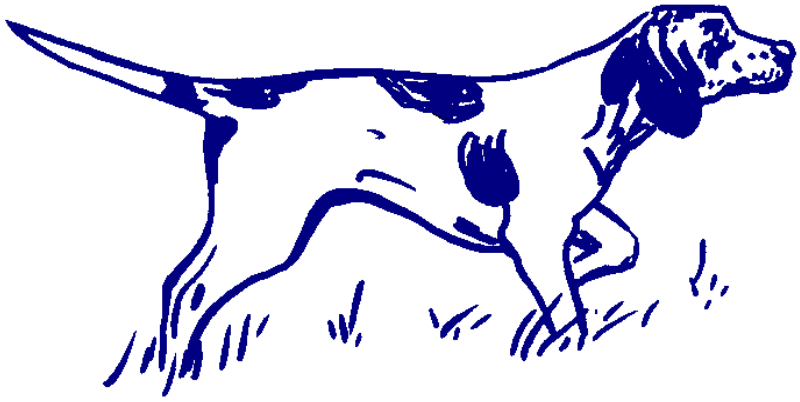
SOUTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL

Student Handbook
2026-2027



“Home of the Pointers”

Spirit

Pride

Respect

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MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of South Point Local School District, a catalyst of change for a caring community, to educate, motivate, and graduate all students with Spirit, Pride, and Respect, preparing them for a successful and productive life.

BELIEF STATEMENT

We believe:

1. It is the responsibility of the school to provide for students an inviting environment, which is safe, secure, and conducive to learning.
2. The school has a reciprocal relationship with the larger community, serving it as a resource center, as well as incorporating the community's resources into its programs.
3. Students deserve a quality education, which prepares them for a successful life regardless of their avocation.
4. While the impact of technology's role in the future is immeasurable, the certainty of its presence requires our best efforts to provide it to our students to the extent possible.
5. We must accept students as they come to us and then help them to identify and develop their unique talents and gifts.
6. Within all components of the school environment, students experience opportunities that challenge and teach them to be responsible, patient, disciplined, tolerant, and to get along with others.
7. All staff members must conscientiously remain alert to the latest educational research and be given opportunities to study it and incorporate whatever is compatible with district programming and standards.
8. Learning as a lifelong endeavor can be achieved by a responsible student who has learned "how to learn."

SOUTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL ALMA MATER

How we love the halls of South Point
That surrounds us here today;
And we will not forget
Though we be far, far away.
In the hallow'd halls of South Point
Every voice will bid farewell;
And shimmer off in twilight
Like the old vesper bell.
One day a hush will fall
The footsteps of us all
Will echo down the halls and disappear;
But as we sadly start our journey far apart
A part of every heart will linger here,
In the sacred halls of South Point
Where we've lived and learned to know;
That thru the years we'll see you
In the sweet afterglow.

HAIL TO THE POINTERS

Forever, Hail to the Pointers
To the golden and the blue,
Faithful and loyal
With you we stand so true.
Forever, Hail to the Pointers,
The team that always fights to win.
Let us fight again
For South Point High
We are the fighting team.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

South Point Local Schools District 2026-2027

Monday & Tuesday, August 17-18	Teacher In-Service
Wednesday, August 19	Start of School
Monday, September 7	Labor Day—SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday, October 12	Teacher In-Service—SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday, October 16	End of 1st Nine Weeks
Monday, November 2	Waiver Day—SCHOOL CLOSED Parent-Teacher Conference in the evening
Tuesday, November 3	General Elections—SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday, Nov. 25 thru Monday, Nov. 30	Thanksgiving Break—SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday, December 21	Christmas Break Begins
Monday, January 4	Classes Resume
Friday, January 8	End of 2nd Nine Weeks and 1st Semester
Monday, January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—SCHOOL CLOSED
Thursday, February 11	Waiver Day—SCHOOL CLOSED Parent-Teacher Conference in the evening
Friday & Monday, February 12-15	President's Day Holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday, March 19	End of 3rd Nine Weeks
Friday, March 26	Good Friday—SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday, March 29 thru Friday, April 5	Spring Break—SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday, May 28	Last Day of School

SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Enrollment at South Point High School is open to children whose parent or legal guardian resides within the South Point Local School District.

New students under the age of 18 must be enrolled by their parent or legal guardian. Copies of the following documentation are required for enrollment:

1. A valid birth certificate or similar document
2. Court papers indicating parental rights or custody (if applicable)
3. Proof of residency
4. Proof of immunization
5. Transcript request – Guidance counselors require permission to request student records in order to have credits transferred.

Student enrollment outside of the District requires authorization from both district's superintendent.

DAILY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The school day begins at 7:53AM and dismisses at 2:30PM.

REGULAR DAY

1st Period	7:53 – 8:43
2nd Period	8:47 – 9:33
3rd Period	9:37 – 10:23
4th Period	10:27 – 11:13
5th Period	11:17 – 12:03
Lunch	12:07 – 12:48
6th Period	12:52 – 1:38
7th Period	1:42 – 2:30

2-HOUR DELAY

1st Period	9:53 – 10:21
2nd Period	10:25 – 10:55
3rd Period	10:59 – 11:29
4th Period	11:33 – 12:03
Lunch	12:07 – 12:48
5th Period	12:52 – 1:22
6th Period	1:26 – 1:56
7th Period	2:00 – 2:30

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARDS

State law requires schools to have emergency medical authorization cards on file for each student. Cards are distributed to students on the first day of school. Parents or legal guardians should complete these cards and return them to school the following day.

Please ensure that all individuals authorized to pick your child up from school are listed on the emergency medical card. Students shall not be released to persons not listed on the medical card, unless acceptable verification can be made with the parent or guardian.

Any specific health care needs—including medications—should be communicated to the school nurse, in writing, and include physician documentation.

STUDENT RELEASE POLICY

Students shall only be released to individuals listed on the student's emergency medical authorization card, unless acceptable written verification can be made with the parent or guardian.

LEGAL RIGHTS OF CUSTODIAL AND NATURAL PARENTS

Students may be permitted to leave or conference with a custodial or natural parent. Unless the school is notified of court orders regarding child custody, the school cannot be held responsible for unknowingly releasing children to non-custodial parents. Custody orders may limit a parent's access to a child; however, natural parents have the right to information such as report cards and teacher conferences.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Student immunization must be current and proper verification of immunization must be on file in the student's records. Immunization exemptions shall only be permitted in accordance with Ohio laws. Students without proper immunization or authorized exemptions may be denied admission to school, as deemed necessary by the building principal or superintendent.

MEDICATIONS FOR STUDENTS

When it is necessary for students to take daily medications during school hours, the following guidelines shall be followed:

1. A written order form for each medication—prescription or non-prescription—must be completed by your child's physician and returned to school before that medication can be given by school personnel. (This includes cough drops, throat lozenges, etc.)
2. Each prescription medication must be sent to school in a properly labeled container from the pharmacy. Non-prescription medication should be sent in its original container.
3. Parent or guardian must also sign parental permission line on physician's sheet for either prescription or non-prescription medication.
4. Only medication that must be given during school hours may be administered at school. Other daily medications are the responsibility of the parent or guardian to administer, unless an IEP or Section 504 team determines necessity otherwise. Emergency medications such as asthma inhalers, Epipens, etc., may be given as needed.
5. Only a parent or guardian can bring or pick up medications at school. No student shall possess any medication on school property, which includes school buses. Any exceptions to this rule must first be approved by school administration.
6. Any unused medication that goes unclaimed by the parent or legal guardian shall be properly disposed of by school personnel when the prescription is no longer administered or at the end of the school year.

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Homeless students will be provided with a free and appropriate public education in the same manner as other students served by the District. Homeless students are eligible to receive transportation services, participate in education programs for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, participate in gifted and talented programs, and receive meals under school nutrition programs. Homeless students will not be denied enrollment based on lack of proof of residency. For additional information contact the liaison for Homeless Students at South Point Board of Education, 302 High Street, South Point, Ohio, or call (740) 377-4315.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

1. Withdrawal forms and information is available from the Guidance Department. This process should begin no later than the day prior to a student's last day in the school.
2. The Withdrawal Form must be completed by each teacher.
3. All school property must be returned to the proper school personnel and all debts owed to the school must be paid before the end of a student's last day. Any property not returned, or not in acceptable condition shall cause a fine to be placed on the student's records.
4. School administration shall declare any student aged 18 years or older as withdrawn if they have missed five (5) consecutive days without notifying the school of their absence.

SCHOOL/HOME COMMUNICATIONS

South Point High School maintains that two-way communications is an essential component in providing the best education for students. The main office should be notified of any changes to any contact information. Parents may receive an automated phone call when their child is absent and the school was not notified of the absence. Providing to the school a valid working phone number is vital. If you believe you are not receiving phone calls or mailings, please contact the main office.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

All persons visiting the school who are not school employees must report to the main office to be approved and issued a visitor's pass. This pass is to be worn by visitors at all times until leaving the property. Anyone in the building without a visitor's pass should be reported to the nearest teacher or office.

Parents are encouraged to volunteer and participate in school functions. Any parent or community member who works or volunteers in the school is required to have a current Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) background check and approval from the Board of Education. Forms are available at the board office.

STUDENT RECORDS AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION

South Point Local School District maintains student records in accordance with the laws and guidelines of the State of Ohio, the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). Access to student records is protected, except in limited circumstances as specifically defined by State and Federal law.

Directory information can be provided upon request to any entity, other than for-profit organizations, even without written consent of a parent.

Parents who do not want their directory information for their child released to colleges, university, and military recruiters should contact the guidance office.

DISCIPLINE

South Point Schools shall make every effort to provide each student with maximum opportunity to acquire an education. No student has the right to interfere with this opportunity by their actions or lack of consideration.

Please be advised that the South Point Local School District has taken a position of "Zero Tolerance" with regard to violence, weapons, drugs, alcohol, gang-related activities, and sexual harassment in our schools.

School rules apply during the regular school day, at extracurricular activities, going to and from school in buses and at any event where South Point High School is represented, regardless of location (this shall include events that occur off school grounds if the event is a continuation of a school-related problem).

School administration shall maintain final decisions in all disciplinary matters. Decisions may be appealed following appropriate Board-approved processes.

STUDENT DRIVING REGULATIONS

South Point Local Schools provides transportation for all students. Students who choose not to take advantage of this service must accept responsibility for arriving to school promptly. Tardiness shall not be excused as a result of automotive trouble or the negligence of an individual to provide a ride.

The student's operation of motorized vehicles involves an assumption of liability on the part of the student and their parents, and a responsibility in the care of property and in the observation of safety rules. South Point Local Schools, its officers, employees, representatives, and agents shall not be responsible for vehicles that are stolen or damaged, and/or for injury, death, or loss to persons or property resulting from a student's operation of the vehicle on school property.

A specific preferred parking space can be reserved in designated student lots for a yearly fee, as determined by school administration.

Students shall observe the following rules regarding driving and parking on school property:

1. Upon completion of appropriate parking forms and payment of applicable fees, students will be assigned a numbered space within designated student lots.
2. Only street-legal vehicles are permissible on school property.
3. Reckless driving (burning tires, speeding, distracted driving, etc.) is strictly prohibited.
4. The speed limit on school grounds is 10 MPH.
5. Once safely parked, students should exit their vehicle and enter the building—loitering in parking areas or vehicles is prohibited.
6. Students shall not leave in their vehicle without administrative approval, or until school has been dismissed for the day.
7. Students are not to use the rear parking lot until 2:45PM.
8. Students are not permitted to use the uppermost front parking lot at any time.
9. All students driving are subject to random drug testing in accordance with district policies.
10. Student-driven vehicles parked on school property are subject to the same privacy limitations as student lockers. The school is not responsible for damage to cars caused by law enforcement canine units.
11. Students who drive to school, but do not report on time or who violate the above rules shall lose their driving privileges at the discretion of school administration.
12. Driving to school is a privilege and **may be revoked at any time at the discretion of School or District administration**. No parking fee refunds will be given when driving privileges are revoked.

NOTE: Any student whose driving privileges are revoked is strictly prohibited from having their vehicle on school grounds.

LOSS OF DRIVER'S LICENSES, PERMITS

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3313.66, whenever a student is suspended or expelled from school for the possession of alcohol, drugs, a deadly weapon or dangerous ordinance, the superintendent may notify the registrar of motor vehicles and the juvenile judge of the county of the suspension or expulsion. After receiving such notification, the registrar of motor vehicles is required to suspend the temporary instruction permit or driver's license of the student who is the subject of the notice. If a temporary permit or license has not been issued for that student, the registrar is prohibited from issuing a temporary permit or license. Driving privileges shall be restored once the superintendent or his designee (principal) notifies the registrar that the student has satisfied any conditions established by the superintendent. Further, any student who has withdrawn from school for a reason other than a change of residence and is not enrolled in and attending an approved program to obtain a diploma or its equivalent, or any student who has been absent without legitimate excuse for more than ten consecutive days or at least fifteen school days may have their driving privileges suspended upon notice by the school superintendent to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

SAFETY/SECURITY

South Point High School is dedicated to providing an environment where students are comfortable learning and feel confident of their safety. The administration shall employ the resources they consider necessary to ensure this environment during the school day and at school functions. These resources may include, but are not limited to, metal detectors, security personnel, drug dog searches, locker searches, police assistance, children's services, and counseling services. These measures shall be used for prevention, or when the administration feels there is a reasonable suspicion for concern.

When deemed necessary by school or district administration, South Point Local Schools will utilize the following lockdown levels:

Level 1 – Students and staff will secure inside the building. There will be no admittance to or exit from the building.

Level 2 – Students and staff will secure inside their classrooms and engage the approved door security system. There will be no movement in the hallways and there will be no admittance to or exit from the building.

Level 3 – Student and staff will secure in-place and engage the approved door security system. There will be no movement within the classroom and there will be no admittance or exit from the building.

HALL PASSES FROM CLASS

Students may have any number of legitimate reasons for leaving class, including, but not limited to use of the bathroom, retrieve items from their locker, or getting a drink from the water fountain. In order to leave class, a student should submit the request to the classroom teacher through the e-hallpass platform. Students out of class shall report only to the destination indicated on their pass. A student who is at a different place than one indicated on their pass will be considered "out of area" and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Students will be limited to ten (10) hall passes per nine-week period. Any student using more than ten passes will be subject to disciplinary action. Students who have valid and documented medical reasons for excessive passes shall be released from the ten-pass limit. Such documentation must be from a licensed physician and should be submitted to the school nurse.

Students who need to speak with the guidance office or school administration for a non-emergency purpose should submit an email to the appropriate personnel, after which the staff member will arrange for a meeting.

Students needing to visit the school nurse for non-emergency purposes should speak with the classroom teacher, who may issue a medical pass (not an e-hallpass) to the nurse. If visits become excessive, the school nurse may request documentation from a licensed physician, or require a conference with parent or guardian.

LOCKERS

Lockers at South Point High School are the property of the school and are subject to random and unannounced searches, including for reasonable suspicion by school administration. This includes searches utilizing trained canine units. Student have no reasonable expectation of privacy in the contents of lockers. Anything found in the course of a search may be used as evidence of a violation of school rules or the law, and shall be taken, held, or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items that have been confiscated during a search.

Students should not reveal their combination to other individuals, and should use only their assigned locker. South Point Local School District is not liable for any lost or stolen items.

FIRE AND TORNADO DRILLS

Fire and tornado drill instructions are posted in each room throughout the school. During an emergency, students shall remain calm and quiet, and follow the instructions of school personnel.

BOOK BAGS AND PURSES

Large bags are considered to be an unnecessary addition to hall and classroom congestion, a fire drill hazard, and a safety risk. Book bags are, therefore, not permitted in the classroom. Any exceptions must have the permission of school administration.

STUDENT PROPERTY AND VALUABLES

Students should not bring personal items of value to school. Valuables are tempting items for theft or extortion. South Point Local School District is not liable for any loss or damage to personal property.

LOST AND FOUND

All articles found should be turned into the main office immediately. Any inquiries regarding items lost on school property should be made to the main office as soon as possible. At the end of the school year, all unclaimed articles shall be donated to community outreach programs.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM

Breakfast is free to all students. Lunch is made available to all students for a fee set by the Board of Education. South Point High School is a participant of the National School Lunch Program, which provides free lunches to those students who qualify. Applications for free or reduced meals are available in the main office. These forms are also sent home with students on the first day of school. *NOTE: Through currently available Federal programs, lunches are free to all South Point students.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

School administration must approve all announcements. No student or school employee should use the public address system unless granted permission by the administration.

SPEAKERS AND RECRUITERS

Representatives of colleges, technical institutes, business schools, vocational or trade schools, military recruiters, etc. are not permitted to talk with students during school hours without prior approval by the principal or the guidance counselors.

Any representative or recruiter found to be pressuring students or providing false or misleading information shall be denied further permission to visit the school. Notification to this effect shall be communicated to the president of the school or to appropriate military personnel.

OFFICE TELEPHONES AND MESSAGES

School telephones are not to be used for personal calls. Students shall not be paged to the office to receive a phone call or message, except for extenuating circumstances.

FIREFIGHTERS: No beepers are permitted at school. Firefighters shall be called over the public address system. All firefighters must have permission slips on file in the school administration office.

STUDENT FEES AND FINES

Students are responsible for ensuring that proper care is taken of school property. If a book or piece of technology is lost or defaced in any manner, the student or their parent or legal guardian is responsible for making payment according to the cost to replace the item with a new one.

Students may be eligible for a waiver of certain fees, including Advanced Placement Exam or ACT Exam fees. Waiver forms are available in the main office.

All student fees and debts shall be paid in-full at the conclusion of each school year. Student debt is defined as, but not limited to, unpaid cafeteria fees, book fees, activity fees, lab fees, library fees, unreturned school property (included athletic/activity uniforms and equipment), and lost or damaged textbooks or school-issued electronic devices.

Failure to pay all fees and debts may result in the withholding of grades and course credits.

ADVERTISING NON-SCHOOL FUNCTIONS

Students wishing to post announcements or advertisements must receive permission from the school principal before doing so and must place postings in an area designated by the principal.

GIFTED EDUCATION AND IDENTIFICATION – Board Policy 2464

The Board of Education shall ensure that procedures are established to identify all gifted students. The District follows the identification eligibility criteria as specified in Section 3324.03 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted Students as specified in the District Plan.

"Gifted" students perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment. Annually, children who are gifted are identified by professionally qualified persons using a variety of assessment procedures. The Board encourages efforts to provide services for the children who are gifted as an integral part of the total kindergarten through grade 12 program.

The Superintendent shall identify children in grades kindergarten through twelve, who may be gifted in one or more of the following areas:

A. Superior Cognitive Ability
B. Specific Academic Ability in one or more of the following content areas:
    1. Mathematics
    2. Science
    3. Reading, writing, or a combination of these skills
    4. Social Studies
C. Creative Thinking Ability
D. Visual or Performing Arts Ability such as drawing, painting, sculpting, music, dance, drama

Only those instruments approved by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce ("DEW") shall be used for screening, assessment, and identification of children who are gifted as provided in the Chart of Approved Gifted Identification/Screening Instruments. The District shall select instruments from the approved list that will allow for appropriate screening and identification of minority and disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and students for whom English is a second language.

Scores on the DEW approved assessment instruments provided by other school districts and trained personnel outside the School District shall be accepted.

The Board of Education shall adopt and the Superintendent shall submit to the DEW a plan for the screening, assessment, and identification of children who are gifted. Any revisions to the District plan will be submitted to the DEW for approval. The identification plan shall include the following:

A. the criteria and methods used to screen and select children for further assessment who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment in one of the gifted areas
B. the sources of assessment data used to select children for further testing and an explanation to parents of the multiple assessment instruments required to identify children who are gifted
C. an explanation for parents of the methods used to ensure equal access to screening and further assessment by all District children, culturally and linguistically diverse children, children from low socio-economic background, children with disabilities, and children for whom English is a second language
D. the process of notifying parents regarding all policies and procedures concerning the screening, assessment, and identification of children who are gifted
E. provision of an opportunity for parents to appeal any decision about the results of any screening procedure for assessment, the scheduling of children for assessment, or the placement of a student in any program or for receipt of services
F. procedures for the assessment of children who transfer into the District
G. provisions for students to withdraw from gifted programs and services
H. at least two (2) opportunities a year for assessment in the case of children requesting assessment or recommended for assessment by teachers, parents, or other students

The District's plan may provide for contracting with any qualified public or private service provider for screening or assessment services under the plan.

The Superintendent shall:

A. ensure equal opportunity for all children identified as gifted to receive any or all services offered by the District;
B. implement a procedure for withdrawal of children from District services and for reassessment of children;
C. implement a procedure for resolving disputes with regard to identification and placement decisions;
D. inform parents of the contents of this policy as required;
E. submit, as required, an annual report to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.

Placement procedures for District services shall be in conformance with the District's written criteria for determining eligibility for placement in those services.

A. Written criteria for determining eligibility for placement in a gifted service shall be provided to any parent, District educator, or the DEW upon request.
B. Written criteria provided by the District shall include an explanation of the methods used to ensure equal access to each gifted service for all eligible District students, including minority or disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and students for whom English is a second language.
C. Services which students receive shall be consistent with their area(s) of identification and shall be differentiated to meet their needs.
D. Subjective criteria such as teacher recommendations shall not be used to exclude a student from service in the superior cognitive and specific academic areas who would otherwise be eligible.
E. All District students who meet the written criteria for a gifted service shall be provided an equal opportunity to receive that service.

The Superintendent shall implement all policies and procedures in accordance with timelines and other requirements of laws, rules and regulations, and follow the *Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted Students*.

The Superintendent shall develop a plan for the service of gifted students enrolled in the District identified under this policy. Gifted services shall occur during the typical instructional day with flexibility allowed for the scheduling of District-approved internships or mentorships and higher education coursework, including credit flexibility. Services specified in the plan may include such options as the following:

A. a differentiated curriculum
B. differentiated instruction
C. cluster groupings
D. mentorships/internships
E. whole grade acceleration (see Policy 5410)
F. subject acceleration (see Policy 5410)
G. early entrance (see Policy 5112)
H. early high school graduation (see Policy 5464)
I. dual enrollment opportunities including but not limited to college credit plus
J. advanced placement/international baccalaureate courses

K. honors classes
L. magnet schools
M. self-contained classrooms
N. resource rooms
O. independent study/educational options
P. advanced online courses and programs
Q. services from a trained art instructor
R. other options identified in the rules of the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce

A Written Education Plan (WEP) will guide the gifted services based on the student's area(s) of identification and individual needs. The Written Education Plan shall:

A. provide a description of the services to be provided;
B. identify staff members responsible for providing that specific services are delivered;
C. implement a procedure for resolving disputes with regard to identification and placement decisions;
D. specify policies regarding the waiver of assignments and the scheduling of tests missed while participating in any gifted services provided outside the general classroom if different from the District policy detailed below;
E. specify a date by which the WEP will be reviewed for possible revision.

The WEP shall be developed in collaboration with an educator who holds licensure or an endorsement in gifted education. The WEP shall include goals for the student, methods and performance measurements for evaluating progress on the goals, and a schedule for reporting progress to students and parents.

Parents and all educators responsible for providing gifted education services to the student, including teachers providing differentiated instruction in general education settings, shall be provided a copy of the WEP.

Students participating in gifted services provided outside the general education classroom will generally be exempted from routine classwork (worksheets, homework, etc.) assigned during absences from the regular classroom due to participation in the gifted services. Students are to turn in work due the day of absence and make arrangements to make up missed tests. Special classwork (projects, book reports, etc.) assigned during the student's absence are to be completed. Exceptions to this policy will be detailed in the student's Written Education Plan.

The District shall report to parents and the DEW that a student is receiving gifted education services only if the services are provided in conformance with the
Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted Students.

Each year, the District shall submit data and participate in program audits as required by the Department.

SPECIAL EDUCATION – Board Policy 2460

The Board of Education is committed to providing a free, appropriate public education ("FAPE") to children with disabilities between the ages of three (3) and twenty-one (21), inclusive, who have been identified in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws, rules, and regulations. This includes children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled from school, failed or been retained in a course or grade, and are advancing from grade to grade. It further includes students with disabilities

who are confined to community corrections facilities or juvenile detention centers. The District shall provide students with disabilities the services to which they are entitled pursuant to their individualized education programs and in accordance with the Operating Standards for Ohio Educational Agencies Serving Children with Disabilities, including Child Find and Evaluation requirements. Students with disabilities who are in adult county jails shall continue to receive FAPE during incarceration, subject to their continued eligibility for services and subject to exceptions related to security and safety.

In order to satisfy the requirements of the Operating Standards for Ohio Educational Agencies Serving Children with Disabilities ("Ohio Operating Standards"), the Board of Education adopts the model policies and procedures promulgated by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce ("DEW"), which is incorporated by reference into this policy. While the Special Education Model Policies and Procedures ("Model Policies") issued by the DEW are comprehensive, the document does not include every requirement set forth in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 ("IDEA"), the regulations implementing the IDEA, the Ohio Operating Standards, the Ohio Revised Code, and/or the Ohio Administrative Code. As such, the Board affirms its obligation to follow these laws and regulations, regardless of whether their provisions are restated in the Model Policies.

SECTION II – ACADEMICS

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The Guidance Department is dedicated to the cultivation of student learning and their development in reaching their personal fulfillment as productive members of society. The Department guides students in making decisions that may affect their post-secondary lives and in understanding the requirements for graduation, its possibilities, and its options.

The guidance facilities are available to every student in the school. Each student is urged to make use of this resource for their educational and vocational planning.

GRADE PLACEMENT

Freshman	0 Credits
Sophomore	1 Credit Minimum
Junior	7 Credits Minimum
Senior	14 Credits Minimum

A minimum of 21 credits is required for graduation.

Grading Scale

A	95-100
A-	91-94
B+	89-90
B	85-88
B-	83-84
C+	80-82
C	76-79
C-	73-75
D+	71-72
D	67-70
D-	65-66
F	0-64

Grade Point Average

A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

Final grade point averages (recorded in permanent records) shall be determined based on final grades earned at the conclusion of the 4th nine-weeks (or 2nd nine-weeks for semester classes).

GRADUATION

The graduation date and time shall be set by the Board of Education. No student shall be able to participate in graduation service who is not receiving a diploma or certificate of attendance at the time of graduation. Certificates of attendance are issued to students who have completed all graduation requirements of the South Point Local School District, but have not passed the required sections of State-mandated testing. Student attire for graduation ceremonies shall be determined by school administration, including the cap and gown colors.

Graduates shall be recognized according to academic distinctions:

- *Summa Cum Laude* (with very high honors) – 3.86-4.0 GPA
- *Magna Cum Laude* (with high honors) – 3.60-3.85 GPA
- *Cum Laude* (with honors) – 3.30-3.59 GPA

Graduation Academic Subject Requirements

ENGLISH	**4 credits**	English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12
MATHEMATICS	**4 credits**	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and 1 additional math
SOCIAL STUDIES	**3 credits**	World History, U.S. History, and American Government
SCIENCE	**3 credits**	Physical Science, Biology, and 1 additional science
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	**½ credit**	2 semesters of P.E. OR completion of a P.E. Waiver
HEALTH	**½ credit**	
FINANCIAL LITERACY	**½ credit**	
ELECTIVES	**5½ credits**	
TOTAL MINIMUM REQUIRED	**21 Credits**	

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

The valedictorian(s) and salutatorian(s) shall be chosen by determining class rankings based from final grades utilizing the averages of the first semester and third 9-week grades. To be designated as valedictorian or salutatorian, a candidate for graduation must have attended South Point High School as a full-time student for no less than three full semesters during any of their sophomore, junior or senior years. The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be selected from students who qualify for a Diploma with Honors.

Valedictorians and salutatorians have the option of presenting a speech at graduation ceremonies. Those students should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Speech length should not exceed five minutes.
- The speech should be positive, ceremonial, and school appropriate.
- Formal language befitting graduation ceremonies should be utilized.
- The message should be delivered to the entire graduating class and assembled audience, not be directed towards individuals.
- All graduation speeches should be submitted to the building principal for review.
- School administration reserves the right to reject any speech that does not meet the above requirements. During graduation ceremonies, administration may stop a student's speech at any point that deviates from the speech submitted and reviewed by the principal.

WSAZ "Best of the Class" Representative

Local news station WSAZ organizes an annual celebration of graduates in an event titled "WSAZ Best of the Class." The station has insisted that each participating school send only one representative. South Point High School's representative will be the class valedictorian. In the event there is more than one valedictorian, the student with the highest ACT superscore shall serve as the representative. If a tie persists, the final decision shall be made by the faculty council.

Ohio Governor's Merit Scholarship (GMS)

The Ohio Governor's Merit Scholarship awards up to $5,000 annually (totaling no more than $20,000) to the top 5% of the graduating seniors, to offer assistance in offsetting the cost of post-secondary education within Ohio. Recipients must sign a commitment to reside and work in Ohio for three years immediately following their college graduation, and maintain a cumulative collegiate GPA of 3.0 or higher while completing 20 credit hours per academic year.

Recipients will be chosen based on cumulative GPA calculated at the end of their junior year. Any ties with the prescribed top 5% of students will be settled based on a student's ACT superscore.

GRADUATE ATTIRE AT COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Those graduating seniors who attend the commencement ceremony should dress in an informal to business casual manner appropriate for the occasion and for school, beneath the school-approved graduation cap and gown. Any alterations to, or deviations from the approved cap and gown must be approved by the principal. Only school-recognized emblems of academic honors (i.e. cords, stoles, medals) are permitted with the cap and gown. Such emblems should be representative of achievements in grades nine through twelve.

School Recognized Honors

- Valedictorian Medal
- Salutatorian Medal
- National Honor Society stole
- National Technical Honor Society stole
- Rho Kappa Honor Society cord
- Mu Alpha Theta Honor Society cord
- Academic Honor emblem (summa cum laude, magna cum laude, cum laude)
- Student Council honor cords
- Project Lead The Way cords
- Teacher Academy cords
- Quiz Bowl cords
- Marshall S.C.O.R.E.S. cords
- Yearbook cords

COLLINS CAREER CENTER CREDIT REQUIREMENT

Any student attending Collins Career Center should have the following credits by the end of their sophomore year: Algebra I, Algebra II, English 9, English 10, Physical Science, Biology, World History, U.S. History, Financial Literacy, Health, Fine Arts, PE I and PE II. The administration has the final decision when a student applies to Collins. All Collins schedule changes must be made prior to the Friday after graduation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER

In lieu of completing a physical education course, a Physical Education Waiver shall be granted to a student who has participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, show choir, or cheerleading for at least two full seasons, or an approved Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program for two years.

To qualify for a Waiver, students must fulfill two seasons of interscholastic athletics or activities to. If a student does not complete two seasons, the student will be required to complete the state-mandated physical education course.

HEALTH EDUCATION

All students must earn ½ credit of Health Education to graduate. This course will include state-mandated first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.

Under Ohio Revised Code 3313.6011(C)(1), the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce requires that student be instructed in course material concerning venereal disease education, pursuant to subsection (A)(5)(c) of section 3313.60 of the Revised Code, to include:

- Stress that students should abstain from sexual activity until after marriage;

- Teach the potential physical, psychological, emotional, and social side effects of participating in sexual activity outside of marriage;
- Teach that conceiving children out of wedlock is likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child's parents, and society;
- Stress that sexually transmitted diseases are serious possible hazards of sexual activity;
- Advise students of the laws pertaining to financial responsibility of parents to children born out of wedlock;
- Advise students of the circumstances under which it is criminal to have sexual contact with a person under the age of sixteen, pursuant to section 2907.04 of the Revised Code; and,
- Emphasize adoption as an option for unintended pregnancies.

For more information, please contact the building principal. A parent refusal form pertaining to this specific area of education is available from the main office.

HONORARY SOCIETIES

National Honor Society

National Honor Society was established for the purpose of recognizing and empowering students who exemplify the four pillars upon which the Society is based: Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. Each National Honor Society applicant must complete a selection form and provide information regarding their participation in the four pillars. The National Honors Society Constitution is available to review in Main Office or from the NHS Faculty Advisor.

A faculty council shall review student application for membership in the Honor Society. Members may be removed from the Society due to non-attendance at required functions, excessive discipline, or behavior that reflects poorly on the South Point National Honor Society. A minimum grade point average of 3.50 must be maintained by members. Academic dishonesty is contrary to the pillars of the Society. Any student found to be cheating shall be prohibited from applying for or induction into the National Honor Society. A member who is found to have cheated will be evaluated for removal from the Society.

Rho Kappa – National Social Studies Honor Society

Rho Kappa (PK) was established for the purpose of fostering enthusiasm for social studies scholarship, provide service, and encourage leadership and character development in students.

Eligibility for membership is based on student academics, attendance, and discipline. For detailed information about membership, please refer to the PK Constitution, available for review in the Main Office or from the PK Faculty Advisor.

Mu Alpha Theta – National Mathematics Honor Society

Mu Alpha Theta (MAΘ) is dedicated to fostering interest in mathematics, encouraging mathematical scholarship, and recognizing advanced achievement.

To be eligible for membership, students must have completed Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry with a 3.0 grade point average. For more detailed membership information, please refer to the MAΘ Constitution, available for review in the Main Office or from the MAΘ Faculty Advisor.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

All schedule change requests should be made to the Guidance Department within the first ten days of the school year (or semester for applicable courses). After ten days, no schedule changes shall be permitted without extenuating circumstances as determined by the school principal. **Permission of school administration is required for ANY schedule change.**

MAKE-UP WORK

1. An absent student shall be permitted to complete make-up work for the timeframe they were absent.
2. A student shall be given the same number of school days as their absence to submit their make-up work.
3. It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher upon the day of their return to determine what work must be completed.
4. Any work that is deemed by the teacher as incapable to be completed may not be calculated into the nine weeks average if the absence is excused.
5. Any long-term project shall be accepted after the due date but with a progressively lower grade. Projects may be turned in prior to the due date. An absence on the project due date must be accompanied by a written excuse upon the student's return for credit to be given.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS

College Credit Plus is a program in which students may earn college-level and high school-level academic credits simultaneously. There are costs associated with this program. For more information, please see a guidance counselor.

College Credit Plus students must be certain that their contact information is current accurate and take responsibility for communicating with guidance counselors concerning special events, application deadlines, graduation, etc.

Students scheduled for College Credit Plus classes should not loiter inside the school building during any downtimes.

SECTION III – ATTENDANCE

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is extremely important and directly correlated to academic success. In many cases, irregular attendance creates an interruption to the academic learning process and is a leading cause for poor academic outcomes. Learning and educational opportunities are utilized through active participation in classroom activities during the school day; therefore, all students are urged to make appointments, complete personal errands, etc., outside of school hours.

The attendance policy reflects appropriate state laws codified in the Ohio Revised Code. Please refer to Board Policy 5200 for a complete explanation of South Point Local Schools' attendance policy.

Participation in Extracurricular Activities, Athletics, Field Trips, and School Dances
Eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities and athletics shall be based on a student's attendance. Students must attend one-half of the school day in order to participate in practice or play.

Students who are considered *habitually truant* or having *excessive absences* shall be prevented from participating in field trips, school dances, or other non-academic functions.

ABSENTEEISM AND TRUANCY

A student will be considered *Habitually Truant* if the student is absent without legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, forty-two (42) or more hours in a school month, or for seventy-two (72) or more hours in a school year.

A truancy complaint shall be filed with the Lawrence County Juvenile Court for students who have been identified as *Habitually Truant*. Additionally, the school may choose to cancel or deny the work permit of said student, and notified the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to withhold or deny the permit or license of said student.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

A student's absence shall be considered excused when legitimate written notification is provided to the school. Parent notes shall be considered legitimate written notification provided:

- The note includes the reason AND dates of the relevant absence;
- The parent's signature is clearly identifiable;
- The note includes the parent or guardian's primary phone number;
- To be considered excused, the note **must** be submitted within **five (5) days** of return to school.

Parent notes shall not be accepted for any student **absent 10% or more** of a school year. The school reserves the right to verify absence statements and investigate the cause of each single or prolonged absence.

The following are considered acceptable reasons for an absence to be considered excused:

- personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the reason may be required)
- illness in the family necessitating the presence of the student at home
- quarantine of the home
- death in the family
- necessary work at home due to the absence or incapacity of the parent or guardian
- observation of a bona fide religious event

- attendance at a driver's education course for up to two hours on no more than four days (limited to a total of eight hours during the school year), provided that the absence does not occur during a core curriculum subject
- good cause as approved by the administration

COURT / LEGAL ABSENCES

Student absences as a result of a court order or legal consultation shall not be used in calculations for Excessive Absences or Habitual Truancy, provided that appropriate legal documentation is submitted within five (5) days of returning to school.

COLLEGE VISITS / JOB SHADOWING

Any student who has planned to conduct a visit to explore their post-secondary education or job shadowing to explore extended aspects of a potential career, should discuss the visit with the Guidance Department. Any visit that is approved by guidance counselors, in consultation with school administration, shall be considered excused and shall not be used in calculations for Excessive Absences or Habitual Truancy, provided that appropriate documentation is submitted to the student's teachers and Guidance Department prior to the college visit or job shadowing experience. The student should provide documentation from the sponsoring institution outlining the date and time of the visit. Students who have an absence rate of ten percent or higher shall be denied an excused absence for the college visit or job shadowing.

SENIOR SKIP DAY

The South Point High School does not sanction or condone senior skip day.

ABSENCE DOCUMENTATION for Transcripts

In accordance with State law, student absences are calculated by hours. However, for the purposes of transcript recording and athlete or extra-curricular participation, absences are counted as half-day and full day, according to the following schedule:

HALF-DAY – A.M. Absence – arriving after the end of 1st period, but before the end of 4th period
P.M. Absence – leaving after the start of 4th period, but before the end of 6th period
FULL DAY – any absence of more than four periods
TARDY – arriving before the end of 1st period
EARLY DISMISSAL – leaving after the start of 7th period

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING AN ABSENCE

If a student must be absent from school, parents and guardians should follow this procedure to help ensure that all students are accounted for:

1. A parent or guardian should notify the school the morning of the absence, preferably before 8:30 am, by calling (740) 377-4323.
2. Students must submit a valid written excuse within five (5) days of their return to school. This note should be notice from a medical professional who treated the student, or be a parent note that meets the following criteria:
    a. The note includes the reason AND dates of the relevant absence;

b. The parent's signature is clearly identifiable; and
c. The note includes the parent or guardian's primary phone number.

TARDY TO SCHOOL and EARLY DISMISSAL (PARTIAL ABSENCE)

South Point Local Schools provides transportation for all student. Students who choose not to take advantage of this service must accept responsibility for arriving to school promptly. Tardiness shall not be excused as a result of automotive trouble or the negligence of an individual to provide a ride. **Student drivers who repeatedly come to school late or frequently leave early may, at the discretion of school administration, have their driving privileges revoked.**

Any student arriving at school after the first period tardy bell should check in at the office. If a student has a valid reason for being tardy, proper documentation should be provided upon arrival. A tardy shall be considered excused for the following reasons, provided proper documentation is submitted:

1. Appointments
2. Attendance of a bona fide religious activity or a funeral
3. Emergency or other circumstance that constitutes good and sufficient cause, as approved by school administration.

Any time a student is dismissed early from school, the parent or guardian shall be notified and give permission. If the student is 18 years or older, parent notification shall still be given as a courtesy. In addition to the excused tardy reasons, the following shall be considered an excused early dismissal:

4. Personal illness – administration permission is required, in consultation with the school nurse.

Any tardy or early dismissal shall be recorded as an unexcused partial absence. In accordance with State guidelines, all absences from school are tracked by the hour. Each nine weeks, beginning with the fourth occurrence of a partial unexcused absence (tardy or early dismissal), students shall be assigned disciplinary consequences for excessive tardiness. Continued partial absences will be considered excessive and shall result in additional disciplinary actions including after-school detention, Saturday School, and alternative school.

LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

1. No student shall be permitted to leave school grounds once they step into a school bus or onto the school premises unless permission is obtained from the office.
2. To obtain permission to leave school grounds a custodial parent must submit a written request. Such request must include the parent's signature and phone number.
3. Students will only be released to their custodial parent or to an adult listed on the student's Emergency Medical Form. No student shall be allowed to take another student home.
4. All students must sign out in the office with permission of school administration. Students who fail to comply shall receive disciplinary action.
5. No student who has a medical disability which is incapacitating will be released without an authorized adult to accompany them.

SECTION IV – STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

South Point High School is dedicated to preparing students to be productive and motivated members of society. Respect for law and for those persons in authority shall be expected of all students. This includes conformity to school rules as well as general provisions of law affecting students. Respect for the rights of others, consideration of their privileges, and cooperative citizenship shall also be expected of all members of the school community. The Board of Education has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior by its students.

School District staff members are authorized to take appropriate disciplinary actions to correct behavior that fails to meet conduct parameters or causes a disruption to the educational process. The Student Code of Conduct is applicable at any time that students are on school property (including transportation) or at any school function, regardless of the location. **School administration shall retain final authority in all matters of discipline and the consequences to students. Students who refuse to comply with disciplinary penalties shall face enhanced penalties for gross insubordination.**

Students who aid or abet others in the violation of school rules and the student code of conduct shall face equal disciplinary consequences as those who committed the offense.

1. Interfering with the orderly operations of the school by using, threatening to use, or causing another person to use violence, force, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, or disruptive means is prohibited.
2. Any threats (verbal, physical, written, or implied) directed toward school personnel or other students is strictly prohibited. Students shall face criminal charges and be required to have a psychological evaluation by a school-approved service provider before they are permitted to return to school.
3. Students shall not possess, attempt to possess, offer for sale, or be under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription drugs, synthetic drugs, or look-alikes at any time.
4. Students shall not possess, smoke, or use tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or vapor products, including on self, in purses, backpacks, gym bags, lockers, or cars.
5. Students shall not participate in any type of aggressive action, which is intended to do physical harm, intimidate, embarrass, or degrade another student or school personnel. If it can be established that a student in a fight was acting in self-defense, the student may receive a lesser penalty or no penalty at all, depending on the circumstances as understood by the school administration.
    a) Any student involved in the creation, storage, or distribution of audio or visual recordings of a fight, will receive the same consequences as those involved in the physical altercation.
6. Candy, gum, food, and drinks shall not be allowed in the classrooms without the teacher's permission. Water is permissible, provided that it is kept in a sealable drink container.
7. Gambling of any kind is prohibited.
8. Stealing or destroying school property or private property is prohibited.
9. Loitering at any time in the school building (including the restrooms or hallways) or on school grounds or adjacent properties is prohibited. (Persons on school property outside of school hours and without proper authorization shall be considered as trespassing.)
10. Bullying, hazing, and sexually harassing other students shall not be tolerated.

11. Students shall not use obscene language (verbal or written), obscene gestures, pictures, signs, or publications.
12. Students must receive permission from school administration to place posters or advertisements in the school. All publications generated using school technology are subject to restrictions or removal by school administration.
13. Students shall not create fake alarms, defined as the act of imitating a fire alarm or initiating a false report warning of a fire or an impending bombing. Violations could lead to prosecution.
14. Students who alter or misuse classroom safety and security devices shall be viewed as inciting panic through the violation of school security procedures. Violations could lead to discipline and/or prosecution.
15. In accordance with Federal Laws, possessing, using, or transmitting any object that, in fact, or under the circumstances, can be considered to constitute a weapon shall lead to disciplinary action. Firearms or weapons in or out of cars, lockers, or on school property shall result in suspension, possible court referral, and involvement of local law enforcement. This includes look-a-like weapons.
16. Paint balls, paintball guns, pellet guns, and the like are not permitted on school grounds.
17. Students shall not be in possession of literature or information, regardless of the source, dealing with devices or techniques that can cause harm or death.
18. Insubordination by students shall not be tolerated. Any request made by school personnel should result in prompt compliance by pupils in a spirit of cooperation. Failure to comply with the directions of school personnel shall lead to disciplinary action. This includes rules instituted by teachers in their classroom.
19. Students shall not knowingly provide false information, make false accusations, or otherwise interfere with a disciplinary investigation.
20. Affection between students is personal and not meant for public display. This includes touching, petting, or any other contact that may be considered sexual in nature. Public displays of affection and sexual activity of any nature is prohibited.
21. No skateboarding or rollerblading on school grounds.
22. Academic dishonesty in any form cannot be tolerated in an academic setting. Students who commit academic dishonesty may face academic penalties or disciplinary actions.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All school work submitted for the purpose of meeting course requirements must be the individual student's original work or the original work of a group of students for group projects. It is prohibited for any student to unfairly advance their own academic performance or that of any other students (Board Policy 5500). Likewise, no student shall intentionally limit or impede the academic performance or intellectual pursuits of other students.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

A. Plagiarism (of ideas, work, research, speech, art, music, etc.)
B. Forgery of another's work
C. Presenting the results that are the product of an artificial intelligence ("AI") platform as one's own where the use of AI was not specifically allowed by the teacher as part of the assignment
D. Downloading or copying information from other sources and presenting it as one's own
E. Using language translation work of someone else or using technology when the expectation is doing one's own translation

F. Copying another person's work or allowing another person to copy one's own work
G. Stealing another person's work
H. Doing another person's work for them
I. Distributing copies of someone else's work, or one's own work for use by others for academic gain or advantage
J. Intentionally accessing another's work for the purpose of presenting it as one's own for academic gain or advantage
K. Distributing or receiving questions from, or answers to quizzes, tests, assessments, etc.

CLASSROOM RULES

The specific requirements for classroom rules may differ based on various learning environments. Teachers shall orient students to their classroom rules to ensure the continuation of an optimal educational environment. Students who do not abide by classroom rules shall be considered insubordinate and susceptible to disciplinary actions.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (including Cell Phones)

Student use of personal electronic devices during the school day is a privilege (Board Policy 5136). The use of personal electronic devices and their accessories (including cell phones, personal tablets, headphones/ear buds, smartwatches, smartglasses, and the like) are discouraged in instructional settings. At no time should a device interrupt the academic environment and the integrity of the classroom. Cell phones and all functions within the device are prohibited in classroom settings without the express permission of the classroom teacher. Faculty should share and review with students their individual classroom policies regarding such devices.

In addition to the policies of individual classrooms, these guidelines shall be in effect in regards to personal electronic devices:

- Audio and visual recordings **are not permitted** at any time during the school day.
- Devices should be placed on silent settings (airplane mode) or be powered off and should not cause a distraction or disruption of the educational process.
- Devices and their accessories should remain out of sight during instructional times.
- Instructional staff shall have authorization to confiscate devices found to be in violation of policies. This confiscation does not include examination of the device's content, except as prescribed in state and federal law.
- Students shall not use their personal device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, from within or outside of the classroom, or violates the rights of others, including but not limited to (Board Policies 5136 and 5517.01):
    - violation of academic honesty
    - violation of the code of conduct
    - harassing or bullying students or staff
    - photographing or video recording
    - using their device for unlawful purposes
- Student shall not use their personal device to engage in a phone conversation without the express permission of school administration. Parents desiring to reach their child should do so by contacting the main office (Board Policy 5136).

- Violation of personal electronic device guidelines will result in disciplinary action as determined by the classroom teacher and school administration. Staff may at any time confiscate a device that violates this policy and are encouraged to notify the parent. Disciplinary actions should include, but not be limited to:
    - 1st Offense – Student may pick up device at the end of the school day, and will serve one lunch detention.
    - 2nd Offense – Student may pick up device at the end of the school day, and will serve two lunch detentions.
    - 3rd Offense – Student may pick up device at the end of the school day, and will serve one after-school or before school detention.
    - 4th Offense – Student will serve one day of Saturday School detention. Parent must pick up the device.
    - Continued offenses will constitute gross insubordination, resulting in additional disciplinary consequences.

CAFETERIA RULES

Students are expected to maintain appropriate meal decorum while eating in the cafeteria, including:

1. Lunches are closed, meaning students shall not leave the building for lunchtime.
2. Remain seated unless retrieving food, returning trays, or other like reasons.
3. Students may choose to bring their own lunch; however, food deliveries are not permissible.

RESTROOM GUIDELINES

The following guidelines should be followed when visiting restroom facilities:

1. Teacher permission is required to leave class.
2. Students should maintain appropriate behavior. Intentionally disturbing or embarrassing other students it not acceptable.
3. Loitering is prohibited—students should not spend extended time in restrooms.
4. Bathroom stalls are intended for use by individuals. At no time should more than one student be in a bathroom stall.

ANTI-GANG POLICY

The Board believes gangs or gang activity create an atmosphere where violations of policies, regulations and State laws may occur. Gangs that initiate, advocate or promote activities that threaten the safety or well-being of persons or that are disruptive to the school environment are not tolerated by the District. Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidations and/or related activities of such group affiliations that are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm are prohibited.

No gang insignia shall be worn or carried by any student on school grounds at any time. This includes, but is not limited to:

- jackets, headbands, shirts, or other clothing that have come to be identified with a gang
- visible tattoos or other material imprinted on the body, which is offensive, should be removed or covered
- medallions or other jewelry, which identify gang members or otherwise represent a gang

Students in violation of this regulation shall be immediately removed from school grounds until such time as the offensive insignia are removed. Students who refuse to remove or dispose of the insignia shall be suspended. Repetition of this offense shall result in expulsion and court referral.

GRAFFITI

Students are not permitted to put graffiti anywhere at the school. This includes books, walls, tables, or any other surface at school. Any student discovered to be with another student at the time the graffiti is applied shall be suspended up to 10 days.

FIRST OFFENSE:

1. Conferences with parents and up to a 10-day suspension.
2. Charges filed for Criminal Damaging.
3. Parents and students shall be held liable for the damage and are responsible for paying any costs of having the damage professionally removed or repaired.

SECOND OFFENSE

1. Possible expulsion.
2. Charges filed for Criminal Damaging.
3. Parents and students shall be held liable for the damage and are responsible for paying any costs of having the damage professionally removed or repaired.

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL – Policy 5772

The Board of Education prohibits students from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon, including a concealed weapon, in a school safety zone and any setting that is under the control and supervision of the Board for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the Board including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the Board, a school-sponsored event, or in a Board-owned vehicle.

The term 'weapon' includes any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, guns of any type whatsoever, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, incendiary devices, explosives, and other objects defined as dangerous ordnances under State law.

Policy exceptions include:

A. items pre-approved by the building principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, if used for the purpose and in the manner approved (working firearms and any ammunition will never be approved as a part of a presentation);
B. theatrical props used in appropriate settings.

Students shall report any information concerning weapons and/or threats of violence by students, staff members, or visitors to the Principal/Teacher. Failure to report such information shall subject the student to disciplinary action.

The Superintendent is authorized to establish instructional programs on the weapons and the requirement that students immediately report knowledge of weapons and threats of violence by students and/or staff to the building principal.

The Superintendent will refer any student who violates this policy to the student's parents or guardians and to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system. The student shall also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

ANTI-HARASSMENT, ANTI-INTIMIDATION, ANTI-BULLYING

It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain an education and work environment that is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. This commitment applies to all School District operations, programs, and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging, and reporting any form of unlawful harassment. This policy applies to unlawful conduct occurring on school property, or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the Board.

The Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against discriminatory harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, age, religion, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, Protected Classes) that are protected by Federal civil rights laws (hereinafter referred to as unlawful harassment), and encourages those within the School District community as well as Third Parties, who feel aggrieved to seek assistance to rectify such problems. The Board will investigate all allegations of harassment and in those cases where unlawful harassment is substantiated, the Board will take immediate steps to end the harassment, prevent its reoccurrence, and remedy its effects. Individuals who are found to have engaged in unlawful harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

The Board will also take immediate steps to impose disciplinary action on individuals engaging in any of the following prohibited acts:

A. Retaliating against a person who has made a report or filed a complaint alleging unlawful harassment, or who has participated as a witness in a harassment investigation.
B. Filing a malicious or knowingly false report or complaint of unlawful harassment.
C. Disregarding, failing to investigate adequately, or delaying investigation of allegations of harassment, when responsibility for reporting and/or investigating unlawful harassment charges comprises part of one's supervisory duties.

Bullying rises to the level of unlawful harassment when one or more persons systematically and chronically inflict physical hurt or psychological distress on one (1) or more students or employees and that bullying is based on one (1) or more Protected Classes, that is, characteristics that are protected by Federal civil rights laws. It is defined as any unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior, including any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by an adult or student, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or work environment; cause discomfort or humiliation; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school or work performance or participation, and may involve:

A. teasing;
B. threats;
C. intimidation;
D. stalking;
E. cyberstalking;
F. cyberbullying;
G. physical violence;
H. theft;
I. sexual, religious, or racial harassment;
J. public humiliation; or
K. destruction of property

Harassment means any threatening, insulting, dehumanizing gesture, use of technology, or written, verbal, or physical conduct directed against a student or school employee that:

A. places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property;
B. has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, or an employee's work performance; or
C. has the effect of substantially disrupting the order operation of a school.

Sexual Harassment, as is consistent with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, is defined as:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when:

A. Submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, or status in a class, educational program, or activity.
B. Submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for employment or educational decisions affecting such individual.
C. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity.

Sexual harassment may involve the behavior or a person of any gender against a person of the same or another gender.

Examples of the kinds of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

A. Unwelcome sexual propositions, invitations, solicitations, and flirtations.
B. Unwanted physical and/or sexual contact.
C. Threats or insinuations that a person's employment, wages, academic grade, promotion, classroom work assignments, academic status, participation in athletics or extra-curricular programs, activities, or events, or other conditions of employment or education may be adversely affected by not submitting to sexual advances.
D. Unwelcome verbal expressions of a sexual nature, including graphic sexual commentaries about a person's body, dress, appearance, or sexual activities; the unwelcome use of sexually degrading language, profanity, jokes or innuendoes; unwelcome suggestive or insulting sounds or whistles; obscene telephone calls.
E. Sexually suggestive objects, pictures, graffiti, videos, posters, audio recordings or literature, placed in the work or educational environment that may reasonably embarrass or offend individuals.
F. Unwelcome and inappropriate touching, patting, or pinching; obscene gestures.
G. Asking about, or telling about, sexual fantasies, sexual preferences, or sexual activities.
H. Speculations about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history.
I. Giving unwelcome personal gifts such as lingerie that suggest the desire for a romantic relationship.
J. Leering or staring at someone in a sexual way, such as staring at a person's breasts, buttocks, or groin.

K. A pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another.
L. In the context of employees, consensual sexual relationships where such relationship leads to favoritism of a subordinate employee with whom the superior is sexually involved and where such favoritism adversely affects other employees or otherwise creates a hostile work environment.
M. Inappropriate boundary invasions by a District employee or other adult member of the School District community into a student's personal space and personal life.
N. Verbal, nonverbal or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping that does not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

Not all behavior with sexual connotations constitutes unlawful sexual harassment. Sex-based or gender-based conduct must be sufficiently severe, pervasive, and persistent such that if adversely affects employment or educational environment.

Other forms of Harassment occur when unwelcome physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct is based on an individual's race, color, religion, creed, national origin/ancestry, or disability and when the conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with the individual's work or educational performance; of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, and/or learning environment; or of interfering with one's ability to participate in or benefit from a class or an educational program or activity. **Racial Harassment** may occur where conduct directed at the characteristics of a person's race or color, such as racial slurs, nicknames implying stereotypes, epithets, and/or negative references relative to racial customs. **Religious (Creed) Harassment** may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's religious tradition, clothing, or surnames, and/or involves religious slurs. **National Origin/ Ancestry Harassment** may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's national origin or ancestry, such as negative comments regarding customs, manner of speaking, language, surnames, or ethnic slurs. **Disability Harassment** may occur where conduct is directed at the characteristics of a person's disability, such as negative comments about speech patterns, movement, physical impairments or defects/appearances, or the like. Such harassment may further occur where conduct is directed at or pertains to a person's genetic information.

The **Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers** for South Point Local School District are designated by the Board of Education to be the Pre-school Director and Assistant Superintendent, either of whom may be contacted at 302 High Street, South Point, Ohio, or by calling (740) 377-4315.

DATING VIOLENCE

Dating violence is defined as a pattern of behavior where a person uses or threatens physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional control of the person's dating partner.

DRESS AND GROOMING POLICY

The Board of Education recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference (Board Policy 5511). Dress and grooming guidelines shall promote discipline, maintain order, secure the safety of students, and provide a healthy environment conducive to academic purposes.

1. Headwear including hats, hoods, bandanas, helmets, masks and other head garments are not to be carried or worn in school. Adjustments will be made to accommodate documented medical conditions, and religious or cultural practices.

2. Sunglasses are prohibited inside the building unless necessary for a documented medical condition (i.e., concussion protocols).
3. Clothing of excessively exposing nature that disrupts a healthy environment conducive to academic purposes is prohibited.
4. Shorts or skirts that extend up the leg higher that thumb-tip length are not permitted.
5. Lower-body garments shall not have holes higher than thumb-tip length.
6. Undergarments beneath shorts shall not extend past the length of the shorts.
7. Hard-soled footwear is required, unless explicitly exempted by administration.
8. No clothing shall be worn with inappropriate wording or images, including, but not limited to:
    a. Profanity
    b. Illegal or immoral images
    c. Words or images promoting violence (including images of weapons)
    d. Words or images that are drug, alcohol, tobacco (including devices used for inhaling vapor), or sex related
    e. Images or wording that is considered disruptive or inappropriate in an academic setting
9. Armbands are prohibited.
10. Blankets are prohibited in the building.
11. No gang insignia shall be worn or carried on school property.

The school administration shall be the arbiter of student dress and grooming.

DETENTION

Lunch Detention

1. Lunch detention shall be held in a quiet space.
2. Students are expected to report to lunch detention at the beginning of their lunch break.
3. Students are prohibited from using personal electronic devices in lunch detention.
4. Computers shall only be used at the discretion of the supervising teacher.
5. Violation of the rules set by the supervising teacher shall result in additional disciplinary actions, including after-school detention and alternative school.

After-School Detention and Morning Detention

1. **After-school detention** shall begin at 2:35PM and end at 4:35PM. Students assigned after-school detention may go to their locker for study materials, then report immediately to the assigned room after last period. Students shall not leave the building between last period and after-school detention. Normally scheduled days are Tuesday and Thursday with adjustments as required. Students must bring books or materials to study.
   Morning Detention shall begin at 6:35AM and end at 7:35AM. Students will be met by the supervising teacher at the main entrance and escorted to the assigned room. Students will report directly to the cafeteria at 7:35, and are not permitted to leave the building. Morning detention will be scheduled on an as-needed basis.
2. Student must attend on their date assigned.
3. The school administration must approve requests for non-attendance <u>before</u> the assigned date. Reason for excuses shall include, medical appointments, a death in the family or emergencies excused by the school administration. Work related conflicts must be approved by the school administration in advance. If the work reason is unexcused, additional time shall be assessed.
4. For violation of any rules that are set forth by the supervising teacher, a student may be removed and additional disciplinary actions shall be taken.

5. Alternative school placement does not negate previously assigned detentions or placements.
6. Students must keep busy. The teacher shall review each student's study materials to ensure appropriateness.

SATURDAY SCHOOL

Students shall be required to attend Saturday School for both disciplinary or truancy issues.

1. Student should report to school promptly at 8:00AM. The supervising teacher will meet students at the building's main entrance.
2. Transportation to and from Saturday School will not be provided and are the responsibility of the student and their parent or guardian.
3. Student must attend on their date assigned.
4. The school administration must approve requests for non-attendance before the assigned date. Reason for excuses shall include, medical appointments, a death in the family or emergencies excused by the school administration. Work related conflicts must be approved by the school administration in advance. If the work reason is unexcused, additional time shall be assessed.
5. For violation of any rules that are set forth by the supervising teacher, a student may be removed and additional disciplinary actions shall be taken.
6. Alternative school placement does not negate previously assigned detentions or placements.
7. Students must keep busy. The teacher shall review each student's study materials to ensure appropriateness.

LAWRENCE COUNTY ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

Students may be required to attend the Lawrence County Alternative School or be referred to Juvenile Court for violations of the student handbook. If permission is not given to attend the Lawrence County Alternative School, students shall be automatically referred to juvenile court and suspended.

SUSPENSION/ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/EXPULSION

Students who have been suspended from school or assigned to the Alternative School shall not be eligible to participate in, or attend any school function for the duration of such disciplinary action. Additionally, suspension or expulsion may affect a student's driving privileges. Schools may request that students be assigned to "community service" work detail at the high school while on suspension.

STUDENT APPEAL PROCESS

Any student who feels justified in challenging the disciplinary actions initiated by school staff should follow the appeals process outlined below:

1. Request a meeting with the teacher after class or during teacher planning time to discuss the problem. Upon student request, the teacher shall hold the referral for up to 1 day to allow for such discussion.
2. If unresolved, the student should have their parents contact the school to set up a conference with the teacher during the teacher's conference period.
3. After the parent/guardian conference, if the problem is not resolved, parents or guardian should contact the school to arrange a meeting with school administration.
4. If unresolved after meeting with school administration, parents or guardians should arrange to meet with the superintendent of schools.

SECTION V – STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Student participation in extracurricular, interscholastic, co-curricular, and athletic activities is a privilege and not a guarantee. **School and/or District administration reserve the right to deny participation in any school activity to any student**.

The following is a list of student organizations and clubs offered at South Point High School. This should not be considered an exhaustive list of available options.

Band (marching and symphonic)
Chess Club
Dance Team
Marshall S.C.O.R.E.S.
Meal Makers
Mu Alpha Theta
National Honor Society
Pointer News
Positivity Club
Powerlifting
Prom Committee
Quiz Bowl
Renaissance Club
Rho Kappa
Student Council
Yearbook

The following is a list of interscholastic athletic options available at South Point High School.

Baseball
Basketball (girls / boys)
Bowling (girls / boys)
Cheer
Cross Country (girls / boys)
Football
Golf (girls and boys)
Indoor Track & Field (girls / boys)
Soccer (girls / boys)
Softball
Track & Field (girls / boys)
Volleyball
Wrestling

ATHLETICS

South Point High School provides a variety of athletic opportunities to students who meeting eligibility requirements set by the Board of Education and the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). Athletic participation is a privilege, not a right, and students shall be prohibited from participation by authorized school personnel, without notice, and in accordance with Board policies.

Any questions concerning athletics should be addressed to the Athletic Director.

Academic Eligibility

In order to be eligible to participate in athletics, a student must not have received a failing grade in five (5) out of seven (7) courses for the grading period prior to the grading period in which the student wishes to participate.

Attendance Eligibility

Student athletes must attend one-half of the school day in order to participate in contests or practices on the day of the event.

Student athletes who have accumulated 72 or more hours of unexcused absences in a year or 42 hours in a month may be ineligible to participate.

BAND

Marching band members shall follow the same OHSAA and Board of Education athlete criteria for participation in Marching Band and Symphonic Band or any extracurricular band activities.

SCHOOL DANCES

Guidelines for PROM and HOMECOMING:

- Homecoming shall be available to all South Point High School students.
- Prom shall be available to South Point junior and seniors.
  - Juniors and seniors may invite guests to Prom who are at least freshman level or graduated no more than two years prior and shall be under the age of 21 on the date of the dance.
- Students who wish to bring a date who is not a current SPHS student must submit a completed date request form to the main office no later than two weeks before the dance. All requests to invite a guest are subject to approval by school administration. It is the requesting student's responsibility to provide contact information of their guest.
- Additional charges may be assessed for non-SPHS juniors and seniors.

OTHER DANCES: All other dances shall be attended by SPHS students only.

For ALL school dances:

- Students who leave the building without permission, shall not be readmitted to the dance. Any non-SPHS student shall be asked to leave when their SPHS date leaves.
- Specific dress codes for dances may be obtained from the event sponsor.
- **School administration reserves the right to deny admission to any student or guest.**

ASSEMBLIES

The student body, as a whole or in part, will be required to assemble, as determined by school administration. During assembles, students are expected to:

1. Enter and exit the area in an orderly fashion.
2. Seniors will enter the assembly last, and exit first. During senior processional and recessional, students will stand out of respect.
3. Afford the presenters the respect of the students' full attention.
4. Student will stand during the playing of the National Anthem, during the Pledge of Allegiance, during the playing of the South Point Alma Mater or South Point Fight Song, or at any other time when deemed appropriate by conventional customs.
5. Student will, at all times, conduct themselves in a respectable and disciplined manner appropriate to school functions.
6. The attendance at assemblies is a privilege that can be revoked by school administration.

FUNDRAISERS

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities may solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. The following general rules apply to all fundraisers:

1. Crowdfunding activities are governed by Policy and Administrative Guideline 6605.
2. Students involved in the fundraiser must not interfere with students participating in other activities when soliciting funds.
3. Students shall not participate in fundraising activity for a group in which they are not members without the approval of the activity advisor.
4. Students shall not participate in fundraising activities off school property without proper supervision by approved staff or other adults.
5. Students shall not engage in house-to-house canvassing for any fundraising activity.
6. Students may only participate in fundraisers authorized for school or district administration.

FIELD TRIPS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students leaving the school grounds for educational field trips and/or athletic events project an image of South Point High School and the South Point Community. Chaperones and/or coaches shall ask students to comply with additional behavior guidelines or dress codes that might promote a positive image of SPHS. Students must submit unaltered parent permission slip before participating in a field trip. A parent or guardian's signature on the handbook form indicates approval for teachers to take your student to South Point Elementary, Burlington Elementary, or South Point Middle schools, or the Briggs Library Southern Branch to help with tutoring or further research without the signing of an additional permission slip. Students experiencing academic difficulties, discipline, or attendance issues shall be denied field trip privileges by school administration.

Student participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that may be revoked by administration, particularly for disciplinary, academic, and attendance issues. Students are responsible for any work missed while attending a field trip.

SECTION VI – TRANSPORTATION

BUSES

The school provides free transportation to and from the school to all students enrolled in South Point Local School District. Bus schedules and riding assignments are available from the Transportation Department.

Students shall only ride their assigned buses, and must board and depart from their assigned pick-up points. Students shall not ride different buses without a written note from a parent or guardian (signed, dated, and with a valid telephone number), pending approval by school administration. Bus notes should be provided to the main office at the beginning of the school day. Any note that is late or not verifiable may be rejected and the student shall be required to ride their assigned bus.

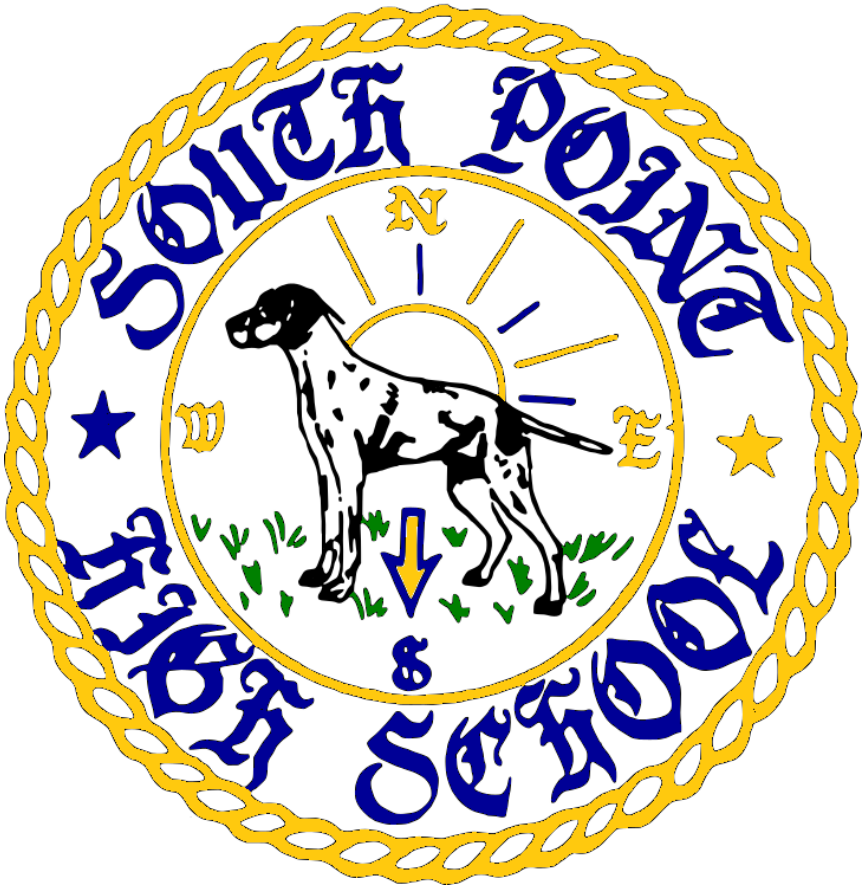
CONDUCT

While traveling on school transportation, students shall continue to abide by all school rules and codes of conduct, in addition to any rules set forth by the bus driver. Violation of rules shall result in disciplinary actions.

Drivers have the right to assign seats, permanent or temporary.

VIDEO RECORDING ON BUSES

South Point school buses are equipped with video recording devices to monitor student behavior. Recordings shall be used as evidence by school administration or law enforcement agencies.


SOUTH POINT
HIGH SCHOOL
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PLEASE REMOVE THIS PAGE AND RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE SCHOOL

STUDENT HANDBOOK FORM

This handbook is provided as a reference for students and parents of South Point High School.

By signing below, the student and parent agree that they have been provided a copy of this Handbook and understand the rules and guidelines set therein. Additionally, they understand that any questions or concerns about this Handbook or school policies should be referred to building administration. Further, they acknowledge that this Handbook does not represent the total extent of school rules and policies as set by the South Point Board of Education and State and Federal laws.

NOTE: Failure to sign or return this form does not release the student from the obligations of the rules and guidelines of South Point High School.

LIMITATIONS: This Handbook shall remain in effect until a revision or replacement is adopted by the South Point Board of Education.

_____
Student's Printed Name

_____ _____
Student's Signature Date

_____ _____
Parent or Guardian's Signature Date

SOUTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL
983 County Road 60
South Point, Ohio 45680
Phone (740) 377-4323
Fax (740) 377-3228