

# Northside High School



# Student Handbook

# NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL



## GRIZZLIES

### **Student Handbook**

#### **Mission Statement**

Northside High School is a learning community that equips, encourages, and empowers all individuals to reach their full potential.

*Revised July 2026*

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## TRANSCRIPTS

Official transcripts are required by most colleges, universities, and places of employment. To request an official transcript, a completed Transcript Request form must be submitted to the Registrar's office. The Transcript Request form can be obtained from the Northside High School website, the office, or in the student handbook. The cost for a transcript is \$1.00 for currently active students and \$2.00 for non-active students. ***There is a 48-hour processing window to complete the transcript request.***

## TRANSCRIPT REQUEST GUIDELINES

### TO REQUEST A TRANSCRIPT:

#### STUDENTS OVER 18

- ✓ Must have written request faxed, mailed or brought in to include date of birth, year of graduation, dated and signed.
- ✓ Once a student is 18 and is no longer an active student, a parent cannot request a transcript without written permission.

#### STUDENTS UNDER 18

- ✓ Parent, guardian, or student may request without written permission.
- ✓ Schools, courts, military may request a transcript or proof of student enrollment, but must fax or mail a written request.
- ✓ NCAA may request by fax or mail.

## VERIFICATION OF GRADUATION

- ✓ Companies must fax or mail a verification request including name at time of graduation, date of birth and graduation year. No graduation information will be verified by phone or email.

**Northside High School**  
**2301 North B Street**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72901**  
**Phone 479-783-1171**  
**www.fortsmithschools.org**

**HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT REQUEST**

PLEASE ALLOW **48 HOURS** TO PROCESS REQUEST.

*Cost is \$2.00 per copy for Graduates and \$1.00 per copy for current students.*

I AM REQUESTING A COPY OF MY TRANSCRIPT:

Student Name (print \_\_\_\_\_)

Maiden Name (print \_\_\_\_\_)

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_ or Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

If you did not graduate, provide year and grade of last attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING DELIVERY METHODS:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up \_\_\_\_\_ copies Note: Please pick up in the Registrar's Office

Circle one:            In sealed envelope            or            unsealed

\_\_\_\_\_ Please fax a copy to: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Picked up by designee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(must show ID)

Please mail a copy to the following address:

Name of College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Please attach any additional school addresses to the back\*\*ARE  
THERE ADDITIONAL MAILING ADDRESSES ATTACHED?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

# NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

## **Administration**

### ***Principal***

Marshal Hurst

### ***Assistant Principals***

Nikki Kilgore

Meghan Reinhart

Ryan Solley

Diego Olivarez

### ***Dean Of Students***

Ben Goode

### ***Counseling Staff***

Heather Brown

Ana Martinez

Sarah Ray

James Schneider

Eva Smith

Karen Vicéns

### ***Office Administrator Assistants***

Heather Williamson—Principal

Misty Dunn—Finance

Sheila Roper—Registrar

Martha Elizondo

Deysi Gonzalez

Yadhira Ibarra

Jeanette Mendez

Carrie Mounce

Norma Uribe

Gayle Watkins

## BELL SCHEDULE

With 2 Lunches

|            |                  |
|------------|------------------|
| 1st Period | 8:05-9:00 (55)   |
| 2nd Period | 9:05-10:00 (55)  |
| 3rd Period | 10:05-11:00 (55) |
| 4th Period | 11:05-12:00 (55) |
| 5th Period | 12:00-1:30 (90)  |
| A Lunch    | 12:00-12:30 (30) |
| A Class    | 12:35-1:30 (55)  |
| B Class    | 12:05-1:00 (55)  |
| B Lunch    | 1:00-1:30 (30)   |
| 6th Period | 1:35-2:30 (55)   |
| 7th Period | 2:35-3:30 (55)   |

## THINGS TO DO! *Think about joining...*

### Clubs and Organizations

American Political Leaders  
Art  
Bleacher Creatures  
Chess  
Coding  
DECA  
Educators Rising  
FCA  
FCCLA  
French  
French Honor Society  
Green Grizzlies  
HOSA  
Ladies of Excellence (LoE)  
Mu Alpha Theta  
Multicultural  
National Art Honor Society  
National Honor Society  
National Technical Honor Society  
P7 Club  
Partners in Christ  
Red Shoe Society  
Renaissance

### Clubs and Organizations

STAT  
Skills USA  
Spanish Honor Society  
Thespians Society

### Councils

Student  
Senior  
Junior  
Sophomore  
Freshman

### Activities

Debate  
Drama  
Esports  
JROTC  
Newspaper  
Robotics  
GNN  
Yearbook  
Quiz Bowl

### Music

Band  
Choir  
Orchestra

### Sports

Baseball  
Basketball  
Bowling  
Cheerleading  
Cross Country  
Football  
Golf  
N'Stepper  
Soccer  
Softball  
Swimming  
Tennis  
Track  
Volleyball  
Wrestling



# 2026-2027 DISTRICT CALENDAR ALTERNATE FORMAT\*

- No School
- Parent-Teacher (PT) Conferences 3:30 - 6:30 PM
- School Begins & Ends

| AUGUST 2026 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M           | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
|             |    |    |    |    |   |   |
| 3           | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |   |   |
| 10          | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |   |   |
| 17          | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |   |   |
| 24          | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |   |   |
| 31          |    |    |    |    |   |   |

12: First Day of School

| SEPTEMBER 2026 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M              | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
|                | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |   |   |
| 7              | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |   |   |
| 14             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |   |   |
| 21             | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |   |   |
| 28             | 29 | 30 |    |    |   |   |

7: Labor Day

| OCTOBER 2026 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M            | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
|              |    |    |    |    |   |   |
| 5            | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |   |   |
| 12           | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |   |   |
| 19           | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |   |   |
| 26           | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |   |   |

12: PT Conf (MS/HS)  
13: PT Conf (Elem)  
15: PT Conf (All Schools)  
16, 19: Fall Break

| NOVEMBER 2026 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M             | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
| 2             | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |   |   |
| 9             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |   |   |
| 16            | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |   |   |
| 23            | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |   |   |
| 30            |    |    |    |    |   |   |

2: No School  
23-27: Thanksgiving

| DECEMBER 2026 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M             | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
|               | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |   |   |
| 7             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |   |   |
| 14            | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |   |   |
| 21            | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |   |   |
| 28            | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |   |   |

18: Semester Ends  
21-31: Winter Break

| JANUARY 2027 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M            | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
|              |    |    |    |    |   |   |
| 4            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |   |   |
| 11           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |   |   |
| 18           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |   |   |
| 25           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |   |   |

1-5: Winter Break  
6: Return to School  
18: MLK Jr. Holiday

| FEBRUARY 2027 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M             | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |   |   |
| 8             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |   |   |
| 15            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |   |   |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |   |   |

15: No School

| MARCH 2027 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M          | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
| 1          | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |   |   |
| 8          | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |   |   |
| 15         | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |   |   |
| 22         | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |   |   |
| 29         | 30 | 31 |    |    |   |   |

15: PT Conf (MS/HS)  
16: PT Conf (Elem)  
18: PT Conf (All Schools)  
22-26: Spring Break

| APRIL 2027 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|------------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M          | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
|            |    |    |    |    |   |   |
| 5          | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |   |   |
| 12         | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |   |   |
| 19         | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |   |   |
| 26         | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |   |   |

2: No School

| MAY 2027 |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|----------|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| M        | T  | W  | TH | F  | S | S |
| 3        | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |   |   |
| 10       | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |   |   |
| 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |   |   |
| 24       | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |   |   |
| 31       |    |    |    |    |   |   |

13: Southside Graduation  
14: Northside Graduation  
21: Last Day of School  
31: Memorial Day

## SCHOOL YEAR

1st quarter: 42 days/ 266 hours  
2nd quarter: 42 days/ 266 hours  
3rd quarter: 46 days/ 291.33 hours  
4th quarter: 44 days/ 276.66 hours  
Total: 174 days/ 1102 hours

**SCHOOL DAY**  
Elementary School  
8:00 - 3:00 (390 minutes)  
Middle School  
8:05 - 3:30 (387 minutes)  
High School  
8:05 - 3:30 (380 minutes)

Inclement Weather: The District is required to show 30 hours of make-up time in the event of inclement weather or other emergency circumstances. If the Superintendent cancels school, all 30 hours of instructional time are built into the calendar that would not need to be made up. If additional time is necessary to be made up, May 24-28 may be used or time may be added to the remaining instructional days at the discretion of the Superintendent.

In case of excessive inclement weather, please schedule summer travel after May 31st.

\*The alternate format calendar allows the district to use instructional minutes to determine the school calendar.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The school is a community, and the rules and regulations of a school are the laws of that community. All those enjoying the rights of citizenship in the school community must also accept the responsibilities of citizenship. A basic responsibility of those who enjoy the rights of citizenship is to respect the laws of the community. All any school has to offer is the opportunity for people to learn.

Conference - At no time should you be in doubt of your child's progress. If you have questions or feel that there has been a misunderstanding, please call the school for an appointment with the teacher, counselor, or principal.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

A student must earn at least twenty-three (22) credits in grades 9-12 to be graduated from a Fort Smith high school. Only one (1) physical education credit may count toward graduation. These credits must include:

**ENGLISH** — four (4) credits

**SOCIAL STUDIES** — three (3) credits - one (1) United States History, one (1) World History and one-half (1/2) Civics, (1/2) Economics.

**MATHEMATICS** — four (4) credits - Must include one (1) credit of Algebra I , one (1) credit of and one (1) credit of Geometry.

**SCIENCE** — three (3) credits - Must include one (1) credit of biology and one (1) credit of physical science, chemistry or physics.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** — one-half (1/2) credit of physical education. One (1) credit of Marching Band may be applied to the P.E. requirement or one (1) credit of JROTC may be applied to the P.E. requirement.

**HEALTH** — one-half (1/2) credit

**FINE ARTS** — one-half (1/2) credit

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** — one-half (1/2) credit

**CAREER FOCUS** — six (6) credits

### **Graduation Dress Code**

Men: In slacks Dark/Khaki, Dark Dress Shoes-No Tennis Shoes, Collared Dress Shirt, Tie  
Optional

Women: Slacks/Dress/Skirt, Dress Shoes-No Tennis Shoes

To participate in ceremony: Student must have been present during practice the morning of graduation and dressed according to above-mentioned dress code.

A student identified as disabled, as per State Department of Education definition of disabled, may be graduated by meeting the requirements above or by completion of his/her IEP (Individual Education Program) for graduation, as established by the student's programming committee.

### **WORK-BASED LEARNING**

Career-focused programs play a vital role at NHS preparing our students for the world of work. Attendance, academic and character standards must be met and maintained for participation in work-study programs. Students must be in attendance at school in order to work on any school day. Students who fail to adhere to this guideline will be removed from the work program with loss of credit.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS**

Northside provides the following on-campus programs in career and technical areas:

- Accounting
- Construction Technology
- Education and Training
- Entrepreneurship
- Fashion
- Food Nutrition
- JROTC
- Management
- Marketing
- Media Creation
- Sports Medicine
- Logistics and Supply Chain

Other programs are available at no cost to Northside students through Western Arkansas Technical Center (WATC) and the PEAK Innovation Center. Courses completed at WATC and PEAK generate both high school and college credit. All programs are offered in the afternoon; some are also available for morning enrollment. Transportation is provided. For a complete list of programs, see the FSPS website for a copy of the course catalog.

WATC and PEAK offer the following programs to 10th, 11th and 12th graders:

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Computer Integrated Machining- PEAK | • LPN- PEAK                          |
| • Electronics- PEAK                   | • CNA- PEAK                          |
| • Automation/Robotics- PEAK           | • Emergency Medical Responding- PEAK |
| • Photography- PEAK                   | • Network Engineering- PEAK          |
| • Digital Arts- PEAK                  | • Welding- WATC                      |
| • Patient Care- PEAK                  |                                      |

## **DIPLOMAS**

Upon completion of graduation requirements, the Fort Smith schools award two (2) types of diplomas:

**HONORS DIPLOMA** - meet requirements for graduation, and maintain a 3.0 grade point average, pass eight credits of Pre-AP courses. (Pre-AP courses will be so identified on the transcript.)

**DIPLOMA** - meet requirements for graduation or meet requirements of Individual Education Plan for special education students.

No student can participate in any senior class or graduation activities unless he/she has met all requirements for graduation.

## **GRADING SCALE**

Grades are important to everyone, not only to the student and parent, but also to the teacher, school, and community.

| GRADE SCALE  | REGULAR | ADVANCED<br>PLACEMENT |
|--------------|---------|-----------------------|
| 90 - 100 = A | A = 4   | A = 5                 |
| 80 - 89 = B  | B = 3   | B = 4                 |
| 70 - 79 = C  | C = 2   | C = 3                 |
| 60 - 69 = D  | D = 1   | D = 2                 |
| Below 60 = F | F = 0   | F = 0                 |

## **GRADES**

The ability to monitor your child's grades, attendance and any assignment information can now be securely viewed from your internet browser. We are providing this access through our E-school Home Access located on the Northside High School Website, via Schoology, or [hac23.esp.k12.ar.us](http://hac23.esp.k12.ar.us). This secured access requires an internet connection and a confidential user name and password issued to the parent by the school.

## **HOMEWORK**

Parent/guardian and teachers should be partners in the education of children. Their joint efforts in assigning and monitoring homework can provide an excellent opportunity to strengthen the home-school relationship and to help the student feel that home and school are working together for his/her best interest.

Students with an excused absence have as many days as they are out to make up their work.

Homework should be clearly stated, regularly collected, checked and returned to students. Each teacher should advise students how and the extent to which homework will be used in determining final grades. To develop students' independent study skills, the teacher should:

- A. Discuss the skills needed to accomplish homework assignments
- B. Demonstrate a simple step-by-step process of completing a homework assignment
- C. Model the techniques of listening, following instructions, note taking, reading for comprehension, preparing papers and locating materials in the library
- D. Have students demonstrate their knowledge of independent study skills
- E. Teach the students how to organize materials and to work independently

### **NORTHSIDE MEDIA CENTER INFORMATION**

Media Center hours: 7:30am – 3:30pm Monday through Friday

Students **MUST** have written permission or hall pass from the teacher to be in the Media Center during class time. Students will be allowed to use the Media Center when there is no scheduling conflict.

Students will need their ID number to use resources and check-out materials. All books leaving the Media Center must be checked out. If the book is damaged or lost during the check-out time, that student is responsible and must pay for the replacement cost of the book or books. If books are not returned by the date due, a fine of \$0.10 per each overdue day will be charged.

Students are asked to follow the network/internet acceptable use guidelines for computer use. The use of computers and the internet is for education purposes only. Following District guidelines, students will practice responsible use of technology systems, information and software. For personal safety, students will protect personal information or passwords, practice and communicate respect for the rights of others while using the computers, and demonstrate the correct use of fair use and copyright regulations. Students will follow rules for personal safety and avoid unacceptable websites, blogs, chat rooms, journals, etc. and will not share, download, or place files or graphics on the network or internet.

Students may access computers using Google Login:

User name: First Initial + Last Initial + Student ID #

Password: First Name + Last Initial + Birth Month + Birth Year

Example:(dj1234)(dannj0301)

Student ID Replacements can be printed here for \$3.

Students are asked to abide by all classroom, school, and Media Center policies and procedures when working, studying, or reading in the Media Center.

## **GUIDELINES FOR EXCUSED AND UNEXCUSED ABSENCES**

The Board of Education of the Special School District of Fort Smith recognizes that prompt, regular attendance is extremely important. Excessive absenteeism not only adversely affects the learning process of students but also may impede their normal progression through the grades. The Board expects each student to attend all scheduled classes and daily activities except when a student has been excused by the principal or principal's designee. Students who report to school but fail to attend all scheduled classes and activities, except where officially excused, are contributing to the potential disruption of the instructional program. A parent/guardian or persons in loco parentis have the responsibility to require of his/her students prompt, regular school attendance. A parent/guardian should be familiar with the educational program of the school and rules regarding attendance and student behavior. Unless a student has an excused absence from school, he/she should be in attendance. Excessive absences may result in a denial of promotion or graduation (ACA 6-18-222). Excessive absences may result in the filing of a Family in Need of Services (FINS) petition with the juvenile court.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Types of absences: Excused, Parental Permission, Unexcused Parent Permission and Unexcused.

#### **ABSENCES**

1. Excused - Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons:
  - a. Student's illness when medically documented or approved by the principal;
  - b. Death or serious illness in the immediate family, i.e. spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, any relative who lives in the same household as the student;
  - c. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student's faith;
  - d. Attendance at a medical appointment;
  - e. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal;
  - f. Absence granted to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and has been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the direction of the Superintendent or designee;
  - g. Absences granted, at the Superintendent's discretion, to seventeen (17) year old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in the eleventh (11th) grade to complete basic training between grades eleven (11) and twelve (12);
  - h. Absences due to conditions related to pregnancy or parenting: at least (ten) 10 school days of absences for both a parenting mother and a parenting father, after the birth of a child.

i. Any circumstance not covered above which the District determines are excused.

In order for the absence to be considered excused, the student must:

a. Bring a written statement to the principal or designee upon the student's return to school from court or legal documents or treating licensed health care provider identifying the office and/or the name of the professional who provided the service stating the reason for the student's absence. In accordance with Arkansas attendance requirements (A.C.A. § 6-18-222), medical documentation must verify that a student was unable to attend school on specific date(s).

**Open-ended or "as needed" notes will not be accepted without additional verification for each absence;**

b. A written statement must be submitted within five (5) days after the student returns to school. Any documentation submitted after (5) days will not be accepted.

An excused absence shall afford the student the privilege of making up all assignments and/or class activities as the teachers direct.

An excused absence shall afford the student the privilege of making up all assignments and/or class activities as the teachers direct.

Official written verification includes signed doctor, dentist, court or legal documents identifying the office and/or the name of the professional who provided the service.

## 2. Parental Permission

- f. Parental permission may be granted for any reason, including personal illness without written verification, provided the parent has contacted the attendance office, by note or phone call, prior to the day the absence occurs or no later than the day the student returns.
- g. The student may not exceed five (5) parental permission days per year. If a student exceeds five (5) days of parental permission absence in any class for the year, all parental permission days thereafter are classified as unexcused parent permission (UP).
- h. Parental permission shall afford the student the privilege of making up all assignments and/or class activities as the teacher directs.
- i. Absences for parental permission shall not be granted in conflict with semester examination schedules.

## 3. Unexcused

- a. An unexcused absence shall be considered to be a willful absence (truant) from school if it is without the knowledge of the student's parent/guardian.
- b. Any other absence not considered excused in the two preceding sections will be counted as unexcused.
- c. Any student who is truant or has an unexcused absence forfeits the right to make up any work for credit.
- d. When a student has missed one (1) unexcused period of school during the day, the parent/guardian will be notified by a Parent Link call.
- e. student with one (1) or more unexcused absences per semester may be assigned consequences. Minimum-reprimand; Maximum – suspension.
- f.
- g. If a student is absent five (5) unexcused days during a semester, the parent/guardian will be notified by letter.
- h. Students with ten (10) consecutive unexcused absences shall be dropped on the eleventh (11) unexcused day. Students will be allowed to re-enroll upon return. Space is not guaranteed at the same school upon re-enrollment. A.C.A § 6-18-213
- i. Parents are responsible for requesting work during a suspension.

## A. Parent/Guardian Contact

The parent/guardian should contact the school by 9:00 a.m. any day that a student will be absent. In addition to assisting the school with the attendance record, parent/guardian notification to the school is a security measure to verify the location of all students.

A petition will be filed with the County Prosecuting Attorney or City Prosecuting Attorney to request appropriate legal action necessary to improve the student's attendance. Such notification may lead to a penalty of up to \$500 plus court costs in accordance with A.C.A. 6-18-222.

Students with long-term medically documented illness or injury may be allowed to make up work and may be given assistance in obtaining credit for courses in which they are enrolled.

### **B. Legal Notification of Absence**

Upon notification by the school district that a student of mandatory school age is no longer attending school or has in excess of five (5) total unexcused absences in any class, the prosecuting attorney or city attorney will be notified that the student is no longer attending school. The school district shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration, and it shall suspend the student's learner permit or driver's license until the student re-enrolls and is successfully attending school. Students with unexcused absences in excess of five (5) total days in any one semester may be considered delinquent and appropriate notification to the prosecuting attorney or city attorney may be made subject to the directions of the superintendent or his designee.

### **C. Illness at School**

Parents should call the school nurse or designee for questions or concerns over their child's health. The school nurse or designee can provide information about the child's health if that child has previously reported any concerns or problems. Parents should allow the school nurse to share any necessary information about their child with the child's teacher.

The following procedure will be followed if you become ill at school:

1. The student should report his/her illness to the teacher.
2. A student becoming ill must report to the nurse's office.
3. If a student has to stop by the restroom before coming to the nurse's office, he/she must report to the nurse's office as soon as possible or send someone to the office to notify the nurse's office of his/her whereabouts.
4. Students are not to leave the building or stay in the restroom when they become sick.
5. Students who come to the nurse's office may be sent home by the nurse or designee after a parent/guardian is contacted. A parent/guardian can give permission to exit or send the student back to class.
6. Failure to follow these procedures will result in the student being considered truant. (See Penalties for Truancy)

### **CHECKING OUT OF SCHOOL**

Students must check out of school in the main office. Student absence one-half (1/2) of any period will be considered absent the whole period. Students will remain in class until a parent/guardian comes into the office to sign them out.

## **TRUANCY**

Students absent without the consent of his/her parents is considered truant. Truancies are recorded per year. Students are also considered truant if they:

1. Leave school without checking out through the office.
2. Are absent from class without permission.
3. Obtain a pass to go to a certain place and do not report or stay there.
4. Become ill and go home or stay in a restroom instead of reporting to the assistant principal's office or nurse's office.
5. Failure to report to cafeteria, media center, or courtyard during designated lunch period.
6. Come to school, but do not attend class.
7. Are in an unauthorized area or hallways during lunch.

### **Truancy will result in the following disciplinary actions:**

**First Offense...**Parents will be notified and the student will receive a warning and/or SDC.

**Second Offense...**Parents will be notified and the student will receive one (1) or two (2) days of SDC.

**Third and Fourth Offense...**Parents will be notified and students will receive two (2) or more days of SDC.

**Fifth Offense and thereafter...**Parents will be notified and students will receive two (2) or more days of SDC and/or the prosecutor notified.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY STUDENTS 18 OR OLDER**

Parents will be notified of truancy. Each student 18 years old or older will be limited to a maximum of 15 days absence during any one semester. A student who is absent from any class more than 15 days per semester may be denied credit for that class. A failing grade will be recorded on the student's transcript for the course. The only exception to this policy will be made when a student exceeds the maximum number of allowable days absent as a result of severe personal or family medical problems (as certified by the attending physician), school business, or other extenuating circumstances as determined by the principal and/or assistant principal.

Students who are 18 years old or older may be denied credit in their classes prior to being absent 15 days when there is evidence of lack of cooperation relative to this policy and acknowledgment that future attendance would not be meaningful. School suspension will not be counted against the students' maximum allowable 15 days absence.

## **COLLEGE VISITS**

Seniors are allowed two college days and Juniors one college day for the year. These days are to be used for visiting prospective colleges and universities. Requests for college leaves are to be completed two days before using college leave. Request forms are to be picked up in the counselor's office. A letter from the college or university, signed by a school official and stating that the student made the visit is required if college leave is to be

granted. The letter is to be submitted to the office on the day the student returns to school. Failure to provide this documentation will result in parent permission.

### **DENIAL OF PROMOTION/COURSE CREDIT**

Excessive absence may be a basis for denial for promotion or graduation. Credit may be denied a student when she/he has more than fifteen (15) days of total absence in a semester. The principal and the teachers of that student will determine this.

### **DROPPING CLASSES**

Students who withdraw from a class after 10 school days will receive an "F" for the semester.

### **LATE ENROLLMENT**

A student who is exempt by age from the compulsory school attendance laws will not be permitted to enroll after the fifteenth (15th) day of the first semester or the fifteenth (15th) day of the second semester unless determined by the superintendent or his designee to be eligible for enrollment or re-enrollment due to extreme extenuating circumstances. Students enrolling after the 15th day may be denied credit if not coming from another school.

### **MAKE-UP WORK**

Students may make up work missed due to excused absences or parent permission absences only. It is the responsibility of the student to request the make-up assignment on the day he/she returns to school. Students have as many days as they have been out to make-up the work. If make-up work is not requested within two (2) days of returning from an excused absence, the student forfeits the opportunity to make-up work missed.

Parents may request make-up work through the counselor's office after a student has missed three (3) consecutive days.

A student may be given a "0" or "F" if the assignment(s) missed is the result of an unexcused absence. A student suspended from school will be allowed to make-up any work missed during the suspension. Any student who is truant forfeits the right to make-up any work for credit.

### **SEMESTER TEST EXEMPTION POLICY**

Students who have a grade of "A", "B", or "C" in a class and have three (3) absences or fewer in that class have the option of being exempt from the semester test in that class. Students who qualify for the exemption but elect to take the test in order to raise their grade may not have their semester grade lowered as a result of the optional test. If a student is required to take the semester exam, their semester grade may be lowered if they don't perform well. If a student is required to take the semester exam and they don't show up, the student will receive a 0 for the semester exam.

1. Each teacher will keep records on a per class basis. The teacher will inform the students of their exemption status.
2. Students will have been enrolled during the entire semester. Students transferring in during the semester cannot be exempt from tests that semester.
3. Three (3) tardies in a class will equal one (1) day of absence.
4. School business, in school suspension, and excused absences will not be counted.

5. Absences for parental permission shall not be granted in conflict with semester examination schedules.
6. During semester tests, all procedures will be followed.
7. Absences as a result of out-of-school suspension will count as unexcused and will count toward semester test exemption.

### **TARDY POLICY**

Promptness is expected of all students. A pupil who is not in his/her proper place when the tardy bell rings is considered tardy.

1. If you arrive late to school, you **MUST** check in through the office. If you arrive within the first 20 minutes of a class, you will be counted tardy and receive a slip to go to class.
2. If you have been detained by a teacher, ask for a note from that teacher before going to class.
3. Tardies are recorded weekly.

Repeated tardiness to a class will result in the following penalties:

|                      |                                     |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>1st-5th tardy</b> | Teacher records and informs student |
| <b>6th-8th tardy</b> | 1 day of after-school detention     |
| <b>9th or more</b>   | 1 day of SDC                        |

### **BEHAVIOR IN THE HALLWAY**

- Walk on the right side of the hallway.
- Students in the hallway during class time **MUST** have a hall pass and they should proceed directly to their destination.
- Horseplay and running is not permitted.
- Do not stop to talk with your friends and block the flow of traffic.
- A minimum noise level will be maintained.
- There will be no display of affection in the halls or anywhere on campus. (This includes arms around one another, hugging, and kissing etc.)
- Students will not congregate in groups.
- Be courteous and respectful to all persons.
- Students are not allowed in hallways during lunch.

Students are to take care of their personal needs during passing periods. Students will not be allowed to go to the restroom during class unless the office has a note from a physician detailing the medical problem requiring this or unless an emergency exists. Students are to clear the building by 3:30 pm. Once students exit the building, they are not to reenter. No food or drinks in classrooms with exception of clear bottle of water.

## LUNCH

Northside has a cafeteria where a student can purchase lunch either from a regular plate lunch line, food bar, or a salad/a la carte line.

### LUNCH CHECKOUT

**Northside High School is a closed campus for lunch.** Students are strictly prohibited from leaving campus once they arrive. **If a student is to leave during lunch, his or her parent or guardian must come into the office to check him or her out of school. That parent or guardian must also check the student back in through the office when he or she returns.** Failure to follow this procedure will result in an unexcused absence.

The following rules must be observed when using the cafeteria:

1. Do not leave trays, paper, milk cartons, paper cups, or silverware on the tables. Return them to the dishwashing area.
2. No food or drink is allowed to be eaten in any hallway, stairway, or rooms. All food and drink must be eaten in the cafeteria, or outside on picnic tables. Students are not allowed in the halls during lunch.
3. Cleaning up after students is not the responsibility of cafeteria or custodial personnel:  
**IT IS THE STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY.**
4. Students are required to use their student ID number for all transactions in the cafeteria.
5. Consequences for disregarding the above rules:
  - Minimum penalty reprimand
  - Maximum penalty SDC
6. **Outside deliveries are not allowed.**

### MESSAGES AND STUDENT USE OF TELEPHONE

**EMERGENCY MESSAGES ONLY** will be delivered to students. Classes will not be interrupted to deliver messages regarding transportation, personal appointments, work schedules, family errands, etc. A student may use the telephone located in the main office. This telephone is available for **emergency** use only. Students must obtain permission from personnel prior to using the phone. This phone is available to students before and after school or during lunch only.

### VISITORS

**ALL VISITORS MUST CHECK IN AT THE MAIN OFFICE WITH A VALID ID AND OBTAIN A VISITOR'S PASS.**

### ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

The Fort Smith School District is committed to providing a safe learning environment for each of its students. Bullying is a destructive behavior that will erode the foundational principles on which a school is built. The District will not tolerate any behavior that is classified as bullying, and it will take steps to eliminate such behavior. School employees and volunteers are encouraged to report any instances of bullying to the building principal or designee. Students who believe they have been a victim of bullying or parents who believe their child has been victimized by a bully should file a complaint by contacting a school counselor, or principal. Bullying is defined as repeated behavior that may include, but is not limited to teasing, taunting, threatening, frightening, and/or hurting other

students physically or emotionally, or influencing others to use such practices. Individuals who withhold information or purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of bullying, shall also be subject to disciplinary action.

## **DISCIPLINE**

It is impossible for teaching or learning to take place in a classroom unless good order is maintained. The staff and faculty at Northside have a positive, professional attitude toward discipline that fosters and rewards mature, responsible behavior by students. However, if a student does behave in a disruptive manner or disobeys school rules, there are certain minimum steps that will be followed that ensure the involvement of teacher, parent, counselor and/or administrators with the student to correct the behavior problem. If it becomes necessary to suspend a student for behavior problems, all entitlements of due process of the law will have been met. Disciplinary actions may be appealed. All appeals **must** begin with the building principal.

### **STUDENT DISCIPLINE CENTER**

#### **I. Assignment to SDC —**

- A. Only the principal, assistant principals, or their designee may assign students to or remove students from SDC.
- B. The SDC supervisor may assign extra time for improper conduct or may recommend reduced time for exemplary conduct.

#### **II. Operation of the SDC — All students assigned to the SDC:**

- A. Will be assigned for a minimum of one complete day. If for any reason the assigned day in SDC is not completed in full, the student will be assigned to spend the next day in full in the SDC.
- B. Must be in the SDC room on the day they are assigned, seated in their assigned area, and starting to work before the tardy bell rings.
- C. Must bring all materials necessary, including Chromebooks, to complete the assigned work. No outside deliveries (food) for SDC Students. Cell phones are not permitted in SDC.
- D. Will remain in their assigned seat, sitting in an upright position, and facing the back wall at all times. There will be no sleeping, no laying head on desk, on hands, on arms, or against the side of the cubicle. The student will raise their hand and first obtain permission from the SDC supervisor in order to receive assistance or to leave their seat for any reason.
- E. Will be allowed to go to the restroom only once in the morning (at approximately 10:00 a.m.), and only once in the afternoon (at approximately 2:00 p.m.), and then only if the individual student requests to go, and then only to a specific restroom and within the time limits set by the SDC supervisor. If a student has any medically documented problems that might be complicated by this rule, that student must make alternative arrangements stated in his/her SDC file.
- F. Must notify SDC teacher if he/she intends to eat lunch. Lunches will be delivered from the cafeteria. They will eat the lunch provided by the cafeteria, bring their lunch, or not eat at all.

- G. Must complete all assignments that are given to them by their classroom teachers and by the SDC supervisor. The SDC supervisor may assign additional work and this must be completed by the end of the day.
- H. Will be dismissed by the SDC supervisor at 3:30 pm. Any time assigned in the SDC will be completed before a student can resume his/her normal schedule.

III. Behavior in the SDC—There will be no:

- A. Disrespect shown to the SDC supervisor or to other students in SDC.
- B. Disruptive behavior of any kind.
- C. Food, drink, gum, games, cards, magazines, or any other unauthorized material in SDC room.
- D. Talking to anyone throughout the entire day except to the SDC supervisor.
- E. Writing on the desktops or cubicle walls, or destruction to the school's or to anyone else's property in any way.

Any violation of or non-compliance with the rules in this section may result in a verbal warning, more days of SDC assigned, or an out-of-school suspension. Any time that has been assigned in the SDC but not completed must be made up before that student can resume his/her normal schedule.

### **SUSPENSION**

Suspension, in or out of school, is a penalty which may be used for chronic or serious infractions of school rules. The following guidelines will be used when suspension of a student is necessary:

- Length of suspension will be determined by school authorities and will reflect the offense committed.
- Parents will be notified in writing of the action taken.
- A student on out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to participate in or attend any school activity at or away from school.
- A student on out-of-school suspension will not be allowed on school property unless accompanied by a parent/guardian on official business.
- A suspended student will be allowed to make-up any work missed during the suspension. Work will be made available via Schoology. All make-up work will be due on the day the students return to school.
- A student will be readmitted to school after a satisfactory solution to his/her conduct is agreed on by parents/guardians and administration.

## **UNACCEPTABLE ACTIONS**

Engaging in unacceptable actions may result in SDC, out-of-school suspension, or expulsion. The following is a list of unacceptable actions, but is not limited to:

1. A student shall not assault, threaten to assault, or physically or verbally abuse a school employee, or any other individual. Communicating a death threat in any manner is prohibited.
2. Willful refusal to follow reasonable instructions.
3. Fighting or instigating a fight.
4. Profanity.
5. Illegal or immoral conduct.
6. Possession or use of THC/tobacco products, E-Cigarettes, Vape Pens/Vapor, Alcohol, or illegal substances.
7. "PDA" - Public Display of Affection.
8. Stealing
9. Forging, falsifying, or possessing school forms or using forged notes or excuses.
10. Hazardous or reckless driving in parking area on school grounds or access roads.
11. Destruction or defacing of school or personal property.
12. Persistent violation of school regulations.
13. Any violation of school policies or regulations.
14. Violating the district student dress code.
15. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated within this school. Sexual harassment is defined as deliberate or repeated offensive comments, gestures or physical contact of a sexual nature, and/or unwelcome and offensive written or printed communication of a sexual nature.
16. Engaging in any behavior or action intended to threaten, intimidate, terrorize or harm others, or disrupt the educational process by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act, is prohibited.
17. Posting or distribution of flyers, posters etc. without approval of administration.
18. Gang activity will not be tolerated within this school. Gang activity includes but is not limited to gang symbolism and clothing, drawing on notebooks and personal items, graffiti, gang discussion, or any activity deemed affiliated with gangs by the administration. Penalties will range from reprimand to recommendation for expulsion.
19. No food or drinks in classrooms with exception of clear bottle of water.

## **CHEATING**

Students are expected to do their own work and to develop the qualities of honesty, integrity, and ethical behavior. Students found cheating will be given a zero on the assignment involved. The student will be referred to the assistant principal and assigned to SDC and the parent will be notified. Future referrals to the assistant principal for cheating will result in a zero for the assignment involved, and suspension or recommendation for expulsion from school.

## **ARTICLES PROHIBITED**

The following articles are hazards to safety or disruptive to classes and are prohibited in the school. Possession or use of the following items will result in SDC, suspension, or expulsion unless otherwise noted:

1. Fireworks of any kind. Possession or use of fireworks will result in suspension from school.
2. Mechanical noisemakers.
3. Weapons of any kind. Students in possession of a weapon will be suspended for ten (10) days; the school administration will recommend expulsion until the end of the school year, and the police will be notified.
4. Possession, use, sale or under the influence of controlled substances, alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia. Students in possession of, attempting to sell or under the influence of controlled substances, alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia will result in a five (5) day suspension from school, 2nd offense will result in ten (10) day suspension possible recommendation for expulsion, and the police will be called. Students not recommended for expulsion may return to school after the 5 days with proof of a substance abuse assessment. Students not recommended for expulsion may return to school after the 10 days with proof of a substance abuse assessment. Additional violations will result in recommendation for expulsion.
5. Use of skateboards and other similar devices are prohibited on school property. Violators will be prosecuted.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES DEVICES - CELL PHONES, MEDIA PLAYERS, ETC.**

- Cell Phones and other electronic devices may be used before school, and after school.
- Cell Phones and other electronic devices are not to be used from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm.
- Cell Phones and other electronic devices are not allowed in testing areas.

### **SEARCH & SEIZURE**

Searches of any school owned property and seizures are permissible when information exists that drugs, guns, or other contraband are present (Ark. Code Ann.§ 6-21-608). The Superintendent, principals, and their designees also may search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, including privately-owned automobiles, when there is reasonable and individualized suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items, other items in violation of Board Policy or items dangerous to the school community. School authorities may seize evidence found in the search, and disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence found which appears to be in violation of the law shall be reported to the appropriate authorities.

An adverse inference of the presence of suspected items will be applied to any student who refuses to be searched per Policy, and as such, the student will be suspended and/or recommended for expulsion in the discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

School buildings and campuses, including parking lots. are subject to periodic search by the canine unit of the Fort Smith Police Department in an effort to reduce the presence of illegal and prohibited items on the campus.

Fort Smith Public Schools uses video surveillance to assist in security and investigations.

## **SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS**

Areas of the Northside High School campus are subject to surveillance by cameras to enhance student and employee safety.

## **STUDENT DRESS CODE**

In order to enhance high standards and promote the teaching and learning process in our schools, we must encourage neatness, cleanliness, and decency in personal dress and appearance of all students and school personnel. In view of that, all students and school personnel will be expected to be dressed and groomed to present a respectable image in keeping with current styles and good taste during the school day and at school activities.

**General:**

1. Styles must not infringe on the rights of others or pose a hazard to personal safety.
2. State health laws require that shoes be worn at all times.
3. Hair must be neat and clean.

### **Specific Prohibitions:**

1. Clothing styles that are revealing to the point of disruption or distraction. Examples include but are not limited to the following:

- a. Any type of strapless apparel.
- b. Shirts, blouses or tops that expose any part of the midriff.
- c. Low-cut attire, bare backs, halter-tops, mesh attire or shirts, tops or blouses with open sides, tank tops, see through clothing, etc.
- d. Underwear cannot be exposed.

2. Distracting clothing that advocates poor standards of character and citizenship.

Items in this category include:

- a. Advertisements for alcohol, drugs or tobacco.
  - b. Displays of excessive violence. Slogans associated with death, suicide or killings are included.
  - c. Suggestive language, slogans or sexual connotations.
3. Distracting clothing, drawings, body art, or items that may or may not suggest membership in a gang.
  4. Shorts or skirts. Must be at an appropriate length to completely cover all private areas and undergarments at all times, including while sitting, standing, bending or reaching.
  5. Clothing resembling sleepwear, such as pajamas, house-shoes, slippers, blankets, etc., is prohibited.
  6. Head coverings, hats, hoodies and durags are prohibited in the building except at athletic events or outdoor activities. Bandanas are prohibited at all times.
  7. "Sagging" or "bagging" is prohibited.
  8. Sunglasses (worn in the building) are prohibited.
  9. Any type of chains, including wallet chains, dog chains or collars, or studded apparel are prohibited.
  10. Only medical masks are allowed.

### **ID CARDS**

Students are provided with ID cards when they enter Northside High School. The card is good for the student's freshman, sophomore, junior and senior years.

— Students must show their ID cards to any member of the school staff upon request. —

— Lost ID cards can be replaced in the Library Media Center at a cost of \$3.00.

Picture retakes are \$5.00

### **FIRE DRILLS**

Fire drills are held at various times throughout the school year to prepare students to exit the building in case of fire or other dangers. The following procedures must be followed to ensure maximum safety:

1. A fire evacuation plan is posted in every room. Students should become familiar with the plan for each room they are in.
2. When the fire alarm sounds, the students must obey orders promptly and leave the building according to the evacuation plan.
3. Students must move at least fifty (50) feet from the building to ensure their safety.

### **TORNADO DRILLS**

The signal for any tornado will be over the intercom through automated Lynx system. When the alarm sounds:

1. Move quickly to the tornado shelter following designated classroom routes.
2. Sit down as close to the walls of the tornado shelter as possible.
3. Roll will be checked.
4. The "All Clear" signal will be given by Lynx.
5. Practice drills will be held prior to the tornado season.

## **BUS REGULATIONS**

Buses are provided to transport students to and from school in certain areas of the city. This service is a privilege granted to those who do not abuse it. Failure to follow the rules set up for using this service will result in the student being suspended from using the bus service. The following rules must be observed by those using the bus service:

- Students should be on time at the designated pick up point.
- Bus riders are under the supervision of the driver and must obey his/her instructions.
- Keep head and hands inside the bus at all times.
- No “horseplay” or loud talking is permitted on the bus.
- Do not tamper with or damage any part of the bus.
- Do not leave your seat while the bus is in motion.
- Do not throw anything from the bus windows.
- No smoking, drinking or eating is permitted on the bus.
- Student behavior must not violate any rules listed in other sections of this handbook.
- Emergency exits are to be used only in case of an emergency.
- Be courteous to fellow students and to the driver.

## **STUDENTS DRIVING TO SCHOOL**

1. Students must register their vehicle with the school each year. This is done by bringing a copy of your Driver’s License, Vehicle Registration, and proof of insurance to the School Resource Officer (SRO) Office.
2. Parking permits are free to all students and must be visible at all times.
3. Student parking is available in student designated parking only.
4. Parking lots are off limits to students unless arriving or leaving campus.
5. Do not block aisles, entrances, exits, or other automobiles. Vehicles must be parked in spaces as marked.
6. Do not sit in parked vehicles or loiter in the parking area.
7. Students must park their vehicle only in the student parking lots when they arrive on campus and cannot “cruise” the lots or around campus.
8. Students parking their vehicle in the parking lots without a NHS parking sticker will be subject to disciplinary action and/or monetary fine.

## **ASSEMBLIES, GAMES & ACTIVITIES**

Assemblies are a regularly scheduled part of the curriculum and are designed to be educational as well as entertaining experiences. They provide one of the few opportunities in school to learn formal audience behavior. Regardless of the type of program, courtesy demands that the student body be respectful and appreciative. In live entertainment, unlike radio, television or movies, the performers are very conscious of their audience. Talking, whispering, whistling, stamping of feet, and booing are discourteous. Yelling is appropriate only at pep assemblies.

- Do not take books or coats to the assembly unless instructed otherwise.
- Proceed to the assembly area quietly and promptly. Find your seat quickly.
- During assemblies in the auditorium students must sit with their teachers.
- During pep assemblies, students are seated by grade level.
- AAAAAA sportsmanship policies will be adhered to and strictly enforced.
- Dismiss by wing, building.

## **AAAAAA SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY**

Activities are an important aspect of the total education process in our schools. They provide the arena for participants to grow, to excel, to understand, and to value the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP and teamwork. They are an opportunity for coaches and school staff to teach and model SPORTSMANSHIP, to build school pride, and to increase student/community involvement—this ultimately translates into improved academic performance. Activities are also an opportunity for the community to demonstrate its support for the participants and the school and to model the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP for our youth as respected representatives of society. **SPORTSMANSHIP IS GOOD CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION!**

### **BASIC PHILOSOPHY**

Fans are not at ball games to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans but to support and yell for their team and to enjoy watching skill and competition.

Article 1: SPORTSMANSHIP includes a general way of thinking and behaving. GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP includes the following:

- a. Be courteous to all (participants, coaches, officials, staff, fans, spirit groups.)
- b. Know the rules, abide by and respect the officials' decisions.
- c. Win with character and lose with dignity.
- d. Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
- e. Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team, and school.
- f. Permit only POSITIVE behavior to reflect on your school and its activities. Yell for your team, not against the other team.

#### **Article 2: Specific Prohibitions**

- a. Students or spectators who wear extreme or unusual clothing to the game or who paint their faces or bodies will not be allowed in the game. (Examples: togas, bandanas, cowboy hats, gang colors, wigs, costumes, etc.)
- b. Negative, demeaning, or obscene yells will not be permitted at any athletic event while teams are being introduced, or when teams, cheerleaders, or drill teams are performing. (Examples: air ball; you, you, you; distracting free throw shooters, etc.)
- c. Students will not be allowed to turn their backs or hold up newspapers while teams are being introduced, or when teams, cheerleaders, or drill teams are performing.

### **ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS**

Eligibility rules apply to all students competing in athletics or non-athletic activities. To be eligible to compete, students must have a 2.0 grade point and pass four academic courses. Students who have below a 2.0 grade point but do pass four courses may remain eligible by participating successfully in the Arkansas Activities Association approved remediation program.

### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The Student Council is in charge of scheduling and overseeing all activities of extracurricular nature at Northside High School. All school rules are in effect at any extracurricular activity, including all athletic events. There are many activities offered at Northside to students wishing to take part in the club programs. In addition to the work of the various clubs, there are three class councils, which spearhead many of the major activities at Northside High School.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

To be a member of the Northside National Honor Society, a student must excel in the following four areas:

**Service:** Service is exhibited by participation in community organizations such as Candy Strippers, Habitat for Humanity, Scouts, Fort Smith Pride, church youth groups, or other similar activities.

**Character:** Character is exhibited by following school rules and regulations and the avoidance of disciplinary problems.

**Leadership:** Leadership is exhibited by positive actions in the classroom, school organizations, and school activities.

**Scholarship:** Scholarship is exhibited by earning a 3.50 grade point average.

Before induction, candidates are screened by the entire faculty and final selection is made by a faculty committee. Once inducted, students must maintain a 3.50 grade point average, attend set meetings, and participate in National Honor Society activities. Members failing to maintain the high standards of selection may be removed.

## ARKANSAS SCHOLARS

Designed to reinforce that high school matters, Arkansas Scholars is a partnership between Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce and Fort Smith Public Schools. Students who maintain Arkansas Scholar standards from ninth through twelfth grades qualify for valuable community incentives. The standards are:

- Make no grade lower than a C
- Maintain 95% attendance (miss no more than nine days in any year)
- Take the right courses; and complete school in eight consecutive semesters

Incentives offered to Arkansas Scholars include seals on transcripts and diplomas; “Hire Me First” cards and letters of recommendation to assist in finding summer employment; a senior luncheon hosted by the Chamber of Commerce; medallions to wear at graduation; and historically a one-year scholarship to UA Fort Smith.

## ARKANSAS SEAL OF BILITERACY

This is an official state-endorsed award for students in grade 9-12 who attain functional proficiency in English and at least one additional language. Students have the opportunity to test in September and February.

## SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION

All young men must register with the Selective Service System within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Registration is required to qualify for federal student aid, job-training benefits, and most federal employment. If you are applying for federal student aid or job training benefits, you may register up to 120 days before you turn 18 to avoid delays in the processing of applications.

If you do not register, or you do not keep the Selective Service System informed about any changes of address, you could be prosecuted and fined up to \$250,000 and/or be put in jail for up to five years. You may register with the Selective Service at any U. S. Post Office or in the Counseling office.

## TEST INFORMATION

**CCR FAQs** - The State of Arkansas enacted a student choice option for College and Career Readiness (CCR) exams. As a result, our students get a choice based on their current school grade.

| <u>Students May Choose ONE From Each Color</u> | <u>ONE test at grade 9 OR 10</u> |                   | <u>ONE test at grade 11</u> |                   | <u>District chooses when to administer</u> |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------|
|                                                | <u>9th grade</u>                 | <u>10th Grade</u> | <u>11th grade</u>           | <u>12th Grade</u> | <u>11-12th Grade</u>                       |
|                                                | <u>Pre ACT 8/9</u>               | <u>Pre ACT</u>    | <u>ACT</u>                  | <u>WorkKeys*</u>  | <u>ASVAB**</u>                             |
|                                                | <u>Pre ACT</u>                   | <u>PSAT 10</u>    | <u>CLT</u>                  |                   |                                            |
|                                                | <u>PSAT 8/9</u>                  | <u>PSAT/NMSQT</u> | <u>SAT</u>                  |                   |                                            |
|                                                | <u>CLT 10</u>                    | <u>CLT 10</u>     |                             |                   |                                            |

The state funds only one assessment per colored section. Additional assessments beyond the allotted number indicated above must be paid by the student or district.

**WorkKeys** - Universal Assessment Program Act does not affect WorkKeys. The state will continue to provide for a single administration of each test: Applied Math, Graphic Literacy, and Workplace Documents. All students have the opportunity to test prior to graduation. This test can result in better pay or higher positions when seeking a job.

**ASVAB** - Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) - The test is a tool for students to use to make education and career plans and preliminary decisions for further education and career planning. Students may retake this exam at no cost.

**Advanced Placement (AP)** - The College Board, a nationally recognized organization, offers students the opportunity to take an AP exam and receive credit, advanced placement, or both at participating colleges. Students who take AP classes will not receive AP credit and the corresponding grade point equivalent, unless they take the Advanced Placement exam and score at least a 2.

# ALMA MATER

All hail to our Northside High

Carry on your majesty

All hail to Our Northside High

Good will with us night and day

Through years of loyalty

In our hearts you shall never die

Oh Alma Mater in our prayers

**Northside Senior High!**

## FIGHT SONG

Fighting for victory

Never give in

Fight 'til the end boys

Fight and might will win

So keep on

Fighting for victory

Crown every man

We're gonna fight fight fight

Fight fi-i-ight

**For Northside Hi-i-igh**