyler Burns
Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Southern Fulton Elementary School is to provide a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment where all students achieve academic, behavioral, and social-emotional success.

OUR COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS

At Southern Fulton Elementary School:

- Every student will be encouraged, supported, challenged, and guided to reach their full potential.

- Every student will learn the skills necessary to compete and succeed in a changing world.
- Every student will have access to academic, behavioral, and social-emotional supports when needed.
- Every student will be treated with dignity, respect, and care.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Southern Fulton Elementary School
3072 Great Cove Road
Warfordsburg, PA 17267

Elementary Office:
(717) 294-3400

District Website:
www.sfsd.k12.pa.us

Principal:
Tyler Burns

SCHOOL HOURS

Student Day:
8:10 AM – 2:55 PM

Students should not arrive before designated supervision begins.

Families will be notified of any changes to school schedules throughout the year.

SECTION 2

COMMUNICATION & FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Open communication between home and school is essential to student success.

Families are encouraged to contact teachers whenever questions or concerns arise. We believe that addressing concerns early helps maintain strong partnerships and supports student growth.

Communication may occur through:

- ClassDojo
- Phone calls
- Email
- Parent conferences
- School newsletters
- District communications

Whenever possible, families should schedule meetings in advance to ensure that staff members are available and able to give their full attention to the discussion.

CLASSDOJO

Southern Fulton Elementary uses ClassDojo as its primary communication platform.

Families can expect to receive:

- Classroom updates
- School announcements
- Event information
- Student celebrations
- Emergency communications

Parents are encouraged to regularly check ClassDojo to remain informed about school activities and important updates.

VISITOR PROCEDURES

The safety of our students and staff is a top priority.

All visitors must:

1. Enter through the main entrance.
2. Present identification if requested.
3. Sign in
4. Obtain and wear a visitor badge while in the building.

5. Return the badge and sign out before leaving.

Visitors may not proceed directly to classrooms without approval from the office.

VOLUNTEERS

We welcome volunteers and appreciate the support they provide to our students and staff.

All volunteers and field trip chaperones must meet district clearance requirements prior to volunteering.

Clearances must be on file and approved before participating in any school-sponsored activity.

All volunteers and field trip chaperones must comply with current Pennsylvania volunteer clearance requirements and receive district approval prior to volunteering.

Field trip chaperones must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age unless otherwise approved by school administration.

SECTION 3

ATTENDANCE & SCHOOL OPERATIONS

PENNSYLVANIA ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Southern Fulton School District follows all Pennsylvania compulsory attendance laws.

Definitions

Tardy – A student arriving after 8:10 AM.

Half-Day Absence – A student missing between 1½ and 3½ hours of the school day.

Full-Day Absence – A student missing more than 3½ hours of the school day.

Excused Absences may include:

- Student illness
- Medical appointments
- Quarantine
- Death in the family
- Court appearances
- Approved educational trips
- Administrative emergencies

Parents and guardians are responsible for providing written excuses for student absences. Written excuses must be submitted within three (3) school days of the student's return.

A maximum of ten (10) parent excuses may be accepted during a school year. After ten (10) parent-excused absences, the district may require a written excuse from a licensed medical provider for additional absences to be considered excused.

Students are responsible for making arrangements to complete missed work following excused absences.

The district follows all Pennsylvania truancy requirements and may initiate attendance interventions when excessive unexcused absences occur.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in a child's academic success. Students who attend school consistently are better able to develop strong academic skills, build positive relationships, and fully participate in school activities.

The Southern Fulton School District follows all Pennsylvania compulsory attendance laws and regulations.

Parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring that their child attends school regularly and arrives on time each day.

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

If a student is absent, a parent or guardian should notify the school as soon as possible.

When a student returns to school, a written excuse must be submitted within three (3) school days. Excuses should include:

- Student name
- Date(s) of absence
- Reason for absence
- Parent/guardian signature

Failure to provide an excuse within the required timeframe may result in the absence being recorded as unexcused in accordance with state attendance requirements.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Examples of excused absences include:

- Student illness
- Medical appointments
- Quarantine
- Death in the family
- Court appearances
- Educational trips approved in advance
- Emergencies approved by administration

Parents should communicate with the school whenever attendance concerns arise.

TARDINESS

Students are expected to arrive at school on time each day.

Repeated tardiness disrupts instruction and can negatively impact academic performance.

Families are encouraged to establish morning routines that allow students to arrive prepared and ready to learn.

Excessive tardiness may result in administrative intervention and attendance monitoring.

EARLY DISMISSALS

Whenever possible, appointments should be scheduled outside of school hours.

If a student must leave school early:

- A written note should be sent to school.
- Parents or approved adults must report to the office.
- Identification may be requested before a student is released.

Students will only be released to individuals listed as approved contacts unless prior arrangements have been made.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS

The district recognizes that educational trips can provide valuable learning experiences for students.

Families requesting an educational trip must:

- Complete the Educational Trip Request Form.
- Submit the form at least one week prior to departure.
- Receive approval before the absence occurs.

Educational trips are generally limited to:

- Two (2) educational trips per school year.
- A maximum of ten (10) school days per trip.

Requests may be denied due to excessive absences, attendance concerns, academic concerns, or failure to meet district requirements.

The Superintendent or designee reserves the right to approve or deny educational trip requests in accordance with district policy.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

For the safety of all students, transportation changes should be limited whenever possible.

Transportation changes must:

- Be submitted in writing.
- Be approved by the school office.

- Follow district transportation procedures.

Emergency situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Please understand that transportation requests may be denied when bus capacity or safety concerns exist.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS, DELAYS, AND EARLY DISMISSALS

Weather conditions and other emergencies occasionally require delays, early dismissals, or school closures.

Families will be notified through:

- District automated phone calls
- Text notifications
- ClassDojo
- District website
- District social media accounts
- Local media outlets

Parents should have an emergency plan in place for situations involving unexpected early dismissals.

STUDENT ARRIVAL

Students should arrive at school during designated arrival times.

Students should:

- Enter the building calmly and safely.
- Follow staff directions.
- Report directly to assigned locations.

For safety reasons, students should not arrive before school supervision begins.

STUDENT DISMISSAL

Student safety remains our highest priority during dismissal.

Students will be dismissed according to their assigned transportation plan:

- School bus

- Parent pick-up
- Approved childcare arrangements

Any changes to dismissal plans should be communicated to the office as early as possible.

SCHOOL VISITORS

To maintain a safe learning environment:

- All visitors must report to the main office.
- Visitors must sign in
- Visitors must wear a visitor badge while in the building.
- Visitors must sign out before leaving.

Classroom visits should be arranged through the principal's office.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Parents are responsible for maintaining current:

- Home addresses
- Phone numbers
- Emergency contacts
- Custody information

Accurate information allows the school to respond quickly during emergencies and ensures that families receive important communications.

SECTION 4

ACADEMICS & STUDENT LEARNING

OUR APPROACH TO LEARNING

At Southern Fulton Elementary School, we are committed to providing high-quality instruction and support for every student.

Our instructional framework combines:

- Strong core instruction
- Early intervention
- Enrichment opportunities
- Data-based decision making
- Positive relationships

Our goal is to ensure that every student experiences success and growth.

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS (MTSS)

Southern Fulton Elementary utilizes a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to meet the needs of all learners.

MTSS is a framework that provides:

Tier 1

- High-quality instruction for all students.

Tier 2

- Targeted interventions for students needing additional support.

Tier 3

- Intensive individualized interventions for students with significant needs.
- Student progress is regularly monitored to ensure appropriate support is provided.

WHAT I NEED (WIN) TIME

All students participate in a daily WIN ("What I Need") period.

During WIN Time, students may receive:

Reading Intervention

- Additional instruction in foundational reading skills.

Math Intervention

- Additional instruction in mathematics skills.

Enrichment

- Extension activities for students who have demonstrated mastery.
- WIN Time allows staff to provide targeted support based on individual student needs.

CURRICULUM

English Language Arts

Students receive instruction through:

- Wonders Reading Program
- ECRI Literacy Practices
- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness (Primary Grades)
- 95 Percent Group Literacy Resources

Instruction focuses on:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking
- Listening
- Vocabulary Development

Mathematics

Students receive mathematics instruction through:

- Savvas enVision Mathematics
- SpringMath

Instruction focuses on:

- Number Sense
- Computation

- Problem Solving
- Mathematical Reasoning

Science

Students receive science instruction through:

- Savvas Science

Instruction encourages inquiry, investigation, and real-world application.

Writing

Students participate in structured writing instruction using:

- Step Up to Writing

Students learn to communicate clearly and effectively across multiple writing formats.

ASSESSMENTS

Assessment helps teachers monitor student growth and make instructional decisions.

Universal Screeners

Students participate in:

- Acadience Reading
- SpringMath

Assessments are administered multiple times each year.

Classroom Assessments

Students complete classroom assessments aligned to curriculum standards throughout the school year.

State Assessments

Students in grades 3-6 participate in Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) testing.

Areas assessed include:

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science (Grade 5)

HOMework

Homework is designed to reinforce classroom learning and promote responsibility.

Students are expected to:

- Complete assignments on time.
- Do their best work.
- Seek assistance when needed.

Parents can support homework success by:

- Providing a quiet workspace.
- Encouraging good study habits.
- Monitoring assignment completion.

Homework expectations may vary by grade level.

GRADING SCALE

Southern Fulton Elementary School utilizes the following grading scale:

Grade	Percentage
A	92-100
B	82-91
C	72-81
D	64-71
E	Below 64

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued four times per year.

Parents may access student progress through:

- PowerSchool
- Teacher communication
- Parent conferences

Families are encouraged to monitor student progress throughout the school year.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Promotion decisions are based upon multiple factors, including:

- Academic performance
- Student progress
- Attendance
- Teacher recommendations
- Parent input

A student receiving failing grades in two major subjects, or one major subject and two minor subjects, may be considered for retention.

Major Subjects

- Reading
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- English/Writing

Minor Subjects

- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Health
- Library

Reading is a foundational skill that impacts success across all content areas. Students demonstrating significant reading deficiencies may be considered for retention at the discretion of school administration.

Retention decisions are made only after careful review and communication with families.

STUDENT MATERIALS AND PROPERTY

Students are responsible for district-owned instructional materials, textbooks, library books, Chromebooks, and other assigned resources.

Families may be responsible for replacement or repair costs associated with lost, damaged, destroyed, or excessively worn materials.

Students are encouraged to treat all school property with care and report damaged materials promptly.

Students and families may be required to provide restitution for willful damage to school property, district-owned materials, technology devices, or transportation equipment.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Southern Fulton Elementary believes in celebrating student success.

Students may be recognized through:

- PBIS celebrations
- Student recognition programs
- Academic achievements
- Growth awards
- Classroom celebrations
- Special events

Recognition programs encourage students to continue demonstrating academic effort, growth, and positive citizenship.

SECTION 5

STUDENT BEHAVIOR & SCHOOL CLIMATE

OUR COMMITMENT TO A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE

At Southern Fulton Elementary School, we believe students learn best in a safe, supportive, and respectful environment.

We are committed to teaching, modeling, and reinforcing positive behaviors that help students become successful learners, responsible citizens, and caring members of our school community.

Our behavior system is built upon the principles of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). PBIS emphasizes teaching expected behaviors, recognizing positive choices, and providing support when students experience difficulty meeting expectations.

While our primary focus is prevention and positive behavior supports, students are expected to take responsibility for their actions and may be subject to disciplinary consequences when behavior interferes with learning or school safety.

SOUTHERN FULTON PBIS EXPECTATIONS

At Southern Fulton Elementary School, all students are expected to:

Be Kind

- Use respectful words and actions.
- Include others.
- Help classmates and staff.
- Show empathy and compassion.

Be Safe

- Follow adult directions.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Walk safely throughout the building.
- Use school equipment appropriately.

Be Responsible

- Come prepared to learn.
- Complete assignments.
- Take care of school property.
- Make positive choices.

These expectations apply in all school settings, including:

- Classrooms
- Hallways
- Cafeteria
- Playground
- Restrooms
- School buses
- Assemblies
- Field trips
- School-sponsored activities

PBIS REWARDS AND CELEBRATIONS

Students who consistently demonstrate Southern Fulton Elementary School's PBIS expectations of **Be Kind, Be Safe, and Be Responsible** may be eligible to participate in classroom, grade-level, and schoolwide reward activities.

Examples of recognition may include:

- PBIS Rewards incentives
- Classroom rewards
- Grade-level celebrations
- End-of-marking-period activities
- Special schoolwide events
- Positive recognition from staff
- Positive communication with families

Participation in reward activities is considered a privilege and may be restricted based on student behavior.

Eligibility for Marking Period Rewards

Students who receive an **In-School Suspension (ISS)** or **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)** during a marking period will not be eligible to participate in that marking period's PBIS reward activity.

Students who receive multiple office referrals, demonstrate chronic behavioral concerns, or engage in serious misconduct may also be excluded from reward activities at the discretion of school administration.

Students who receive an ISS or OSS during the fourth marking period may also be excluded from end-of-year PBIS celebrations and special reward activities.

The goal of this practice is to reinforce positive behavior while maintaining high expectations for all students.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to:

- Treat others with kindness and respect.
- Follow staff directions.
- Use appropriate language.
- Respect personal space.
- Care for school property.
- Participate appropriately in learning activities.
- Help maintain a positive learning environment.

Students share responsibility for creating a school climate where everyone feels welcomed, valued, and safe.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Southern Fulton Elementary School expects student dress and grooming to support a safe, respectful, and productive learning environment.

Students are expected to dress in a manner that:

- Promotes safety.
- Does not disrupt the educational environment.
- Respects the rights of others.
- Meets health and safety standards.

The following are not permitted:

- Clothing displaying profanity, vulgar language, obscene images, alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, drugs, weapons, or other inappropriate content.
- Bare midriffs or excessively revealing clothing.
- Strapless or spaghetti-strap tops.
- Clothing that exposes undergarments.
- Pants worn significantly below the waist.
- Clothing or accessories that create a safety concern.
- Footwear that poses a safety risk during school activities.

Students may wear shorts; however, shorts should be of an appropriate length for school.

Hats, hoods, and other head coverings may only be worn when approved by administration or for authorized school activities.

School administration reserves the right to determine whether student attire is appropriate for the school environment and may require adjustments when necessary.

The district recognizes that fashion trends and styles change over time. Administration reserves the right to address attire that substantially disrupts the educational environment, creates a safety concern, or is inconsistent with district policy.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Each classroom establishes procedures and routines that support learning.

Teachers will:

- Teach expectations clearly.
- Provide reminders and reteaching when necessary.
- Recognize positive behavior.
- Communicate concerns with families when appropriate.

Students are expected to follow classroom expectations and contribute positively to the learning environment.

BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS

Most student behaviors are addressed through:

- Teaching and reteaching expectations
- Classroom interventions
- Restorative conversations
- Parent communication
- Problem-solving strategies
- Positive reinforcement

When additional support is needed, school staff may collaborate with families to develop strategies that promote student success.

ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION

The disciplinary procedures and consequences outlined in this handbook are intended to serve as general guidelines for responding to student behavior. Because each situation is unique, school administrators reserve the right to consider the specific circumstances of any incident, including the severity of the behavior, the student's age, disciplinary history, intent, safety concerns, and other relevant factors.

As a result, disciplinary actions may be adjusted, modified, accelerated, or individualized when deemed necessary by the administration to maintain a safe, orderly, and productive learning environment. Nothing in this handbook shall be interpreted as creating an entitlement to a specific disciplinary consequence or limiting the authority of school administrators to make disciplinary decisions consistent with Board policy, district procedures, and applicable law.

FORMAL DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

While Southern Fulton Elementary School emphasizes prevention, teaching expected behaviors, and positive behavioral supports through PBIS, certain student behaviors may require disciplinary action.

School administration reserves the right to determine appropriate disciplinary responses based on the severity, frequency, and circumstances of each incident.

The disciplinary progression outlined below serves as a general guide. Administration may accelerate consequences when student behavior creates safety concerns or significantly disrupts the educational environment.

CATEGORY I BEHAVIORS

Examples may include:

- Running in hallways
- Minor classroom disruptions
- Being in an unauthorized area
- Minor playground violations
- Failure to follow classroom procedures
- Minor misuse of school materials
- Other minor behaviors that interfere with learning

Category I Consequences

First Offense

- Verbal warning and reteaching of expectations

Second Offense

- Teacher consequence and parent communication

Third Offense

- One recess detention

Fourth Offense

- Two recess detentions

Fifth Offense

- Three recess detentions and/or administrative involvement

Additional Offenses

- May be treated as a Category II behavior

CATEGORY II BEHAVIORS

Examples may include:

- Repeated classroom disruption
- Cafeteria misconduct
- Assembly misconduct
- Physical horseplay
- Inappropriate language
- Destruction of another student's property
- Repeated Category I behaviors
- Defiance toward staff

Grades K–2 Consequences

First Offense

- One recess/lunch detention and parent communication

Second Offense

- Two recess/lunch detentions and parent communication

Third Offense

- Three recess/lunch detentions and parent conference

Fourth Offense

- One-half day In-School Suspension (ISS)

Fifth Offense

- One day In-School Suspension (ISS)

Additional Offenses

- May be treated as a Category III behavior

Grades 3–6 Consequences

First Offense

- Two recess/lunch detentions and parent communication

Second Offense

- Four recess/lunch detentions and parent communication

Third Offense

- Five recess/lunch detentions and parent conference

Fourth Offense

- One day In-School Suspension (ISS)

Fifth Offense

- Two days In-School Suspension (ISS)

Additional Offenses

- May be treated as a Category III behavior

CATEGORY III BEHAVIORS

Examples may include:

- Theft
- Vandalism
- Leaving school or assigned areas without permission
- Significant property damage
- Unsafe physical behavior resulting in injury
- Repeated Category II behaviors

Grades K–2 Consequences

First Offense

- One day In-School Suspension (ISS)

Second Offense

- Two days In-School Suspension (ISS)

Third Offense

- Three days In-School Suspension (ISS)

Fourth Offense

- One day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) and parent conference

Additional Offenses

- May be treated as a Category IV behavior

Grades 3–6 Consequences

First Offense

- Two days In-School Suspension (ISS)

Second Offense

- Three days In-School Suspension (ISS)

Third Offense

- One day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

Fourth Offense

- Three days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

Additional Offenses

- May be treated as a Category IV behavior

Restitution may be required when school or personal property is damaged.

CATEGORY IV BEHAVIORS

Examples may include:

- Fighting
- Threatening bodily harm

- Harassment
- Bullying
- Aggressive behavior toward students or staff
- Possession of tobacco, vape devices, or electronic smoking devices
- Possession of prohibited materials
- Significant safety violations
- Repeated Category III behaviors

Category IV Consequences

First Offense

- Two days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
- Parent conference

Second Offense

- Five days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
- Informal hearing

Third Offense

- Ten days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
- Formal hearing

Fourth Offense

- School Board hearing and possible expulsion

Law enforcement may be contacted when appropriate.

SERIOUS OFFENSES

The following behaviors may result in immediate suspension and additional disciplinary proceedings:

- Possession of a weapon
- Possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia
- Possession of alcohol
- Assault on a student or staff member
- Arson
- Serious vandalism
- Other criminal acts as defined by Pennsylvania law

Consequences

First Offense

- Immediate suspension
- Parent notification
- Informal hearing

If substantiated, consequences may include:

- Up to ten-day suspension
- Referral to law enforcement
- Superintendent review
- School Board disciplinary hearing
- Recommendation for expulsion

ADDITIONAL CONSEQUENCES

In addition to any disciplinary consequences outlined above, students who receive an **In-School Suspension (ISS)** or **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)** during a marking period will not be eligible to participate in that marking period's PBIS reward activity.

Students who receive an ISS or OSS during the fourth marking period may also be excluded from end-of-year PBIS celebrations and special reward activities.

Administration reserves the right to restrict participation in special activities, field trips, assemblies, or reward events when student behavior creates safety concerns or significantly interferes with the purpose of the event.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Whenever appropriate, students may participate in restorative practices designed to:

- Repair harm caused by behavior
- Restore relationships
- Reflect on choices
- Develop problem-solving skills
- Prevent future incidents

Restorative practices help students learn from mistakes while maintaining accountability.

BULLYING PREVENTION

Southern Fulton Elementary School is committed to providing a learning environment free from bullying, harassment, and intimidation.

Bullying is intentional behavior that:

- Is repeated or has the potential to be repeated
- Causes physical, emotional, or social harm
- Involves an imbalance of power

Bullying may occur:

- In person
- Online
- Through social media
- Through electronic communication

Student Commitment Against Bullying

1. We will not bully others.
2. We will help students who are bullied.
3. We will include students who may feel left out.
4. We will report bullying to trusted adults.

Reporting Bullying

Students and families are encouraged to report bullying concerns immediately.

Reports may be made to:

- Teachers
- School counselors
- Building administrators
- Any trusted school employee

All reports will be investigated promptly and appropriately.

Retaliation against individuals who report bullying concerns will not be tolerated.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Southern Fulton Elementary School provides a variety of supports to help students succeed academically, behaviorally, and socially.

Available supports may include:

- School counseling services
- MTSS interventions
- Problem Solving Team (PST)
- Behavioral supports
- Check-In/Check-Out systems
- Social skills instruction
- Community-based supports when appropriate

Our goal is to ensure every student has access to the resources needed to be successful.

HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION

Southern Fulton School District prohibits harassment, discrimination, intimidation, and bullying based upon any protected status as defined by law and district policy.

Students who experience or witness harassment should report concerns immediately to a staff member or administrator.

All reports will be investigated in accordance with district policy.

STUDENT DISCIPLINARY DUE PROCESS

Students have the right to fair disciplinary procedures consistent with Pennsylvania law and School Board policy.

Short-Term Suspension

A principal may suspend a student for up to ten (10) school days in accordance with Pennsylvania law.

Long-Term Exclusion

Suspensions exceeding ten (10) school days or expulsions require additional due process protections, including a formal hearing before the Board of School Directors.

Parents and guardians will be notified whenever disciplinary action results in suspension.

AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Under Pennsylvania law, school personnel act **in loco parentis**, meaning they have the authority to maintain order, maintain a safe learning environment, and enforce school rules while students are under school supervision.

This authority extends to school property, school transportation, field trips, extracurricular activities, and other school-sponsored events.

Students are expected to comply with the reasonable directions of school personnel. Failure to follow staff directions may result in disciplinary consequences.

School authority generally applies during the school day, while students are traveling to and from school, while riding district transportation, and during participation in school-sponsored activities and events.

BEHAVIOR ON SCHOOL BUSES

The school bus is considered an extension of the school environment.

Students are expected to:

- Follow driver directions.
- Remain seated while the bus is moving.
- Use respectful language.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to themselves.
- Respect bus property.
- Follow all safety procedures.

Bus misconduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension of bus privileges.

PBIS AT SOUTHERN FULTON ELEMENTARY

PBIS is not simply a reward system—it is our commitment to creating a positive learning environment where students feel safe, supported, and valued.

By working together, families, students, and staff can help ensure that Southern Fulton Elementary School remains a place where every student has the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed.

SECTION 6

HEALTH, SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION

The health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff are top priorities at Southern Fulton Elementary School. The procedures outlined below are designed to help maintain a safe, secure, and supportive learning environment.

SCHOOL SAFETY

Southern Fulton Elementary School continually reviews and updates safety procedures to provide a secure environment for students, staff, and visitors.

Students are expected to follow all school safety procedures and directions from staff members during:

- Emergency drills
- Evacuations
- Lockdowns
- Shelter-in-place situations
- Medical emergencies
- School transportation

Failure to follow safety procedures may result in disciplinary action.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Southern Fulton School District utilizes video and audio monitoring systems in school buildings, on school grounds, and on district transportation when applicable.

Recordings may be reviewed and used for:

- Safety investigations
- School discipline
- Security purposes
- Legal proceedings

Individuals on school property should not expect privacy in areas monitored by district surveillance systems.

VISITOR AND BUILDING SECURITY

For the safety of students and staff:

- All exterior doors remain locked during the school day.
- Visitors must enter through the main entrance.

- Visitors must sign in
- Visitors must obtain and wear a visitor badge while in the building.
- Visitors must sign out before leaving.

Visitors are not permitted to proceed directly to classrooms or other areas of the building without approval from office personnel.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Throughout the school year, students and staff participate in emergency drills as required by Pennsylvania law.

Drills may include:

- Fire drills
- Evacuation drills
- Lockdown drills
- Shelter-in-place drills
- Severe weather drills

Students are expected to:

- Follow staff directions immediately.
- Remain calm.
- Move quietly and safely.
- Take all drills seriously.

These drills help prepare students and staff to respond appropriately during emergencies.

LOST AND FOUND

To help reunite students with misplaced belongings, Southern Fulton Elementary School maintains a Lost and Found area.

Students who find items that do not belong to them should turn them in to the office.

Families are encouraged to clearly label personal belongings, including coats, lunch boxes, water bottles, and other frequently misplaced items.

Unclaimed items will be periodically donated, discarded, or otherwise disposed of at the discretion of the school.

Students and families are encouraged to check the Lost and Found throughout the school year for missing items.

HEALTH SERVICES

The school nurse plays an important role in supporting student health and wellness.

Health services provided may include:

- Vision screenings
- Hearing screenings
- Height and weight measurements
- State-required health screenings
- Health assessments
- First aid and emergency care
- Health education support

Parents and guardians will be notified when follow-up care is recommended.

STUDENT ILLNESS

Students who become ill during the school day should report to their teacher and obtain permission before visiting the nurse's office.

Parents may be contacted if a student:

- Has a fever
- Is vomiting
- Has symptoms of a contagious illness
- Is unable to participate in school activities
- Requires medical attention

Students should remain home when ill to help prevent the spread of illness to others.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Pennsylvania law requires all students to meet current immunization requirements for school attendance.

Required immunizations are established by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and may change based upon state regulations.

Families will be notified if immunization records are incomplete or additional documentation is required.

Students who do not meet immunization requirements may be excluded from school as required by law.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

In accordance with Pennsylvania School Health regulations, students participate in required health screenings throughout their school career.

Screenings may include:

- Vision screenings
- Hearing screenings
- Height and weight measurements
- Scoliosis screenings
- Physical examinations
- Dental examinations

Parents will be notified when required examinations or screenings are due.

Questions regarding student health requirements should be directed to the school nurse.

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

Whenever possible, medications should be administered at home.

When medication must be administered during the school day:

Prescription Medication

The following must be provided:

- Written physician authorization
- Written parent/guardian authorization
- Medication in its original prescription container

Non-Prescription Medication

The following must be provided:

- Written physician authorization
- Written parent/guardian authorization
- Medication in the original container

All medications must be delivered to the school by a parent or guardian unless otherwise approved by the school nurse.

Students may not carry medication unless specifically authorized by district policy and physician documentation.

HEAD LICE

Head lice can affect students of any age and are not related to cleanliness.

If head lice are identified:

- Parents will be notified.
- Appropriate treatment will be required.
- Students may be checked by the school nurse before returning to class.

The school nurse is available to assist families with questions regarding treatment procedures.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

In the event of a medical emergency:

1. School personnel will provide immediate assistance.
2. Emergency medical services may be contacted when necessary.
3. Parents or guardians will be notified as soon as possible.

Accurate emergency contact information is essential and should be updated whenever changes occur.

FOOD ALLERGIES AND HEALTH CONDITIONS

Parents should notify the school of any significant health concerns, including:

- Food allergies
- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Seizure disorders
- Life-threatening medical conditions

The school will work collaboratively with families and healthcare providers to develop appropriate plans to support student safety.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is a privilege provided to eligible students by the Southern Fulton School District.

Students are expected to follow all school and transportation rules while riding district transportation.

Safety is the primary consideration in all transportation decisions.

BUS EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to:

- Follow driver directions the first time they are given.
- Remain seated while the bus is moving.
- Use appropriate language.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to themselves.
- Respect other passengers.
- Respect bus property.
- Help maintain a safe environment.

The school bus is considered an extension of the school environment, and school disciplinary procedures apply during transportation.

BUS DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

The school bus is considered an extension of the school environment. Students are expected to follow all school rules and transportation expectations while riding district transportation.

Bus referrals may be reviewed by the Transportation Director, Principal, or designee.

Progressive Consequences

First Infraction

- Warning issued to the student.
- Parent/guardian notified.

Second Infraction

- One (1) day suspension of bus privileges.
- Parent/guardian notified.

Third Infraction

- Conference involving the student, parent/guardian, and administrator.
- Three (3) day suspension of bus privileges.

Fourth Infraction

- Five (5) day suspension of bus privileges.

Fifth Infraction

- Suspension of bus privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Administration reserves the right to adjust consequences based upon the severity of the offense.

NOTE: Music may be played on the bus; however, earphones must be used. There shall be no wireless or wired speakers or loud music permitted that others around you can easily hear.

SERIOUS BUS INFRACTIONS

Certain behaviors may result in immediate suspension of transportation privileges and/or additional school disciplinary consequences.

Examples include:

- Fighting
- Harassment or bullying
- Threats toward others
- Destruction of property
- Vaping or tobacco use
- Possession of prohibited items
- Significant safety violations
- Repeated refusal to follow driver directions

Students who damage school transportation property may be required to provide restitution for damages.

Bus misconduct may also result in school disciplinary consequences when appropriate.

Administration reserves the right to adjust consequences based upon the severity of the offense.

ATTENDANCE DURING BUS SUSPENSIONS

Students suspended from riding district transportation are still expected to attend school.

Transportation during the period of suspension becomes the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

Absences resulting solely from a transportation suspension may be considered unexcused.

BUS ASSIGNMENTS

Each student receiving district transportation is assigned a specific bus route and bus stop.

Students may not ride a different bus or use a different stop without prior approval from the school office.

Transportation requests may be denied due to safety concerns, route limitations, or bus capacity.

For safety reasons, students should arrive at their assigned bus stop approximately five (5) minutes before their scheduled pick-up time.

UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY OF SCHOOL BUSES

Only authorized school personnel and approved student passengers may board district transportation vehicles.

Unauthorized entry onto a school bus may result in removal from district property and may be subject to criminal penalties under Pennsylvania law.

The safety of students and transportation staff remains a top priority.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

Transportation changes should be limited whenever possible.

Requests must:

- Be submitted in writing.
- Be approved by the office.
- Follow district transportation guidelines.

Approval may be denied due to bus capacity, safety concerns, or transportation regulations.

STUDENT PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Parents or guardians picking up students at dismissal should follow established school procedures.

For student safety:

- Authorized adults may be required to present identification.
- Students will only be released to approved contacts unless prior arrangements have been made.
- Changes to student dismissal arrangements should be communicated to the school office no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day of the change, unless an emergency circumstance prevents advance notice.

LOST AND FOUND

Items found in the building should be turned in to the school's lost and found.

Families are encouraged to label student belongings whenever possible.

Unclaimed items may be donated periodically throughout the school year.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

To enhance school safety and security, Southern Fulton School District utilizes video surveillance systems in and around school facilities and on district transportation when applicable.

Students, staff, and visitors should understand that activities occurring on school property may be recorded and reviewed for safety, security, and disciplinary purposes.

AUDIO AND VIDEO MONITORING ON DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION

District transportation vehicles may utilize audio and video monitoring systems to promote student safety, support investigations involving student conduct, and protect students and staff.

Recordings may be reviewed and used for:

- Safety investigations
- Student discipline
- Security purposes
- Legal proceedings

Students and families should assume that district transportation vehicles may be monitored while in operation.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR STUDENT SAFETY

A safe school environment is a shared responsibility.

By working together, students, families, and staff can help ensure that Southern Fulton Elementary School remains a safe, welcoming, and supportive place for all learners.

SECTION 7

TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL LEARNING

Technology is an important part of teaching and learning at Southern Fulton Elementary School. Students use technology to access instructional materials, complete assignments, collaborate with others, conduct research, and develop skills necessary for success in today's world.

The use of technology is a privilege, and students are expected to use all devices and digital resources responsibly.

DISTRICT-ISSUED CHROMEBOOKS

Each student is provided access to a district-issued Chromebook to support learning both at school and, when appropriate, at home.

Students are expected to:

- Bring their Chromebook to school fully charged each day when required.
- Handle devices carefully.
- Use district-issued devices for educational purposes.
- Report damage or technical concerns immediately.
- Keep devices free from stickers, markings, or alterations unless approved by the district.

Students remain responsible for district-issued equipment throughout the school year.

CARE OF CHROMEBOOKS

Students should:

- Carry Chromebooks carefully with two hands.
- Keep food and drinks away from devices.
- Store devices safely when not in use.
- Avoid placing heavy objects on top of Chromebooks.
- Keep Chromebooks away from extreme temperatures.

Intentional damage, vandalism, or misuse of district equipment may result in disciplinary action and financial responsibility as outlined by district procedures.

DEVICE REPAIRS AND DAMAGE

Families may be responsible for repair or replacement costs resulting from negligence, misuse, or intentional damage.

The district may offer optional device protection plans or insurance programs. Information regarding current technology protection plans will be communicated annually.

Students should report any device concerns to their teacher or the technology department as soon as possible.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Students are expected to use technology in a safe, responsible, and respectful manner.

Students may not:

- Access inappropriate content.
- Attempt to bypass district internet filters.
- Share passwords.
- Access another person's account.
- Use technology to bully, harass, threaten, or intimidate others.
- Download unauthorized software or applications.
- Damage or alter district technology systems.

Technology use may be monitored by district personnel.

There should be no expectation of privacy when using district-owned devices, accounts, networks, or internet services.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Southern Fulton Elementary School is committed to helping students become responsible digital citizens.

Students are expected to:

- Use respectful language online.
- Protect personal information.
- Respect the privacy of others.
- Think critically about online content.
- Use technology ethically and responsibly.

Students should immediately report inappropriate online behavior or content to a trusted adult.

INTERNET SAFETY

Students will receive instruction regarding internet safety and responsible online behavior.

Topics may include:

- Online privacy
- Cyberbullying prevention
- Digital footprints
- Safe online communication
- Responsible use of social media
- Recognizing scams and online risks

Families are encouraged to continue these conversations at home.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TOOLS

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools are becoming increasingly common in education and everyday life.

When permitted by teachers, students may use approved AI tools to support learning.

Students may not:

- Use AI to complete assignments dishonestly.
- Present AI-generated work as their own without permission.
- Use AI tools to create inappropriate, harmful, or offensive content.

Teachers will provide guidance regarding appropriate use of AI within classroom assignments.

The goal of AI use at Southern Fulton Elementary School is to support learning, creativity, and problem-solving while maintaining academic integrity.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

To minimize distractions and maximize learning, personal electronic devices should remain off and out of sight during the school day unless specifically authorized by school staff.

Personal electronic devices include:

- Cell phones
- Smart watches
- Earbuds
- Headphones
- Tablets
- Gaming devices
- Other personal communication devices

Students who bring personal electronic devices to school do so at their own risk.

The school district is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices.

CELL PHONES

Students are discouraged from bringing cell phones to school.

If a student brings a cell phone:

- The device must remain turned off or silenced during the school day.
- The device must remain stored in a backpack, locker, or other approved location.
- Students may only use the device with staff permission.

Students needing to contact a parent or guardian during the school day should do so through the school office.

Parents needing to contact students during the school day should contact the office rather than sending messages directly to student devices.

SMART WATCHES

Smart watches may be worn provided they do not interfere with instruction.

Students may not:

- Send messages during class.
- Access games during instructional time.
- Use watches to photograph, record, or communicate without permission.

Staff may require students to remove or store smart watches if they become a distraction to learning.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING

Students may not photograph, video record, or audio record students or staff members without permission.

Unauthorized recording may result in disciplinary action and may violate district policies regarding privacy and student conduct.

CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is prohibited and will be addressed in the same manner as other forms of bullying when it impacts the school environment.

Examples include:

- Harassing messages
- Threats
- Posting embarrassing content
- Impersonation
- Sharing inappropriate images
- Creating fake accounts

Students who engage in cyberbullying may face school disciplinary consequences and, when appropriate, law enforcement involvement.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Students should use social media responsibly and respectfully.

Families are encouraged to monitor student social media activity and discuss appropriate online behavior.

Posts or communications that substantially disrupt the school environment may result in school disciplinary action.

TECHNOLOGY VIOLATIONS

Technology violations may result in:

- Loss of technology privileges
- Parent notification
- Office referral
- School disciplinary consequences
- Restitution for damages
- Law enforcement referral when required

Consequences will be determined based upon the severity and frequency of the violation.

PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES

Technology provides tremendous opportunities for learning, creativity, and communication.

By working together, families and schools can help students develop the skills necessary to become safe, responsible, and productive digital citizens.

SECTION 8

DISTRICT POLICIES & LEGAL NOTICES

The policies and notices contained in this section are required by federal law, Pennsylvania Department of Education regulations, and Southern Fulton School District Board Policy. Families are encouraged to review this information and contact the school if additional clarification is needed.

STUDENT RECORDS (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

Parents and guardians have the right to:

- Inspect and review their child's educational records.
- Request amendments to inaccurate records.
- Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information except when disclosure is permitted by law.
- File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education regarding alleged violations of FERPA.

When a student reaches 18 years of age, these rights transfer to the student unless otherwise provided by law.

Questions regarding student records should be directed to the school administration.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The district may designate certain student information as directory information in accordance with FERPA and Board Policy.

Examples may include:

- Student name
- Grade level
- Participation in activities
- Awards and honors
- Photographs

Parents who do not wish directory information to be released must notify the district in writing in accordance with district procedures.

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS AND PUBLICATIONS

Student photographs, names, and student work may be used in:

- School publications
- Yearbooks
- School websites
- District social media accounts
- News releases

Parents who wish to limit publication of student information should contact the school office.

CHILD FIND

Southern Fulton School District participates in Child Find activities as required by state and federal law.

Child Find is designed to identify, locate, and evaluate children who may need special education services.

Child Find applies to children who may have:

- Learning disabilities
- Speech or language impairments
- Intellectual disabilities
- Emotional disabilities
- Physical disabilities
- Autism
- Developmental delays
- Other qualifying disabilities

Families who believe their child may require special education services should contact the school office.

STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Southern Fulton School District complies with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Students experiencing homelessness are entitled to educational protections and services, including assistance with enrollment, school stability, and transportation when applicable.

Families experiencing homelessness or housing instability are encouraged to contact the district's Homeless Liaison for assistance.

Questions regarding homeless education services may be directed to the district office.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Students who qualify for special education services receive individualized supports designed to meet their educational needs.

Services are provided in accordance with:

- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Pennsylvania Special Education Regulations
- Southern Fulton School District procedures

The district remains committed to providing a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to all eligible students.

SECTION 504 SERVICES

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act protects students with disabilities from discrimination.

Students who have physical or mental impairments that substantially limit one or more major life activities may qualify for accommodations under Section 504.

Families who believe their child may qualify for accommodations should contact the school administration.

GIFTED EDUCATION

Southern Fulton School District provides gifted education services in accordance with Pennsylvania Chapter 16 regulations.

Students identified as gifted may receive specially designed instruction and enrichment opportunities to support advanced learning needs.

Questions regarding gifted services should be directed to school administration.

ENGLISH LEARNERS

Students whose primary language is not English may be eligible for language support services.

The district provides appropriate instructional supports to help English Learners develop language proficiency while accessing grade-level curriculum.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Southern Fulton School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, ancestry, disability, or any other protected classification in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices.

Questions regarding nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the district administration.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

In accordance with federal regulations, Southern Fulton School District maintains an Asbestos Management Plan for all district facilities. The plan is available for review upon request through the district office.

These additions will bring forward the important legal and operational pieces from the old handbook while keeping the updated handbook clean, modern, and aligned with your current PBIS and MTSS practices.

PEST MANAGEMENT

Southern Fulton School District utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program to manage pests in a manner that protects the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors while minimizing the use of pesticides.

In accordance with Pennsylvania's Integrated Pest Management Act, information regarding pest management activities, notifications, and treatment records is available through the district.

Additional information regarding the district's Integrated Pest Management Program may be found at:

[Southern Fulton School District Pest Management Information](#)

Questions regarding the district's Integrated Pest Management Program may be directed to the district office.

HARASSMENT

Southern Fulton School District is committed to maintaining an environment free from harassment, intimidation, and discrimination.

Harassment of students, staff, or visitors is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action.

Reports of harassment should be made immediately to a teacher, counselor, administrator, or other trusted staff member.

All reports will be investigated in accordance with district policy.

BULLYING AND CYBERBULLYING

Bullying and cyberbullying are prohibited.

The district investigates reports of bullying and takes appropriate corrective action when necessary.

Students are encouraged to report concerns immediately so that problems can be addressed promptly and effectively.

SEARCHES

School officials may search students, student property, lockers, vehicles, electronic devices, and other possessions when reasonable suspicion exists that a violation of law, district policy, or school rules has occurred.

Searches shall be conducted in accordance with Pennsylvania law and Board Policy.

Students should have no expectation of privacy regarding school-owned property assigned for student use.

WEAPONS

Possession of weapons on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or while under school supervision is strictly prohibited.

Weapons include, but are not limited to:

- Firearms
- Knives
- Explosive devices
- Replica weapons
- Any item capable of causing serious bodily injury

A student is considered in possession of a weapon if the item is found on the student, in the student's belongings, in a locker, in a vehicle under the student's control, or otherwise under the student's control while under school supervision.

Violations may result in:

- Immediate suspension
- Law enforcement notification
- Expulsion proceedings

The district will enforce all applicable state and federal laws regarding weapons possession.

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND VAPING PRODUCTS

The possession, use, distribution, or sale of:

- Illegal drugs
- Drug paraphernalia
- Alcohol
- Tobacco products
- Electronic cigarettes
- Vape devices
- Nicotine products

is prohibited on school property, school transportation, and at school-sponsored events.

Violations will result in disciplinary action and may involve law enforcement.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

To promote safety and security, Southern Fulton School District utilizes video surveillance systems in school facilities, on school grounds, and on district transportation when applicable.

Recordings may be reviewed and used for:

- Safety investigations
- School discipline
- Security purposes
- Legal proceedings

Individuals on school property should not expect privacy in areas monitored by surveillance systems.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

In accordance with federal regulations, Southern Fulton School District maintains an Asbestos Management Plan for all district facilities.

The plan is available for public review upon request through the district office.

ESSA (EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT)

Southern Fulton School District complies with all requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Parents have the right to request information regarding:

- Teacher qualifications
- Paraprofessional qualifications
- Student assessment information
- Federal program participation

Additional information is available through the district office.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

Southern Fulton School District complies with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), a federal law that provides parents and eligible students certain rights regarding surveys, instructional materials, and the collection of information for marketing purposes.

Parents have the right to:

- Review certain surveys administered to students.
- Inspect instructional materials used in connection with federally funded surveys.
- Receive notice of surveys or activities involving the collection of personal information.
- Opt their child out of participation in certain surveys and activities as permitted by law.

The district is committed to protecting student privacy and complying with all applicable federal requirements regarding student surveys and information collection.

Questions regarding PPRA rights may be directed to the school administration or district office.

RIGHT-TO-KNOW INFORMATION

Parents may request information concerning:

- Professional qualifications of teachers
- Professional qualifications of paraprofessionals
- Student academic achievement information
- State assessment participation

Requests should be directed to the school administration.

ANNUAL NOTICES

Throughout the school year, families may receive additional notices regarding:

- Federal programs
- Student privacy protections
- Assessment participation
- Special education services
- Health requirements
- District policies

These notices may be distributed electronically or in print.

HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Families are encouraged to review this handbook with their child.

The policies, procedures, and expectations outlined in this handbook are intended to support a safe, positive, and productive educational environment.

Southern Fulton School District reserves the right to modify handbook provisions when necessary to comply with changes in law, Board Policy, administrative regulations, or operational needs.
