Saluda Trail Middle School: STEAM Program Option



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STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK 2026-2027

"Trailblazing Toward Excellence – Every Student, Every Day."

Dr. Rhine Kirkland, Principal
2300 Saluda Road
Rock Hill, SC, 29730

Phone: (803) 981-1800 Fax: (803) 981-1819

The rules, regulations, and consequences in this handbook are based on policies of the Board of Trustees for Rock Hill Schools. These policies are concurrent with state and federal laws and guidelines. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this handbook, changes in law, policy, procedures, and/or practices may require adjustments in content after publication. Every attempt will be made to post such changes on the school website. Students remain responsible for knowing and following updates and changes in policy, procedures, and practices.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math | AdvancedEd STEM Accredited 2022 | Transform SC School | P21 Exemplar School | ABC Art School | Recipient of the 2011-2012 & 2012-2013 Palmetto Silver Award | South Carolina Middle School Association's Award of Excellence | South Carolina's Red Carpet Award

THE VISION OF ROCK HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Engaged, Equipped, and Empowered Students Prepared for Success.

THE VISION OF SALUDA TRAIL MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Faculty and Staff at Saluda Trail Middle School are committed to engaging students in quality learning activities so that students will experience success socially and academically. Faculty and Staff will collaborate and engage in PLCs, MTSS, and model Professionalism to enhance student achievement.

THE MISSION OF SALUDA TRAIL MIDDLE SCHOOL

The mission of STMS, working with parents and our community, is to provide a safe environment that promotes both academic excellence and self-esteem. Our goal is for our students to achieve their maximum potential and become adaptive 21st-century learners in a global environment.



The contents of this handbook may be revised or amended, as needed, at any time during the school year.

August 2026

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to a new school year at Saluda Trail Middle School! I am Dr. Rhine Kirkland, and I am honored to join the Wildcat family as your principal. Whether you are returning to Saluda Trail or joining us for the first time, I am excited to partner with you for what promises to be an incredible year of learning, growth, and achievement.

At Saluda Trail, we believe that every student deserves to feel known, valued, challenged, and supported. Strong relationships, high-quality instruction, and a commitment to continuous improvement are at the heart of our work. Together, we will create an environment where students are encouraged to take risks, embrace challenges, and discover their potential.

Our theme for this school year is "Excellence by Design." Excellence does not happen by accident. It is the result of intentional choices, purposeful actions, and a shared commitment to doing our best every day. As a school community, we will be intentional in how we learn, lead, serve, and support one another. Through thoughtful planning, high expectations, and collaboration, we will design experiences that help every student succeed.

This handbook serves as an important resource for students and families. Inside, you will find information about our expectations, procedures, policies, and support. I encourage you to review it together and refer to it throughout the year as questions arise.

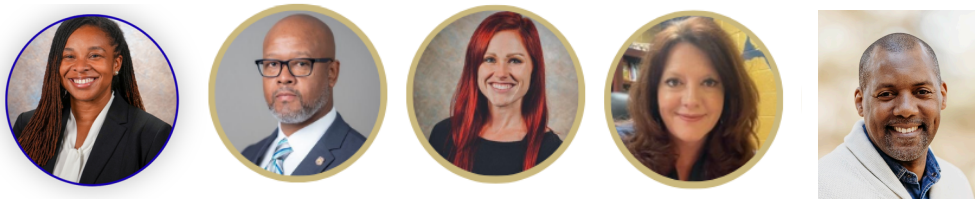
Family partnerships are essential to student success. I invite you to stay connected, engaged, and involved throughout the year. Whether through school events, communication with teachers, volunteer opportunities, or participation in our PTO, your partnership strengthens our school and enriches the experience of every Wildcat.

I am incredibly excited about the year ahead and the opportunity to learn and grow alongside our students, staff, and families. Together, we will build on the strong traditions that make Saluda Trail special while continuing to pursue new opportunities for growth and excellence.

Thank you for entrusting us with your children. I look forward to a wonderful year as we work together to make Excellence by Design more than a theme. It will be the way we approach every day at Saluda Trail Middle School.

With Wildcat Pride,

Dr. Rhine Kirkland
Saluda Trail Middle School



Dr. R. Kirkland, Principal, rkirkland@rhmail.org
Ms. S. Reed, 6th Grade Assistant Principal, sreed@rhmail.org
Dr. A. Williams, 7th Grade Assistant Principal, alwilliams@rhmail.org
Ms. K. Eagle, 8th Grade Assistant Principal, keagle@rhmail.org
Mr. C. Hough, Dean of Student Leadership, rhough@rhmail.org

BELL SCHEDULE

STMS Bell Schedule 2026-27							
8th Grade Schedule		7th Grade Schedule		6th Grade Schedule		Related Arts Schedule	
8:15 – 8:25 (10 min)	Homeroom	8:15 – 8:25 (10 min)	Homeroom	8:15 – 8:25 (10 min)	Homeroom	8:15 – 8:25 (10 min)	Homeroom
8:25 – 8:55 (30 min)	Enrichment	8:25 – 8:55 (30 min)	Enrichment	8:25 – 8:55 (30 min)	Enrichment	8:25 – 8:55 (30 min)	Enrichment
8:58 - 9:54 (56 min)	Core 1	8:58 - 9:54 (56 min)	Core 1	*8:58 – 9:43 (45 min)*	*Related Arts 1 (Students) PD (Teachers)*	*8:58 – 9:43 (45 min)*	6th Related Arts 1
9:57 – 10:53 (56 min)	Core 2	9:57 – 10:53 (56 min)	Core 2	*9:46 - 10:31 (45 min)*	*Related Arts 2 (Students) Planning (Teachers)*	*9:46 - 10:31 (45 min)*	6th Related Arts 2
10:56 -11:50 (56 min)	Core 3	*10:56 - 11:11(1) 11: 14-11:30(2)*	*LUNCH*	10:35 – 11:31 (56 min)	Core 1	*10:31 – 11:37 (66 min)*	*PD/Planning*
11:53-12:08(1) 12: 11-12:27(2)	*LUNCH*	*11:37 - 12:22 (45 min)*	*Related Arts 1 (Students) PD (Teachers)*	11:34- 12:30 (56 min)	Core 2	*11:37 - 12:22 (45 min)*	7th Related Arts 1
12:30 - 1:26 (56 min)	Core 4	*12:25 - 1:10 (45 min)*	*Related Arts 2 (Students) Planning (Teachers)*	*12:36-12:52(1) 12: 55-1:11(2)*	*LUNCH*	*12:25 - 1:10 (45 min)*	7th Related Arts 2
1:35 – 2:20 (45 min)	*Related Arts 1 (Students) PD (Teachers)*	1:15 – 2:11 (56 min)	Core 3	1:15 – 2:11 (56 min)	Core 3	*1:10- 1:29 (19 min)*	*BREAK*
2:23 - 3:08 (45 min)	*Related Arts 2 (Students) Planning (Teachers)*	2:14 - 3:10 (56 min)	Core 4	2:14 - 3:10 (56 min)	Core 4	*1:35 – 2:20 (45 min)*	8th Related Arts 1
3:10 - 3:15 (5 min)	Prep for Dismissal	*3:10 - 3:15 (5 min)*	Prep for Dismissal	*3:10 - 3:15 (5 min)*	Prep for Dismissal	*2:23 - 3:08 (45 min)*	8th Related Arts 2
						3:10 - 3:15 (8 min)	*Escort students back to hallway*

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Entering and Leaving the Building

Saluda Trail begins welcoming students at 7:45 a.m. If there's inclement weather (heavy rains, severe thunderstorms, frigid temps), the front office staff will welcome students into the "fishbowl" before 7:45. Students are dismissed from "holding" at 8:05 a.m. The first bell rings at 8:05 a.m., allowing ample time for students to go to their lockers and to arrive in class before the tardy bell rings at 8:15 a.m. Students are not to enter the grade level hallway or the related arts hallway before they are dismissed from holding areas unless they have a pass to go to the teacher's classroom. Students are allowed to enter the building at 7:45 a.m. Car riders will need to be on campus for breakfast by 8:00 a.m. to ensure timely arrival to class.

Prior to 8:05 a.m., upon entering the building, students are to report to their grade level designated holding areas or to the cafeteria for breakfast and sit until released to report to the hallway. Any violation will result in a detention for being in an unauthorized part of the building. Repeated violations will result in further disciplinary action.

6th Grade Reports to The Den (Gym)

7th Grade Reports to the auditorium

8th Grade Reports to The Den (Gym)

Parents/Guardians driving students to school at the beginning of the day and/or picking them up at the end of the day are to use the front car loop only. Once a student arrives at school, he or she is forbidden to leave school grounds before the end of the regular school day unless appropriately signed out by a member of the front office staff.

School-wide Expectations:

1. Read and follow all handbook regulations.
2. Follow the instructions of any teacher or staff member.
3. Be on time and in the assigned area at all times.
4. No disorderly conduct (any action or intent that could cause injury or property damage).
5. No food, beverages (except water), or gum in classrooms or halls.
6. Students may bring a closed water bottle containing water only to class. Cups or tumblers with straws (including Stanley or Stanley-style cups) are not permitted. Students are responsible for cleaning up any spills caused by their water bottle.
7. Adhere to the dress code at all times while on school grounds.

Incentives/Rewards

1. Positive Office Referrals
2. Wildcat Bucks
3. Team Rewards
4. Wildcat Cards
5. Positive Notes Home
6. Extra Outside Time

Consequences for Infractions

1. Folder system for classroom management
2. Lunch detention/Team Time
3. Teacher-student-parent conferences
4. Office referral
5. Behavior Intervention Class (BIC)
6. Severe Infractions: **See Suspensions and Exclusion**

STMS Behavior Intervention Action Steps (All Teachers*)

1. Warning
2. Lunch Detention or Team Time
3. Lunch Detention or Team Time
4. Parent Contact
5. Referral/Parent Contact

Teachers may use any step depending upon the severity of the situation*

Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

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

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will arrange for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write to the school principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to privacy of personally identifiable information in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school Board; a person or company with whom the school has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

4. Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to

notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.

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

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

Directory Information

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

Rock Hill Schools 2026-2027 Directory Information Opt-Out

Please click here: 2026-27 Directory Opt Out Form for Student-Parent Handbook
to access and print the Rock Hill School District Directory Information Opt-Out form. Once printed and filled out, please submit this request to the Office of the Superintendent, Rock Hill Schools, P.O.
Drawer 10072, Rock Hill, SC 29731 **by the Tuesday following Labor Day**. If such notice is given, the school attended by the student will be notified.

Student Drop-off/Pick-Up

Persons picking up/dropping off students are asked to use the designated carloop (entrance is the main STMS entrance (brick-signage) and must pull forward as much as possible to allow the maximum number of cars in the line. This is the only location for pick up and drop off before and after school. Students are not allowed to be dropped off/picked up in the Faculty/Staff Parking Lot or in the Bus Loop. Failure to follow this procedure will result in disciplinary action. All passengers must remain in the vehicle while in the pick-up line. School restrooms are not available for public use. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and efficient dismissal process.

Addressing Parent Concerns

At times, a parent/guardian may have concerns about his or her child's performance or about a discipline issue. We are dedicated to helping you with this.

- **Step One**: The parent/guardian should first discuss the issue with the specific teacher by telephone or in person after making an appointment.
- **Step Two**: If the telephone conversation or meeting does not resolve the parent/guardian's concern, then the parent/guardian should go to the appropriate assistant principal and discuss the issue by telephone or in person after making an appointment.
- **Step Three:** If, after speaking with the assistant principal, the parent/guardian still cannot resolve the problem or concern, the parent/guardian should go to the principal and discuss the issue by telephone or in person after making an appointment.

Change of Address and/or Telephone Number

Any student who moves to another location must report the change of address to Ms. Rodriguez (SIS Clerk) immediately by bringing in verification. Changes in telephone numbers should be reported to Ms. Rodriguez as well.

Lost and Found

Lost and found items are kept at the front of each grade-level "house". Students are urged to check these areas for any of their lost/misplaced items. Items such as jewelry, keys, and Stanley Cups are left with Ms. Drew in the front office.

McKinney-Vento Rights

The McKinney-Vento Act provides rights and services to children and youth experiencing homelessness, which is defined as children who lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence. School-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act if your family lives in any of the following situations:

- a motel or campground due to the lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- a car, a park, an abandoned building, or a bus or train station
- doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- a shelter

Please contact your child's school counselor for more information and to determine if you may qualify.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Open House

Open House is the opportune time for parents/guardians to meet grade-level teachers as well as "walk" the campus. All are highly encouraged to attend. Further information will be sent via Blackboard and posted to STMS' social media accounts.

Parent Involvement

Parents and other members of the community are always welcome at Saluda Trail. For the security of all and to avoid disturbing the learning environment of students, visitors must enter by way of the office and secure administrative permission and a visitor's pass before going to any other part of the building. Parents and other visitors may observe classes by making arrangements in advance with the principal. Conferences with teachers may be arranged by making an appointment with the individual teacher or by calling the counseling department to arrange a team conference. While we welcome walk-ins, parents must schedule in advance (via phone or email) a parent/teacher conference. We also kindly ask that visitors (siblings, family members, parents) adhere to clothing that does not distract from the learning environment.

Lastly, we love our volunteers! If you're interested in lending a hand during field studies (field trips), teacher appreciation, etc., please speak with our front desk receptionist, Ms. Drew, for more information.

School Improvement Council (SIC)

The School Improvement Council (SIC) is an organization composed of teachers, parents, administrators, and other citizens elected and/or appointed by the principal. These council members work as a team to assist the school principal in determining the present and future needs of our school. Please email Dr. Kirkland, principal, rkirkland@rhmail.org, if you have any questions or are interested in being a part of SIC.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

At Saluda Trail, we love our Wildcat Families! The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is an organization composed of teachers, parents, and administrators. The organization helps fundraise for special projects around the school, teacher appreciation, student rewards, and other topics decided upon by the PTO. We welcome all and would love to have as many parents involved as possible. Please email Dr. Kirkland, principal, rkirkland@rhmail.org, if you have any questions or are interested in being a part of PTO.

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Rhine Kirkland is the principal of Saluda Trail Middle School. In addition, there are three assistant principals, one assigned to each grade level, to assist with parent communication, student achievement, and supervision. All the administrators at The Trail welcome your suggestions, comments, and concerns. If you have a concern, please contact the dean or the grade-level assistant principal. If you feel that the situation has not been resolved, please communicate with Dr. Kirkland. It is important to us that parents feel their involvement is a vital part of their children's success at school.

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Our counselors serve the students through individual and group counseling, assistance with course selections, and many other services. Parents wishing to discuss their children's progress may contact teachers directly to set up conferences or call the counselor for the student's grade level to set up an appointment.

School Counselors

6th grade, Nnaemeka (Meka) Hardy-Holmes Wilson, nhardy-holmes@rhmail.org

7th grade, Quannie Johnson, qjohnson@rhmail.org

8th grade, Rebecca McCoy, rmccoy@rhmail.org

MEDIA CENTER

The media center is available for students to return or check out books or to use other library resources. The librarian is available and willing to assist students during their time in the library. In addition, the librarian creates library class time for students to create an interest in reading for recreation or topics being studied. Ms. Ellison is the media specialist; Ms. G. Johnson is the media clerk.

RESOURCE OFFICER

The Rock Hill Police Department officer assigned to the school is here to assist students and staff, as well as to provide students with an opportunity to become familiar with a member of law enforcement. Officer Ronald Malicki serves as STMS' resource officer.

HEALTH ROOM

The school nurse not only tends to students who are feeling unwell or have minor injuries but is also available to manage health records and to answer questions about medications or wellness plans. Nurse Daniel Painter is the school nurse, dpainter@rhmail.org.

CAFETERIA MANAGER

The manager of the cafeteria not only organizes the serving of meals for three lunch periods, but she is also available to help set up payment accounts and to explain the nutritional value of the program. Ms. Parrish is the cafeteria manager.

FRONT DESK/ ADMIN SUPPORT

Nina Rodriguez – Registrar, nrodriguez@rhmail.org
PowerSchool
Registration

Tracy McKoy – Administrative Assistant, tmckoy@rhmail.org

Betsy Drew – Receptionist, edrew@rhmail.org

Early Dismissal Protocol, Questions

Felicia Peoples-Massey – Bookkeeper, fmassey@rhmail.org

Fees

Tiffany Sanders – Attendance, tsanders@rhmail.org

Attendance Plans
Attendance Questions

ASSEMBLY PROGRAMS

Periodically, students will report to the auditorium or gym for concerts or special presentations. Students not following these guidelines will be removed from the auditorium and may receive disciplinary consequences. To guarantee enjoyment by everyone, all people in attendance must follow these expectations:

- Enter the auditorium/gym as quickly and orderly as possible. Students must sit in their assigned area (by grade or team). Fill in every seat unless otherwise instructed.
- Observe school rules - no gum, hitting, running, shouting, hats, etc.
- Remain quiet and engaged throughout the program; no sleeping.
- Sit appropriately and remain seated during the entire program unless or until you have permission to stand.

- Show respect for each speaker or performance by not talking to other students and not blurting out remarks.
- Show your appreciation with applause.

SCHOOL FEES/EXPENSES AND SUPPLIES

- Please be aware that students owing fines are not eligible to participate in extracurricular athletics, clubs, or field experiences throughout the school year.
- Athletic Fee: $60 per school year for eligibility for athletic team membership
- School supplies: Please check with your child's teacher regarding needed supplies.
- Information about the $20 technology usage fee is in the Technology Distribution section below.
- Students may purchase school photos in the fall and spring.
- There are also occasional small fees if students wish to participate in events such as school dances or purchase Kona Ice, ice cream, etc.

Collection of Financial Obligations

Parents of any student who has a financial obligation to the school/district, i.e., lost textbooks, library fines, fees, etc., which are not cleared within the prescribed time, will be notified. Failure to immediately fulfill this obligation will result in the loss of privileges or activities. A plan should be approved with the appropriate personnel to collect the outstanding obligation.

Textbook Information

Students may be issued textbooks at the beginning of the year. They are responsible for the cost of any books not returned. Failure to pay outstanding textbook losses, library fines, or lost athletic equipment fees will result in a student being ineligible for participation in extracurricular or other activities such as athletics, overnight field experiences (field trips), or other activities. This is not the situation the school wants for your child, but as we are responsible to the state for the cost of the books. Students must be responsible for the good care and formal return of the textbooks that they use. If your child withdraws from school during the year, please be sure you have notified the office and all textbooks have been returned.

TECHNOLOGY: LAPTOPS/SCHOOL-ISSUED DEVICES/CELLPHONES

Laptop Use/Distribution for Students

- During the school year, laptops will be available for use by students. Students will be assigned an individual laptop, charger, and carrying case for use at school. Laptops are always in the carrying case.
- Parents should view online (found on the district website) a parent orientation session (which is recommended for all parents and required if you have not attended a session in previous years)
- The $20 technology usage fee is a required fee for any student receiving a laptop. This fee is not insurance.

Repairs/Damages

Students will be responsible for the cost of the repair(s) for damages. Please note that some repairs may require a replacement. Students will be responsible for the cost of the replacement device.

Digital Citizenship/Appropriate Use

Throughout the school year, students must meet the guidelines of good digital citizenship, student safety, and effective use of technology during the school day to avoid disciplinary consequences. The laptops have been restricted so that they are most effective for student use. Although it is not our goal to disallow the use of a device that may serve as a support to learning and to academic achievement, it may be necessary to remove a device from a student's use while an incident is being investigated or until the issue of a student's serious or repeated violation is resolved.

The Personal Mobile Computing Guide has a great deal of information about the use of technology in our schools. The list of technology offenses from the guide includes:

- Illegal installation or transmission of copyrighted materials
- Unauthorized use of the Internet or computer games
- Unauthorized recording of audio or video images of faculty, staff, classmates, or students on school property or during extracurricular activities with district or personal devices
- Downloading or accessing unauthorized applications (Instagram, YouTube, etc.)
- Giving out personal information over the Internet

- Bypassing the RH Schools' web filter
- Action violating school policy or public law
- Deleting district system applications and/or changing device settings
- Sending, transmitting, accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing obscene, offensive, profane, threatening, pornographic, or sexually explicit materials
- Use of chat rooms or sites selling term papers, book reports, or any student work
- Spamming (disruptive email or messages)
- Gaining access to another student's accounts, files, and/or data
- Use of the school's Internet or email accounts for financial or commercial gain or any illegal activity
- Vandalism (malicious attempt to harm or destroy district-owned materials)
- Transmission of any offensive or threatening material intended to harass or demean
- AI glasses New **(Updated (7-22-26)**

Personal Cell Phones/Devices

Students are not permitted to use their cell phones (or a classmate's) **after** the 8:05 bell (dismissal to class). Phones will remain in lockers between 8:05 am – 3:15 pm. Students will have access to school phones in case of an emergency. Students will receive a verbal warning for the first cellphone violation. According to district policy (JICJ), students may not have cell phones, smart watches, or wireless headphones that are on or visible from the time of arrival until the dismissal bell. These items must be placed in their lockers.

BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION/IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

The Behavior Intervention Class (BIC) is a possible consequence for violating the code of conduct at Saluda Trail. The purpose is to allow students the opportunity to reflect with our BIC Coordinator in an attempt to help them reflect on their actions and how to prevent further infractions. Students are responsible for completing the work missed while attending BIC. Also, students will be required to complete assignments given by the BIC Coordinator.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Student Drop-off/Pick-up

Students should be dropped off no earlier than 7:45 am in the morning as supervision of students does not begin until that time. Dismissal begins at 3:15 p.m. Students should be picked up no later than 3:45 p.m., as adult supervision ends at that time.

After practice, club meeting, or school-sanctioned events, students should be picked up within 10 min. of said event ending. Repeated failures to be picked up in a timely manner after evening events may result in a child being temporarily banned from attending school events.

Lockers

Lockers are assigned to each student and cannot be shared with other students. Locker combinations are specialized and not to be shared with other students. Please note that the administration has the right to inspect lockers at any time, as well as its contents. (See Students Searches)

Student Searches

Pursuant to State Law, persons entering school property are deemed to have consented to a search of their person and property. Additionally, periodic searches (conducted by trained officials) are conducted in accordance with the Rock Hill Schools. These searches are unannounced.

Searches and Interrogations

School officials may search school property, lockers, vehicles, personal belongings, etc., with or without probable cause. Random searches may occur with or without reasonable suspicion. (State 16-3-1040)

While students do not lose their constitutional rights upon entering school premises, a search may be conducted when administrators have a belief, reasonable under the circumstances, that a student committed a crime or a violation of a school rule, and that such a search will reveal contraband or evidence of a violation of a school rule or a criminal law. Furthermore, any search must be reasonable in scope given the age and sex of the student and the nature of the alleged infraction. If deemed appropriate by the administration, a hand-held metal detector may be utilized to assist in student searches. Only administrators are authorized to conduct a search of a student's person. Two adults will be present for any search.

As a reminder, students are provided lockers and desks to use during the school year. However, the schools retain ownership of both, and school officials may conduct unannounced searches at any time to maintain health and safety standards.

Canine Searches (Rock Hill School District Policy- JIH-E)

The Rock Hill School District and the York County Sheriff's Department established a drug prevention program designed to keep our school premises free of controlled substances. An officer of the Sheriff's Department and a dog trained to detect drugs will visit schools periodically to inspect lockers and automobiles parked on the premises. The program is designed for the dog to sniff property only. Should a student with a controlled substance on their person come close to the dog, the animal will pick up the scent. This may be a reason for the principal to investigate further. The principal or his/her designee will accompany the officer while on the school grounds. Students found to be involved with bringing controlled substances to school will be disciplined according to district policies. (See Code of Conduct Level Offenses)

Emergency Drills

State law requires that fire drills be conducted once a month. Drills may occur at any time of the day. Any time the fire drill signal sounds, everyone in the building should consider it to be a real fire. The main objective is to evacuate the building as quickly as possible in a safe, orderly manner. Instructions are posted in each classroom as to which exit to use. During such an alarm, students are to follow their teacher's instructions very carefully. They are to form a single line quickly, safely, and quietly, then proceed by walking to exit the building. If a student is not with their class when the alarm sounds, they need to join a class exiting close to them and remain with this class for the entirety of the drill.

In the event of a tornado, an announcement will be made for students and teachers to go to their designated area inside the building. The designated area will vary depending on the location of the classroom. Just as during a fire drill, students should follow teachers' instructions and move quickly and quietly. An announcement will be made when it is safe to return to class.

Each classroom teacher will review the fire drill and tornado drill evacuation plans. To remain safe, we must all cooperate to ensure that everyone knows the proper exit procedure from classes in case of fire or tornado.

Periodic crisis/lockdown drills will be conducted to ensure all students and staff are familiar with procedures in case of an emergency.

In the event that a major catastrophe should occur at the Catawba Nuclear Facility, an emergency evacuation plan has been established for each school. Specific plans are available from the principal.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Course Selection

Saluda Trail offers a curriculum that addresses the state standards that have been developed. The curriculum offers a strong foundation of preparation for SC-Ready and MAP testing, as well as intentional preparation for high school.

Additionally, accelerated courses such as Geometry and English I are available. Those who have a teacher's recommendation, as well as having demonstrated a strong performance on SC-Ready and MAP, are encouraged to pursue the advanced courses offered. These advanced courses offer instructional activities that are more in-depth. In addition, students are typically expected to be motivated to learn and willing to demonstrate mastery through more rigorous assignments and projects. The pace of instruction is also accelerated.

Course Requests/Changes

Students or parents who wish to request a schedule change must first meet with the grade-level counselor. After that, the request will be reviewed by a grade-level administrator and the principal. Please note that submitting a request does not guarantee the schedule will be changed.

Related Arts

One of the major goals of Saluda Trail Middle School is to assist students in determining their areas of interest outside of the core academic classes. This assistance comes through the related arts courses that are offered as a part of the school's STEAM curriculum.

In addition to the core academic courses, all students will take physical education each year as well as a variety of exploratory or elective courses. 6th-grade students rotate through all exploratory/elective courses, meaning each

related arts course is for one 9-week period. 7th and 8th-grade students will have two related arts classes for an entire semester. Exploratory/elective courses include band, chorus, art, drama, industrial technology, digital arts, PE/health, and Spanish.

Teams

A team is composed of four general education teachers (Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies). In some cases, one teacher might cross-team, resulting in a three-teacher team. There are three teams per grade level.

Grading

Progress reports are sent home at the mid-mark of each quarter; report cards are issued every nine weeks.

Number Grade	Letter Grade
90-100 =	A
80-89 =	B
70-79 =	C
60-69 =	D
Below 60 =	F

Wildcat Cards/ Honor Roll

Wildcat Cards are given each grading period for A/B Honor Roll and Principal Scholars. There are three levels of the Wildcat Card (gold, blue, and white). Each level contains a variation of requirements and rewards. At the end of each nine-week grading period, grades are reviewed to determine qualification. GPA is determined at the following rate: A =4, B=3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0.

	White Wildcat Card	Blue Wildcat Card	Gold Wildcat Card
Requirements:	GPA 3.0 – 3.49 No more than 2 absences per quarter No BIC (ISS), suspensions, or referrals	GPA 3.5 – 3.99 No more than 2 absences per quarter No BIC (ISS), suspensions, or referrals	GPA 4.0 or higher (Principal's Scholar) No more than 2 absences per quarter No BIC (ISS), suspensions, or referrals
Privileges:	Free Admission to all STMS athletic events. Wildcat Celebration: Dress Down Day (Friday after ceremony, unless otherwise determined)	Free Admission to all STMS athletic events & dances. Wildcat Celebration: Dress Down Day (Friday after ceremony, unless otherwise determined)	Free Admission to all STMS paid events (athletic events, dances, and performances) Wildcat Celebration: Dress Down Day (Friday after ceremony, unless otherwise determined)

Promotion and Retention

Per Rock Hill School Board of Trustees Policy IKE and IKE-R (Promotion, Retention, and Acceleration of Students), during the three years of middle school, students are required to satisfactorily complete the following core classes with a 60 percent ("D") or higher final grade:

- three classes of language arts
- three classes of mathematics
- three classes of social studies
- three classes of science

Students who do not earn a passing grade during the school year in each core subject must satisfactorily complete a required summer school program. Failure to complete the required summer school or other school-based intervention will result in the student's retention in that grade level. A conference with the parent/legal guardian and a letter documenting the retention recommendation will be sent home if retention becomes necessary.

Enrichment

Every student takes part Tuesday through Friday in an extra period known as Enrichment, which includes academic assistance or enrichment beyond what has been learned in class. Mondays are designated for Leader in Me Skill-building. Enrichment groups are fluid and change as needed to serve our students best and address their needs.

Middle School Grading Procedures

Press here to see Middle School Grading Guidelines
Middle School Grading/Guidelines 2026-2027

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL/CANVAS

PowerSchool Parent Portal and Canvas give parents and students access to information, including attendance, grades, and detailed assignment descriptions. Parent Portal will be a "One-Stop-Shop". You will be able to access grades, attendance, schedule, fees, transportation, and more. Please reach out to your child's school counselor for more information and assistance.

Creating an Account

If you have not created a Parent Portal account, follow the attached instructions. Your Parent Portal account will also be used to communicate with you throughout the school year, so we require an account for every family. You can set up your portal on the website: https://rock-hill.powerschool.com/public. When creating the account, you will be required to enter your username and password. This information is unique for each student. If you are in need of your access ID for Parent Portal and Canvas, please contact the school's registrar. If you have multiple students attending Rock Hill Schools, you will only create one Parent Portal account.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Early Dismissal

A parent or legal guardian must come to the school to pick up students. Students may not be dismissed after 2:45 pm. During state testing, early dismissal will not be considered excused absences, except in cases of emergencies. During state testing, students will not be interrupted for an early dismissal; once said student has finished testing, they will be dismissed.

Middle School Attendance Guidelines

Any student who misses school must present a written excuse, signed by a parent/guardian, or a medical excuse. If this excuse is not turned in within ***three*** days after the student is back in school, this absence will be ***unexcused***. The maximum number of days that will be recorded as lawfully excused absences with parent notes will be ***five***.

A tardy is only excused when a medical note is presented at the time of arrival to school or approved by the principal for extenuating circumstances.

Students will be considered *lawfully excused* absent when:

- They are ill and their attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others.
- There is a death or serious illness in their immediate family, with proper documentation (bulletin, death notice, etc.).
- There is a recognized religious holiday of their faith.
- Activities approved in advance by the principal.
- The student is suspended from school.
- There is a necessary medical or legal appointment that cannot be scheduled during non-school time.
- Absences associated with COVID-19.

Students will be considered ***unlawfully absent*** when:

- Willfully absent from school without the knowledge of their parent or guardian.
- Absent without acceptable cause with the knowledge of their parent or guardian.
- Sports, sporting events, family vacations, or any personal reason not associated with the school will not be excused. This is part of SC State Compulsory Attendance Law.

Acceptable documentation:

- All students are to provide official documentation for any absence to the home school.
- A written excuse (signed by a parent/guardian) OR a medical excuse should be provided within three days after returning to school.
- Documentation may also be submitted electronically by using the email link located on each School's website under Quick Links or submitted directly to the home school Attendance Office.

Student Attendance Intervention Plans: After **three consecutive** or a **total** of **five unlawful absences**, regulations require that school officials contact you and your child for a conference. The purpose of this conference is to identify reasons for your student's absences and to complete a Student Attendance Intervention Plan. Students who exceed the maximum number of absences allowed may be referred to the Family Court for truancy if under the age of seventeen.

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

Pautas de Asistencia para la Escuela Intermedia

Cualquier estudiante que falte a la escuela debe presentar una excusa por escrito, firmada por un padre/tutor, o una excusa médica. Si no se entrega esta excusa dentro de los tres días posteriores al regreso del estudiante a la escuela, la ausencia será considerada como no justificada. El número máximo de días que se registrarán como ausencias justificadas con notas de los padres será cinco.

Un retraso solo se considerará justificado cuando se presente una nota médica al momento de la llegada a la escuela o sea aprobado por el director por circunstancias atenuantes.

Se considerará que los estudiantes están legalmente justificados cuando:

- Estén enfermos y su asistencia a la escuela pondría en peligro su salud o la de los demás.
- Haya una muerte o enfermedad grave en su familia inmediata — con la documentación apropiada (boletín, aviso de defunción, etc.).
- Haya una festividad religiosa reconocida de su fe.
- Participen en actividades aprobadas previamente por el director.
- El estudiante esté suspendido de la escuela.
- Tenga una cita médica o legal necesaria que no pueda programarse fuera del horario escolar.
- Sean ausencias relacionadas con el Covid-19.

Se considerará que los estudiantes están ausentes de manera no justificada cuando:

- Estén ausentes de la escuela intencionalmente sin el conocimiento de sus padres o tutores.
- Estén ausentes sin causa aceptable, aunque sus padres o tutores estén al tanto.
- Participen en deportes, eventos deportivos, vacaciones familiares, u otros motivos personales no relacionados con la escuela; estas no serán excusas válidas. Esto forma parte de la Ley Obligatoria de Asistencia Escolar del Estado de Carolina del Sur.

Documentación aceptable:

- Todos los estudiantes deben proporcionar documentación oficial para cualquier ausencia a la escuela correspondiente.
- Una excusa por escrito (firmada por un padre/tutor) O una excusa médica debe entregarse dentro de los tres días posteriores al regreso a la escuela.
- La documentación también puede enviarse electrónicamente utilizando el enlace de correo electrónico ubicado en el sitio web de cada escuela bajo "Enlaces Rápidos" o presentarse directamente en la Oficina de Asistencia de la escuela correspondiente.

Planes de Intervención por Asistencia Estudiantil: Después de ***tres*** ausencias consecutivas o un total de ***cinco ausencias no justificadas***, las regulaciones requieren que los funcionarios escolares se comuniquen con usted y su hijo/a para realizar una conferencia. El propósito de esta conferencia es identificar las razones de las ausencias de su estudiante y completar un Plan de Intervención por Asistencia Estudiantil. Los estudiantes que excedan el número máximo de ausencias permitidas pueden ser referidos al Tribunal de Familia por ausentismo escolar si son menores de diecisiete años.

Citación: Código de Leyes del Estado de Carolina del Sur 59-65-50, 60, y 70 y Regulaciones de la Junta de Educación de Carolina del Sur.

LUNCH PROCEDURES

Food/Candy Sales

Parents are not allowed to bring/drop off outside food into the building (from restaurants). Parents who wish to eat lunch with their child will be provided a place other than the cafeteria to eat. Parents may not bring food to share with other students.

Students are **not** permitted to sell home-baked goods or store-bought items. Any fundraisers associated with a club/organization must have approval from the building-level principal. **Any students selling, distributing food/candy/drinks without permission from Dr. Kirkland will face consequences.**

Travel To and From the Cafeteria
1. Follow hallway guidelines.
2. Use the route to and from the cafeteria designated by your teacher.
3. No food may be taken back into the hallway from the vending machines or from the cafeteria. Food may not be "saved for later."

In the Cafeteria
1. Stand in line quietly; no cutting in line. (Those who cut and those who allow cutting will be sent to the back of the line.)
2. Take only the food you have paid for.
3. Use a conversational tone of voice in the cafeteria.
4. No horseplay or running in the cafeteria.
5. Once seated, remain seated; students are expected to ask the monitoring teachers' permission to move about the cafeteria.
6. Clean up after yourself; students who leave trash behind will receive a referral.

Vending Machines
Stay in an orderly line at the vending machines. Students may not cut in line. (Those who cut and those who allow cutting will go to the back of the line.) Vending machines are not allowed in the mornings or during dismissal.

Outside Area (Commons Area)
1. The grade level assistant principal, counselor, or teacher will indicate when students may go from the cafeteria to the outside area (and vice versa). Food is not to be eaten outside during team time/recess.
2. Students may walk the area, play basketball or another ball sport. Students are also permitted to sit at the provided tables. Participation is for all, and a game may not be "closed" to others.
3. If a student is not playing basketball or volleyball, he/she cannot be on the court.
4. When the whistle is blown to return to the building, games should immediately be stopped, and balls returned to the collection.
5. Fair play and courteous participation are expected of all our students.
6. A quick and calm return to the building is expected.

BUS TRANSPORTATION/ STUDENT TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS

"A Safe Child - A Safe Trip" IS OUR GOAL

59-67-245. Interference with Operation of School Bus
No person shall willfully and wrongfully interfere with the operation of a school bus, either public or private, by boarding, restricting movement or using threats, either physical or verbal, to the driver or any passenger while the bus is engaged in the transportation of pupils to and from school or any lawful school activity or while passengers are entering or leaving the bus nor shall any person willfully fail or refuse to obey a lawful order of a school bus driver relating to the occupancy of a school bus. The use of threatening, obscene, or profane language, leaving or waiting for a school bus, is disorderly conduct, and any person convicted for the use of such language shall be punished as provided in 16-17-530. Nothing contained herein shall be interpreted to infringe upon the power and duties of duly constituted authorities. **(Fine up to $200 - First Offense)**

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

Responsibility of Parents
1. Parents should report all misconduct on school buses to the principal.
2. Parents should report all traffic hazards, carelessness on the part of the bus driver, etc., to the principal or Director of Transportation (980-2022).
3. Parents should encourage students to observe all safety and conduct regulations established for the efficient operation of the school bus.
4. Parents should observe extreme caution when approaching bus stops, moving buses, or stopped buses.

5. Parents should help supervise large numbers of students at bus stops.
6. Parents should see that their children are at the bus stop at the appropriate time.
7. The Transportation Department has the power to deny students the privilege of school bus transportation whose parents refuse to cooperate and comply with SC State Laws and Regulations or Rock Hill School District Three regulations.

While Waiting To Board A Bus

1. Students should arrive at the bus stop only minutes ahead of the bus. The driver will not wait for children not at the bus stop.
2. While waiting for the bus, books, clothing, or other articles should not be placed in the roadway.
3. The roadway should be clear at all times, and students should not play in the path of traffic while waiting for the bus.
4. Students should stand well away from the road when the bus approaches.
5. Students should not damage property such as flowers, shrubbery, windows, fences, and other items while waiting for a bus.
6. Making excessive noise distracts the driver.
7. Bothering others at bus stops or on the way to and from school bus stops is not allowed.
8. Students should never run alongside the bus but should wait until it stops and then walk to the door.

While Riding On the Bus

1. The driver of a school bus is in complete charge of the passengers while they are aboard. Please do as the driver asks. If you have a complaint, contact your principal.
2. Seats can be assigned or re-assigned upon a moment's notice by the driver or principal.
3. Do not sit on books; hold them in your lap. Keep the aisles clear.
4. Passengers should be seated immediately and remain seated while the bus is in motion. If it is necessary to stand, be sure to hold onto the back of a seat.
5. Never extend arms, legs, or head out of the bus.
6. Refrain from talking to the driver except in an emergency.
7. Do not tamper with the emergency door, fire extinguisher, or other equipment on the bus.
8. Passengers must not mar or deface the bus, and seat coverings must not be damaged. Any damage to the bus or seats should be reported to the driver as soon as possible.
9. Only the driver or other authorized person should remove first aid equipment, which is to be used only for emergency treatment.
10. Passengers are not permitted to open bus windows. This should be done only by the driver when necessary or with the driver's permission.
11. Passengers must not fight, scuffle in the bus, or create any loud disturbances.
12. Passengers must not shout on the bus.
13. Waste paper, gum wrappers, etc., should not be thrown on the floor. Place trash in the receptacle as provided near the entrance to the bus.
14. Smoking, eating, and drinking are not permitted on school buses.
15. The use of profanity on the school bus is prohibited, as well as obscene gestures.
16. Never throw objects on or from the bus.
17. The bus driver is the manager of the bus.
18. Proper school dress code enforced.

Personal Property & Private Items

- We will confiscate any personal property and/or private items that cause commotion and/or driver distraction. Leave personal property and private items at home. We will not be responsible for the loss or return of such items either before or after such are confiscated.
- Glass, pressurized cans, and/or large school/project items are not allowed on the bus. Transport such by your family vehicle to and from school. No balloons or party items.
- Book bags/small band instruments must be kept in "student's space," on lap or between legs. These items cannot be shown above the seat line of sight. No animals, insects, hard board, or sharp objects, personalized containers or objects can be stored under seats, in aisles, or other bus nook areas. No balloons or non-academic items. No flammable items/substances or explosive items/materials. All carry-on items require approval prior to approaching the bus.

General Information

1. Students are expected to ride buses that make stops closest to their homes.
2. Students are not permitted to switch buses just for fun or to catch an earlier or later bus.
3. During inclement weather, bus stop locations must remain the same.
4. Complaints regarding the bus driver should be directed to the Asst. Director or Director of Transportation.
5. Each eligible rider is afforded one seat area of space for self and legal carry-ons.

6. All bus students are to obey the principals and teachers at each school their bus serves. Any student who, in any manner of conduct, disobeys any school official on any school ground could forfeit transportation privileges.
7. Regulations are for the protection of students, school officials, and school equipment. If a bus student has no regard for the transportation privileges other than to create problems on or off the school bus, the student will lose the privilege of riding any school bus in Rock Hill Schools.
8. While the Transportation Department of Rock Hill Schools wishes to conduct student affairs in a friendly, influential manner, students are obligated to respect school officials and the bus driver. If a bus student shows disrespect for school officials or property and equipment, the Transportation Department will take such action as necessary.
9. Your transportation is valuable to your personal needs. Protect it.

Weapons, Violence, and Gross Misbehavior
Any of the following will result in the loss of bus riding privileges:

- possession of any weapon or object that can be used as a weapon
- any act of violence at or upon another person on the way to a bus stop or at any bus stop or on any school bus, or on the way home from a bus stop
- any other acts of gross misbehavior

Suspensions
The proper conduct of students will govern their success or failure in life. With the great potential dangers involved in school bus transportations, behavior on the bus must be the best possible. The following procedures have been adopted to both instill and maintain acceptable behavior at its optimum while students are riding our school buses. It is the responsibility of each student riding a school bus to learn quickly and follow effective behavior guidelines.

Eligibility Status

I. Minor Violations
   - 1st, 2nd: Warning
   - 3rd: One day off bus
   - 4th: One day off bus
   - 5th: Two days off bus
   - 6th: Two days off bus
   - 7th and up: Three days off bus each incident

II. Major Violations
   - 1st: Warning
   - 2nd: 1st suspension conditional (1 week)
   - 3rd: 2nd suspension (1 week)
   - 4th: 3rd suspension (2 weeks)
   - 5th: 4th suspension (all year)

Common Disallowed Items on Buses

Carry-on items: Compliance with federal standards is mandatory by the State Department of Education. No animals, insects, weapons, balloons, glass, or pressurized containers, or class projects that are large, wooden, etc. None of these are to be carried on buses by drivers, teachers, or students. Up to 22×28 paper posters are allowed if the driver's vision is not obstructed. Band instruments or other items carried on the bus must be of such size that all must be carried in the student's lap and cannot be above the seat top. Items on the seats, floor (projectiles), or obstructing the aisles endanger all passengers on the bus. Class projects and large band instruments must be transported to/from school via private vehicle. Secured oxygen tanks are approved for use on Special Needs buses only. Unsecured objects become projectiles upon sudden stops.

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

Some examples of disallowed items are (but are not limited to):



(L to R: boxcutter, guitar, balloons, aerosol sprays (pressurized cans), basketball)

Missed your bus? Call: 803-980-2022 | Please email the transportation department for any bus-related questions at bushelp@rhmail.org.

MEAL PROGRAM - *See Child Nutrition Information on District Website and District Re-Entry Plan*

School meals are not free for everyone as they have been during the pandemic. However, Saluda Trail provides both breakfast and lunch at a nominal price in the school cafeteria. Students pay a cashier as they go through the line. If they choose to pay by the week, they may do this at the cash register on the first day of the week. All students are encouraged to eat in the cafeteria and take advantage of the nutritious and inexpensive meals available. Students are not to have food delivered or brought to them individually or in groups from any outside source (including parents/guardians). Please see the Lunch Program Policy on Rock Hill School's Website.

Through the Federal Lunch Program, free and reduced-price meals are available to those students who apply and who are eligible according to Federal guidelines. This eligibility is carried over from the previous year of the first thirty days of school, but after that time, students must have a new approved application on file. Any misuse of the free or reduced-price lunch program is fraud and is subject to disciplinary measures for theft.

Those who are getting a full lunch may purchase additional individual items. These additional items are for cash only. Students will have the opportunity to eat lunch in the school cafeteria on a daily basis. All school lunches meet the Federal Guidelines for the school lunch programs and will consist of food from the basic food groups. In addition to the hot meals, students may purchase pizza, nachos, sandwiches, etc. on a daily basis in the cafeteria. The cafeteria offers water and a variety of milk options with the lunch menu.

INTERNET USAGE

Rock Hill Schools provides internet in every school. This internet connection provides powerful access to worldwide information in text and media form that, if used properly, can enhance student learning. It can be particularly exciting for students because it provides a wealth of information and resources that are not readily available through conventional library means.

Unfortunately, the internet can be misused. There are images, information, and discussions that are not appropriate for students. Our faculty members directly and continuously supervise individuals and classes of students who are accessing the internet to ensure that inappropriate content is not seen on the computer. This kind of screening is not new. Schools have always screened materials for student use to exclude many books, magazines, and videos not appropriate in a school setting. However, it is possible that a student conducting individual research may disregard the teacher's instructions and actively seek out inappropriate material.

We believe that students should be provided opportunities to use the internet as a research tool with clearly understood parameters. These conditions are:

1. Parents are advised of the rules and have provided written permission.
2. The student gives written assurances regarding appropriate behaviors while operating the Internet; and,
3. The student and parents understand that violations of these assurances will result in disciplinary action and possible loss of Internet privileges in instances of flagrant abuse, i.e., searching for and/or downloading inappropriate material.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Saluda Trail students wear uniforms. Unless otherwise announced by an administrator, students are expected/are required to wear clothing that fits the following expectations:

1. Shirts may be any solid color and may contain small logos. Shirts must have a collar and sleeves and must be polo or button-down in type. V-neck collared shirts are prohibited. Saluda Trail Spirit Wear tops, including t-shirts, hoodies, and/or collared shirts, can be worn on any day with dress code bottoms.

a. Shirts and hoodies are **not** to be worn tied around the waist.

2. Sweaters, cardigans, crew neck sweatshirts, and quarter zip pullovers of any solid color may be worn. These must be worn over a collared shirt with the collar visible. Solid-colored sweatshirts and solid-colored hoodies with small logos may be worn throughout the school day. However, hoods are NOT permitted to be worn during the school day.

3. Heavy or bulky outerwear (coats and jackets), non-dress code sweatshirts, and non-dress code hoodies are NOT to be worn in the building. They should be placed in lockers during class time. If students are headed to outside lunch, all coats and outside jackets must be carried and put on when they get outside. Students should remove these items immediately upon reentry into the building.

4. All pants, skirts, shorts, capris, and skorts must be khaki, black, tan, gray, or navy.
   a. Wind pants, stretch/skinny pants or **denim**, jeggings, **leggings**, yoga pants, **denim/jeans**, and sweats are <u>not permitted</u>.
   b. <u>All pants must have seams and pockets</u>.
   c. All shorts, skorts, and skirts cannot be shorter than four inches from the top of the knee. This will be measured from the top of the slit if on a skirt.

5. All pants and shorts must rest at the waist, and back pockets must be at hip level. Zipties will be provided to students whose pants aren't able to remain at the waist. "Sagging" is <u>not permitted</u>.

6. All students must wear shoes. All shoes, including sandals, must have a back or strap that secures the heel of the foot. Shoes must be tied or buckled as they are designed. If the shoe itself is not equipped with a back as originally sold or purchased, then the shoe is not proper footwear, and the student is out of dress code. For safety reasons, students will not be allowed to wear shower shoes, bedroom shoes, slides, or flip-flops.

7. Clothing should be worn as the manufacturer intended and in a manner that does not cause a distraction or disruption to the normal operation of the class or school. Non-dress code sweatshirts cannot be worn "inside-out". Clothing should be worn with appropriate undergarments that should remain visible. All clothing must be size-appropriate. Form-fitting, thin straps, tube tops, low necklines, strapless, too tight, too short, muscle shirts, revealing clothing, tank tops, see-through clothing, and ripped/cut/torn clothing are not to be worn at any time at school. No skin should be visible between the pants and shirt at any time. Offensive/suggestive writing, pictures, and patches on clothing/jewelry are also prohibited. This includes advertising for alcohol/tobacco products or promotion of violence.

8. Head coverings, including, but not limited to, durags, bandanas, bonnets, ski-masks, etc., are NOT permitted on school grounds. Hats, earmuffs, toboggans, etc., are not permitted to be worn inside the building. Offenders risk having these articles confiscated.

9. All long jewelry (that extends beyond the collar) must be tucked in, regardless of the style.

10. Visible piercings are limited to the ears and the nose only. Nose piercings are limited to single studs (no rings or hoops). All other piercings should not be visible at any time. Students must remove any prohibited facial piercings.

Accessories:
- Sunglasses may not be worn in the buildings or in the classrooms (on the head or face).
- Curlers, combs, and hair picks are not permitted in the hair.
- Jewelry with spikes is not permitted. This includes chokers, wristbands, dog leashes, chains, etc. (Items that can/could be used as a weapon may not be worn or brought to school.)

If necessary, the administrative staff will meet to approve any attire not covered by the dress code. The principal reserves the right to repeal or amend any changes to the policy as necessary and will communicate all changes to students, parents/guardians, and staff in writing before implementing any changes. The principal also reserves the right to waive any of these rules for special days, events, and occasions as predetermined and adequately communicated to students, parents/guardians, and staff.

Students who are not in compliance with the school's uniform will be sent to BIC (ISS) until a change of clothing arrives. If a change of clothing is provided by the school, a referral will still be noted for "Dress Code Violation," as well as parent contact will be made by the grade-level administrator.

Dress Down Days

1. Ripped/tattered/torn jeans are allowed, but ONLY with something on underneath so skin is not visible. Rips must not be excessive
2. Hoodies are allowed, but the hood cannot be worn in the building; while some teachers allow hoods in the classroom due to temperature,
3. Leggings/jeggings/ yoga pants are only allowed under a dress or skirt that is no shorter than four inches from the top of the knee
4. T-shirts must be worn underneath sleeveless shirts
5. No camis or spaghetti straps
6. Appropriate footwear still applies
7. No pajamas unless designated as a "pajama day".
8. No clothing that depicts drugs, alcohol, profane, or sexual branding, images, or words.
9. No clothing can be labeled as offensive.

FIELD STUDIES

Teachers are encouraged to utilize educational field studies as a part of their instructional plans. When on school trips, students are subject to all school rules and regulations. They are expected to represent themselves, their families, and their school in an exemplary fashion.

FUNDRAISING

All fundraising or sales sponsored by school organizations must be approved in advance by the principal. The district will permit no sale of material items or services of a private nature by any individual or out-of-school organization without specific approval.

GIFTS

Students are discouraged from the exchange of gifts among themselves and the giving of gifts to teachers while at school. The school/front office will not accept food, balloons, or flowers delivered to the school for a student as these items cannot be taken to the classroom or home by bus.

CANDY, FOOD, GUM

Students are not allowed to chew gum, eat candy, or food in the hallways or classrooms. Food is only permitted in the cafeteria.

ACCIDENTS, MEDICAL CONDITIONS, EMERGENCIES

Every effort is made to prevent accidents. If an accident occurs, the procedure will be as follows: authorized school personnel will administer First Aid. If the accident or illness is considered serious, or if the student is uncomfortable, a parent will be called. No child who is ill or injured will be sent home alone. If a parent cannot be reached, the school will follow parents' directions on the enrollment card and consent forms to secure an individual to pick up the child, or to secure emergency medical treatment if needed. It is important that schools have students' current addresses and phone numbers at all times. This information is especially important in cases of emergency.

School personnel should be made aware of medical and allergic conditions and provided with the name of a contact person who can be reached at all times. Students who have been sick the previous night should only attend school if sufficiently recovered.

HEALTH ROOM/OTC, PRESCRIPTION MEDICINE

A student who becomes ill while at school may obtain a pass from his/her classroom teacher to report to the health room. **Students are not allowed to use the attendance phone or a personal device to make arrangements to go home when ill**. Students who are too sick to be in class are too sick to be in school. Every effort will be made to contact parents to help get a sick student home. It is vital for parents/guardians to provide telephone numbers where they can be reached in case of their child's illness.

In the best interest of students and staff, we request that a student remain at home if they are sick. A child should be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school after an illness.

If a student has a special condition, the parent should inform their child's grade-level counselor. This information should be accurate and up-to-date. Please notify the school of changes in your child's health status at any time during the school year.

If a student needs to take medication during the school day, it must be brought to the health room, and the proper forms must be completed with the school nurse by the parent/guardian. Students may come to the health room to take medicine under the supervision of the nurse or health room clerk. If at all possible, the time for taking medicine should be at the change of class periods or during lunch. Students are NOT permitted to carry OTC medications or prescribed medications on their person or in a locker. **All medications (OTC and prescribed) must be brought to the school nurse.**

LEAVING CLASS FOR OTHER AREAS OF THE BUILDING

Any student who goes from a classroom to any other area of the school must have a pass signed by the classroom teacher granting permission. The student must go directly and return promptly, returning the pass to the teacher who issued it. The contacted teacher must sign the pass indicating the time that the student left. Students found in areas without permission will receive disciplinary consequences.

LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

Saluda Trail Middle has numerous books and a wide variety of multimedia for students and faculty. The media center is available each day. Before and throughout the school day, students will be required to have a pass to enter. They may come to the media center on an individual or small group pass signed by the teacher anytime during the day.

During the first weeks of school, all students will be invited to the media center through their language arts classes to have an orientation and instruction session on the media center program.
All books except reference books may be checked out for a period of two weeks. Vertical file material and back issues of magazines may also be checked out. Books may be renewed unless there is a strong demand for the same materials.

Fines can be charged for books kept longer than the period permitted. Students can be charged for lost or damaged materials. If students have overdue materials or owe fines at the end of the grading period, their report cards will be withheld.

The media center is maintained for the use of the students and the staff of Saluda Trail. All furnishing and materials should be kept in the media center to use the materials in comfort. It is necessary that each student's conduct be that of a responsible middle school student. Those whose behavior is irresponsible will be subject to suspension of library privileges.
The media center and its staff are there to help all students at Saluda Trail be successful. Please be sure to ask for help whenever it is needed.

LOCKERS

Each student is entitled to the use of a locker. Students are asked to keep the lockers locked at all times. Saluda Trail will not assume the responsibility for the contents of the locker. Students are not to share their lockers. Students are to use ONLY those lockers issued to them by the school. All school lockers are subject to administrative search in the interest of school safety, sanitation, discipline, and enforcement of school regulations. Law enforcement officials may conduct searches upon presentation of a proper warrant. Students are responsible for cleaning their lockers at the end of the school year. All items left in lockers become the property of the school to be disposed of at the discretion of the administration.

All gym lockers are to remain locked at all times when not under the direct supervision of the student to whom the locker was issued. Students are not to be in the gym locker rooms without adult supervision. No personal belongings are to be left outside gym lockers at any time. Students should not bring cell phones, wallets, money, personal electronic devices, or other valuables to the P.E. locker rooms.

TEXTBOOKS

Students are issued state-owned textbooks free of charge for their use during the school year. Books are quite expensive and cost up to $100.00 each. All students are responsible for turning in all textbooks at the end of the

school year or when withdrawing from the school. Students must pay for any lost or damaged books. If you lose a textbook, report your loss to the subject teacher immediately.

BACKPACKS, PURSES, HANDBAGS, FANNYPACKS
All book bags and handbags must be left in the lockers during the school day.

LOST AND FOUND
A Lost and Found area will be provided in the main office area. Students with lost clothing, books, etc., should check this area. Students are to cooperate by turning in all articles that are found. Students can check for articles that have been lost. Parents are encouraged to label coats, sweaters, and other materials with their child's name. Just before the winter holidays and at the end of school, all unclaimed items will be donated to a worthy organization.

All textbooks found will be given to the teacher who issued the book. South Carolina State Law requires parents to pay for missing books and states that this requirement must be complied with before new books are issued. If lost textbooks are found after having paid for new ones, refund checks will be issued to the parents with receipts.

MESSAGES

To avoid interrupting classes, messages will be delivered directly to students only in emergencies. School-wide announcements are made only at the beginning and the end of each day.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The South Carolina Legislature passed a law during the 1993-1994 session mandating that a full minute of silence is observed each day in our schools. Saluda Trail observes this moment of silence during homeroom each morning. All students are expected to remain quiet during this period.

SEARCHES AND INTERROGATIONS Issued 8/16

Procedures for searching a person or a person's belongings must be reasonable. A reasonable search is one which is both based on a reasonable suspicion and is reasonably related in scope. For reasonable suspicion to exist, school officials conducting a search must be able to articulate why, based on all the circumstances, they objectively and reasonably suspect the search of the person or personal property is likely to yield evidence of a violation of law or district or school rules. In formulating a reasonable suspicion, a school official may rely on information he/she considers reliable, including reports from students, as well as the official's own observations, knowledge, and experience; however, a mere hunch or guess that a search will uncover evidence of a violation of law or district or school rules is insufficient to justify a search. Additionally, the search must be reasonable in its method and scope. A search must be carried out in such a manner that it targets the object of the search or the suspected evidence of a violation of law or district, or school rules. The proper scope of the search is a case-by-case determination and is generally limited to the places in which it is reasonably suspected that the object of the search may be found. A search may be as extensive as is reasonably required to locate the object(s) of the search and may extend to all areas, containers, and personal effects in which the object of the search may be found.

In addition, when determining the reasonableness of the scope and manner of a search, the school officials must take into account the age, sex, and other special circumstances concerning the object of the search and the person involved, as well as the nature of the suspected infraction. Should the school official determine that a pat-down search is necessary, the school official, who must be the same sex as the person searched, will escort the person to a private area to conduct the pat-down search. A witness must be present during all such searches. If a student refuses to comply, the student's parent/legal guardian and/or the police will be contacted. Under no circumstances, however, is a strip search by a school official permitted.

Searches of Lockers, Desks, and Other School Property

The district provides lockers, desks, and other school property or storage spaces to students for their use. Because the district retains ownership of this property, school officials may conduct searches of such property, including random and unannounced searches, with or without reasonable suspicion, when such search is determined by school officials to be otherwise reasonable in light of the needs of the school. However, objects belonging to students contained in such school property will not be opened or searched except as provided in the section

above. Students will be notified expressly in writing in the student handbook that such school property may be searched at any time. In conducting searches of school property, student property will be respected and not damaged.

Use of Trained Dogs

The exposure of student containers, packages, lockers, vehicles, desks, book bags, satchels, and other similar personal belongings to a reliable and trained "dog sniff," when not in a student's possession, in most circumstances, is neither a search nor a seizure. This is so because a dog sniff of the above items only does not exposes non-contraband items into view and discloses only the presence or absence of contraband. Sniffing of an individual by trained dogs, however, may constitute a search, and their use on school property may be disruptive and threatening to students and school personnel. Accordingly, school officials will only utilize trained dogs on district property under the following circumstances:

- Only trained and proven, reliable dogs may be utilized on school grounds.
- Dogs will be under the control, direction, and supervision of a trained dog handler and will be on a leash or subject to appropriate restraint at all times.
- Dogs will only be utilized when determined to be reasonable under all the circumstances by the school principal or his/her designee.
- Dogs will not sniff an individual unless determined to be reasonable in all respects under the section above; however, actual physical contact between dogs and individuals should be avoided.

In all circumstances, school officials will make reasonable efforts to minimize the exposure of students to dogs. Should a dog alert its handler to the presence of any contraband, school officials may conduct a search in accordance with the procedures set forth in the section above. A Canine Search Document [JIH-E(1)] must be completed and sent to the office of student services within 48 hours of the search being completed. Issued 1026/09; Revised 8/22/16

SKATEBOARDS, ROLLERBLADES, HEELYS, and SCOOTERS

Skateboards, rollerblades, heelys, and scooters are not allowed on school property before, during or after school. This includes weekends and during the summer months.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Supervision will be provided in designated areas for a reasonable length of time before and after regular school time for classes or an extracurricular activity. Supervision will be provided for students who ride a bus upon their arrival and until such time as the bus departs after classes are dismissed.

School supervision for walkers and car riders begins at 7:45 am. If students arrive before that time, parents/guardians are requested to supervise their child. Parents/Guardians of car riders are expected to pick up their child(ren) by 3:45 p.m. each day.

Parents/Guardians who are habitually late picking up their students may need to utilize bus transportation.

Supervision will be provided for students participating in extracurricular activities 10 minutes prior to the designated arrival time and up to 15 minutes after the conclusion of the activity. This will include time that may be required for dressing after athletic events.

Students who are repeatedly on school premises after the designated time for supervision may be excluded from attending future extracurricular activities or will be required to attend with a parent. Students who are repeatedly on school premises without special permission will be subject to disciplinary action and/or arrested for loitering. All students leaving sporting events, practices, or games must be picked up from the gym area, not in front of the school.

School officials are not required to maintain direct supervision of spectators before or after an extracurricular activity. Students are expected to be picked up within 15 minutes after the conclusion of an event. If the student's ride is late, the student will be required to attend all future events with a supervising adult. Additionally, students may not stay after school in order to attend events scheduled for later that evening. Students staying after school for extracurricular events are not allowed to change clothing on the premises of the school. Students may not walk to SPHS if they are planning to attend an event at South Pointe High School. School officials will, at all times, provide reasonable supervision for crowd control during all extracurricular activities.

TELEPHONE USAGE

No student should ask or expect to use any office telephone. In case of illness or other emergency, the school nurse or school secretary will make the necessary calls. Students will not be called to answer the phone during school hours unless approved by an administrator. Emergency messages from parents and guardians of students may be left with the secretary. All calls should be limited to three minutes or less.

TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL

Parents/Guardians should notify the school of the pending transfer. The school will continue to take attendance until a records request is received from the new school. All fines and/or fees should be paid. All school textbooks, library books, technology devices, and materials must also be returned.

VEHICLES

Students in the middle school are not allowed to drive a car or any motorized vehicle on school grounds. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. Students who ride bicycles to school are to park and lock them at the bike rack. The school is not responsible for personal property.

VISITORS

Visitors who are on school business are welcome at the school. However, immediately upon entering the school grounds, all visitors MUST "check in" at the main office and state the nature of their visit. According to South Carolina law, any person entering the premises of any school in South Carolina shall be deemed to have consented to a reasonable search of his person and effects. Anyone failing to comply with the check-in procedure will be asked to leave the campus. After a warning, the police will be called, and the violators will be prosecuted.

Out-of-town student visitors or family guests will not be permitted to visit without prior permission or invitation from a school administrator. In-district students will not be allowed to visit between schools of the district during the regular school day. Students who do so may be charged with trespassing and/or may be recommended for expulsion from district schools.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Please note: Students assigned to the Behavior Intervention Class (ISS) or out-of-school suspension (OSS) are not permitted to participate in interscholastic activities on that day and in some cases, that week.

Interscholastic (Athletic) Opportunities

Grade 7 and 8 Band	Grade 7 Basketball	Grade 7 and 8 Track and Field
Grade 8 Basketball	Grade 7 and 8 Cheerleading	Grade 7 and 8 Wrestling
Grade 7 and 8 Chorus	Grade 7 Football	Grade 8 Volleyball
Grade 8 Football	Grade 7 and 8 Softball	Grade 7 Volleyball

Students who participate in interscholastic activities sponsored by the school will be required to meet all the standards of requirements as prescribed by the state and the school district. In addition, students on school sports teams and cheerleading squads are governed by the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL) regulations.

To be eligible for participation in an interscholastic activity such as a ball game, band competition, etc., the student must be considered present or in attendance at school on the day of the contest if the contest is held on a regular school day. There will be no organized, required practices on weekends.

Extracurricular activities often include activities of high public interest, visibility, and attention. Examples include sports, band, and chorus. When students participate in such events, they are in effect serving as ambassadors of Saluda Trail and Rock Hill Schools. The behavior of students participating in such activities tends to draw attention in such a way as to elevate or malign the school and the school district's standing in the mind of the public. Therefore, students who misbehave while participating in these types of activities may be removed from the extracurricular activity by the school principal. Examples of such misbehavior include acts of disrespect to a

teacher or other school authority, acts of violence, public use of vulgar language, use or possession of unlawful drugs or narcotics, or criminal misbehavior of any kind. Students will also be subject to suspension or exclusion.

Student athletes who are assigned to the Behavior Intervention Class or receive out-of-school suspension may not participate in interscholastic activities either on that day or during the next scheduled game/event.

All students attending interscholastic events as a part of the team or as school cheerleaders MUST return to the school via transportation provided by the school. This is in conjunction with district guidelines.

Student spectators are not allowed to change clothes at school for extracurricular events. Student spectators are also not allowed to wait after school for events or walk to events that take place at South Pointe High School. Student spectators who receive OSS are not permitted to attend extracurricular events during their suspension period.

Interscholastic (Athletic) Student Expectations

Students who were seated or retained in a grade are ineligible to participate in interscholastic sports activities. Any student engaging in any athletic competition, which is sponsored by the school or played under the name of the school, shall be required to furnish the below-described documents and forms BEFORE he/she participates in any practice session:

- Parents' permission form with sports checked and signed by your parents AND you.
- Physical form filled out and signed by your doctor. This must be dated May 1st or later.
- $60 Athletic fees paid
- Birth Certificate: A CERTIFIED state, county, or city birth certificate (original, not a copy) must be turned in before you can play in a game. If your birth certificate must be ordered, we can give you the address and list of necessary information to send in order to get it.

For 7th and 8th-grade sports, students are not eligible if they are 15 years old when school starts. However, if their birthday is after November 1, they are eligible for the entire year.

Band, Choral, and Orchestra

Students who take these regularly scheduled classes have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and talents at concerts presented at various times during the year. Seventh and eighth graders who are enrolled in band, orchestra, or chorus will be required to participate in all performances as scheduled by the instructors. Some of these performances will be scheduled in the evenings. Participation in these group performances is calculated in the student's academic grade for the course.

Clubs/Organizations

The clubs listed below may be available for students, but are contingent upon student interest and/or the availability of sponsors. As with interscholastic sports, academic and behavioral guidelines must be met in order for students to participate and remain involved with these activities. Most involve after-school practice or preparation.

Academic Challenge Team
Saluda Trail has an academic team for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade levels. This team competes with other area middle schools. Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Hopper, shooper@rhmail.org.

(STMS) Ambassadors
Students interested in participating should contact their grade-level counselor.

Anime Club
Students interested in participating should contact Ms. McMillan, bmcmillan@rhmail.org.

Art Warriors
Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Copley, acopley@rhmail.org.

Battle of the Books
Battle of the Books is an academic club in which participants read ten specific books from the South Carolina Junior Book Award Nominees List. Students meet to discuss books and do activities based on them. By January, the students will take quizzes on six of the ten books. The top five scorers will go to represent our school in the regional competition. Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Ellison, kellison@rhmail.org.

Beta Club
Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Robles, mrobles@rhmail.org, or Ms. Q. Johnson, qjohnson@rhmail.org. Please note that there is a GPA requirement as well as an application process.

Dance Club
Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Gentry-Reid, ngentry@rhmail.org.

Dance Team
Tryouts are held for the dance team in May (prior to the start of the next school year) for 7th and 8th graders. For 6th grade, tryouts will be held in mid-to-late August. Students interested in trying out should contact Ms. Gentry-Reid, ngentry@rhmail.org.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Students (FCAS)
This student-led group meets the FIRST Tuesday morning (each month) before school and is open to anyone who would like to participate. It is an opportunity for students to meet together for Bible study, prayer, praise, and music. FCAS is a student-led organization. Students interested in participating should contact Mr. McCoy, jmccoy@rhmail.org.

Gaming Club
Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Cannon, fcannon@rhmail.org.

GEMS

GEMS is made up of energetic young ladies, consisting of 6th through 8th graders. They meet on Thursday mornings to explore Engineering, Math, and Science through the topics that interest them most. Members engage in hands-on activities to deepen their understanding of the mathematical and scientific principles that drive even the 'girliest' of activities. When there is a need, they also provide student leadership and school community service. Duke Energy representatives/employees come to do STEM activities with the club members, as well.

Jewelry Making Club
TBD

Kappa League
Kappa League is a national youth leadership and development program for young men in grades 6-12, focusing on training them for leadership, achievement, and service. It's sponsored by Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and aims to cultivate leadership skills, encourage academic achievement, and promote community service. Young men are nominated by school counselors and teachers. TBD.

Library Club
The library club is a group comprised of students who are interested in reading and discussing books, as well as learning about how to decorate, beautify, organize, and promote the library. We will do service projects, as well as fun and productive activities. We will also have a chance to do puzzles, board games, and more. **Students interested in library club should see Ms. Ellison to get a special pass to attend**. We meet most mornings from 8:00 AM-8:15 AM in the media center. Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Ellison, kellison@rhmail.org.

Spanish Club
Students interested in participating should contact Ms. Durham, bdurham@rhmail.org.

Step Team (Blazing Wildcats)
Students interested in participating should contact Ms. G. Johnson-Neal, gjohnson@rhmail.org

Student Council
Student Council meets regularly and helps present students' ideas and information to the school administration. They also plan school dances, talent shows, and determine monthly school spirit activities. Elections are held in early August, resulting in each grade level having elected student leaders. Students interested in participating should reach out to Ms. Keener, lkeener@rhmail.org.

Participation in Sports/Extracurricular Activities

"Any student charged with a crime (arrested) will not represent Saluda Trail Middle School in any extracurricular activity until the situation has been resolved. Any personnel should inform the administration of any such arrest." (DO memo, Dec. 12, 1996)

"Students who participate in extracurricular activities, such as sports, academic or vocational competitions, concerts, or plays, must be in attendance at least one-half day on the day of the event. Students not in attendance for at least one-half day will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular events the day of the absence."

(Responsive School, Responsible Students, Aug. 24, 1998)

INSURANCE

Insurance is available each school year for a small fee. (Enrollment dates vary) Two policies for health and accident insurance are available to students.

Regular School Time Coverage: This is a limited-coverage policy beginning one hour before school and extending one hour after the school day.

Twenty-four-Hour Coverage: This policy will be effective 24 hours a day, during the full twelve months of the year.

All students who plan to participate in school athletics (including spring sports) must be covered by adequate insurance. While it is not mandatory that it be the insurance offered by the school, it is recommended. Those student athletes who do not take school insurance must bring a statement signed by a parent that they do have adequate insurance protection, and the statement will be filed in the student's record. Parents may want to purchase the optional 24-hour Accident Insurance to ensure their child is covered outside of school activities. This coverage can be viewed online at www.k12studentinsurance.com.

Rock Hill School District provides a supplemental accidental insurance policy for all K-12 students and student athletes while participating in school-sponsored and school-supervised activities.The District paid Student Accident Insurance policy provides coverage for a child traveling/walking directly to and from school.

This is an excess policy. The parent/guardian must first file the claim with their insurance company. After the primary company has completed the claim, the parent or guardian must then file with the school policy. If the parent/guardian does not have primary insurance, then the excess policy becomes the primary policy. This excess policy is a schedule policy, which means it does not pay 100% of all charges.

Federal HIPAA regulations do not allow Rock Hill School District Three or any of its agents to act on behalf of the student athlete. Therefore, only the parent or student athlete can be responsible for the process of filing insurance and any questions that need to be answered concerning the student athlete's well-being. A toll-free number for assistance with a claim appears on the back of the accident claim form. For specific benefits questions or concerns, you may e-mail or contact the Benefits Manager:

Katrina Lanzer, Risk Management & Benefits Manager
klanzer@rhmail.org
803-981-1012

DISTRICT CODES OF CONDUCT (INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS)

As a parent and as a student of RHSD, it is important that each of you read through Rock Hill School District Policy carefully.

Policy JICFB Gavin's Law (Sexual Extortion) (Student) Issued 12/23

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

Definitions

- **Adult** means a person 18 years or older.
- **Minor** means any person under 18 years of age at the time of the alleged offense.
- **Great bodily injury** means bodily injury that causes a substantial risk of death, or which causes serious, permanent disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member or organ.
- **Private image** means an image depicting sexually explicit nudity, sexual activity, or sexual conduct as defined in state law.
- **Image** means a photograph, film, videotape, recording, live transmission, digital or computer-generated visual depiction, or any other reproduction made by electronic, mechanical, or other means.
- **Disclose** means exhibit, transfer, publicize, distribute, or reproduce.
- **Sexual extortion** means intentionally and maliciously threatening to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing an act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value.

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

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

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

Aggravated Felony Sexual Extortion
A person commits aggravated felony sexual extortion if the actor intentionally or maliciously threatens to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing any act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value and either: the victim is a minor or a vulnerable adult and the person convicted of sexual extortion is an adult; or the victim suffers great bodily injury or death and the finder of fact finds beyond a reasonable doubt that the sexual extortion of the victim was the proximate cause of the great bodily injury or death.

A person convicted of aggravated felony sexual extortion is subject to imprisonment for not more than twenty years.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Adopted 12/12/23

Legal References:
S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
Section 16-15-305 Disseminating, procuring, or promoting obscenity unlawful; definitions; penalties; obscene material designated contraband.
Section 16-15-375 Applicable definitions.
Section 16-15-430 - Gavin's Law.

S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:
R43-279 - Minimum standards of student conduct and disciplinary enforcement procedures to be implemented by local school districts.

Rock Hill Schools' Code Of Conduct (AR JICDA-R Code of Conduct)

Click on the link for the updated (2026 version) Discipline Matrix for Saluda Trail Middle School here @ RHSD Middle School Discipline Matrix

Level I - Behavioral Misconduct

Disorderly conduct includes any activity in which a student engages that tends to impede orderly classroom procedures or instructional activities, orderly operation of the school, or the frequency or seriousness of which disturbs the classroom or school.

Acts of disorderly conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- classroom tardiness
- cheating on examinations or classroom assignments
- lying
- skipping/cutting
- acting in a manner so as to interfere with the instructional process
- abusive or profane language between or among students
- failure to complete assignments or carry out directions
- use of forged notes or excuses
- cutting class
- leaving school without permission
- school tardiness
- truancy
- excessive unexcused absences
- cell phone violation
- dress code violation
- failure to identify oneself when one is required/asked
- internet/technology violations
- public displays of affection (depending on severity)
- unauthorized or inappropriate use of electronic devices
- unauthorized distribution or presentation of a publication or material

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of disorderly conduct:

- When the staff member observes (or is notified about and verifies) an offense, the staff member will take immediate action to correct the misconduct. The staff member will use an appropriate sanction and maintain a record of the misconduct and the sanction.

- If a particular misconduct is not immediately correctable, the staff member should refer the problem to the appropriate administrator for action specified under this administrative rule.

- The administrator should meet with the reporting staff member, and, if necessary, the student and the parent/legal guardian, and should apply the appropriate disciplinary action.
- The administrator will maintain a complete record of the procedures.

The staff may apply sanctions in cases of disorderly conduct that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- verbal reprimand
- withdrawal of privileges
- detention
- in-school-suspension/recovery room (depending on severity)
- out-of-school suspension (depending on severity)
- confiscate item
- academic penalty (cheating)

Level II - Disruptive Conduct

Disruptive conduct includes those activities in which students engage that are directed against persons or property and the consequences of which tend to endanger the health or safety of themselves or others in the school. Some instances of disruptive conduct may overlap certain criminal offenses, justifying both administrative sanctions and court proceedings.

The administration may reclassify disorderly conduct (Level I) as disruptive conduct (Level II) if the student frequently engages in Level I offenses.

Acts of disruptive conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- defiance/refusal to obey (comply with faculty/staff)
- the use of an intoxicant
- use or possession of tobacco products or materials
- inciting others to violence or provoking a fight
- vandalism (minor)
- stealing
- threats against others
- harassment, intimidation, hazing, or bullying
- trespassing
- refusal to obey school personnel or agents (such as volunteer aides or chaperones) whose responsibilities include supervision of students
- possession or use of unauthorized substances
- possession or use of a controlled substance or paraphernalia associated with the use of
- controlled substances, as defined by law or local school board policy
- illegally occupying or blocking school property in any way with the intent to deprive others of its use
- noncompliance with administrative direction during a school emergency
- unlawful assembly
- failure to cooperate fully with school officials in the investigation of a Level II offense
- disrupting a lawful assembly
- bus misconduct, horseplay, hitting, tripping, or pushing that could cause injuries or damage to property
- gambling
- internet/technology violations

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of disruptive conduct:

- When the administrator observes (or is notified and verifies) an offense, he/she will investigate the circumstances of the misconduct and confer with staff on the extent of the consequences.
- The administrator will notify the parent/legal guardian of the student's misconduct and related proceedings.
- The administrator will meet with the student and, if necessary, the parent/legal guardian, confer with them about the student's misconduct, and apply the appropriate disciplinary action.
- The administrator will keep a complete record of the procedures. If appropriate, school officials should notify law enforcement authorities.

The administration may apply sanctions in cases of disruptive conduct, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- temporary removal from class
- temporary or permanent removal from bus
- alternative education program

- in-school suspension
- out-of-school suspension
- transfer
- referral to an outside agency
- expulsion
- restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities

Level III - Criminal or Obscene Conduct

Criminal or obscene conduct includes those activities in which students engage that result in violence to themselves or to another person or property, or which pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of themselves or others in the school. These activities usually require administrative actions that result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the board.

Acts of criminal or obscene conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- assault and battery
- extortion
- bomb threat
- internet/technology violations
- false fire alarms
- fighting – Middle and High Schools
- possession/use of fireworks or explosive devices
- failure to report knowledge of weapons or explosive devices to school authorities
- possession, use, or transfer of dangerous weapons
- possession or transfer of look-alike weapons
- sexual offenses
- sextortion vandalism (major)
- theft, possession, or sale of stolen property
- arson
- furnishing or selling unauthorized substances, as defined by board policy
- furnishing, selling, or possession of controlled substances (drugs, narcotics, or poisons)
- distribution, sale, purchase, manufacture, or unlawful possession of a controlled substance while in or within a radius of one-half mile of school grounds
- threatening to take the life of or inflict bodily harm upon a teacher, principal, or member(s) of their immediate family
- profane or abusive language to staff, including School Safety officers and School Resource Officers, and volunteers

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of criminal conduct:

- The administrator will contact law enforcement.
- When an administrator observes (or is notified of and verifies) an offense, the administrator will confer with the staff involved, apply the appropriate disciplinary action, and, if appropriate, meet with the student.
- If warranted, the administrator should immediately remove the student from the school environment. The administrator will notify a parent/legal guardian as soon as possible.
- The first offense by a student of Level III criminal conduct at a middle or high school shall result in an automatic five-day suspension and possible criminal charges. A second offense by a student of Level III criminal conduct shall result in referral to the district's alternative learning program, possible criminal charges, or possible expulsion. The student must complete two consecutive semesters without Level II or III offenses before returning to his/her home school.
- Staff will follow established due process procedures when applicable.
- The administrator will keep a complete record of the procedures.

The administration may apply sanctions in cases of criminal conduct that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- out-of-school suspension
- assignment to alternative schools
- expulsion
- restitution of property and damages, where appropriate (should be sought by local school authorities)

Vaping/Smoking And Possession Of Tobacco/THC Products (Rock Hill School District Policy JICG-R)

Smoking/Vaping or possession of tobacco or nicotine products is prohibited on school property during the school day and by students actively participating in or practicing for school-sponsored extracurricular events and while

riding school buses and activity vehicles. The following is from the Rock Hill School District Policy JICG on Tobacco Use by Students.

The board believes that tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke (environmental tobacco smoke) are hazardous to the health of human beings, especially children. Therefore, the board affirms that one of the best methods of instruction is one that is provided within a 100 percent tobacco-free environment.

The district does not allow students to use or to possess tobacco/nicotine products or tobacco paraphernalia. This restriction applies while students are on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, at bus stops, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds.

Extenuating, Mitigating, or Aggravating Circumstances

Administrators are to take appropriate action when student misconduct away from school grounds or school activities has a detrimental effect on the educational environment, safety, or general welfare of students or staff of the district. Student misconduct includes any action performed in person, in writing, or electronically. The administrator should take into consideration the protection of students and staff from the effects of violence, drugs, and/or disruptions. At a minimum, administrators or their designees should meet with the student upon his/her arrival at school, give the student notice of the concerns, and allow the student an opportunity to present his/her side of the story. The administration may either permit the student to attend classes as usual or may take appropriate disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension to conduct an investigation into the matter. The parents/legal guardians of students will be notified of any action taken by the administration and offered the opportunity for a conference with the administration.

In the event the student is incarcerated based on his/her out-of-school conduct, the principal or his/her designee will notify the student that he/she is to meet with the administration prior to returning to school. At the conclusion of the inquiries to obtain more information on the matter, the administrator or his/her designee should take appropriate action, which may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- returning the student to his/her normal class schedule and removing all evidence of suspension
- placing the student on probation and allowing the student to resume his/her normal class schedule
- placing the student on probation, allowing the student to continue classwork, but restricting the student's participation in extracurricular activities and/or designated school activities, for example, clubs, study halls, pep rallies, student government activities, and so forth
- suspending the student
- recommending expulsion of the student from regular school and placement in the district's alternative school
- recommending expulsion but allowing access to virtual school programs through the district's alternative school (these students are only allowed on alternative school campus for coursework and exams that require a proctor in a virtual school accessed through our district's alternative school); students not able to successfully enroll will be expelled for the remainder of the school year
- recommending expulsion of the student for the remainder of the year

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Disciplinary process
Students with disabilities, as identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are not exempt from school disciplinary processes, nor are they entitled to remain in a particular educational program when their conduct substantially impairs the education of other children in the program. However, federal and state laws and regulations require public schools to meet the individual educational needs of a student with a disability to the extent that current educational expertise permits.

Program prescriptions
A staffing committee for students with disabilities, as identified under the IDEA, may prescribe or prohibit specified disciplinary measures for an individual student by including appropriate provisions in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The committee must take into consideration the student's disabling condition when deciding whether or not staff may use a particular form of discipline. Administrative authorities should observe any such provisions contained in a student with disabilities' individual education plan, except that a staffing committee may not prohibit the initiation of proceedings for suspension or expulsion that are conducted in accordance with regulations.

Suspensions
The administration may suspend a student with disabilities unless a suspension is prohibited by the student's individual education plan. At the end of the suspension, the school should return the student to the same educational placement, if appropriate. The school may suspend students for up to 10 days during the regular school year for a disciplinary infraction.

However, students who bring weapons to school or a school function, knowingly possess or use illegal drugs or solicit the sale of controlled substances while at school or a school function or inflict substantial physical injury to another individual in the school environment may be removed for up to 45 days at a time. If the principal and IEP team believe that a child with a disability is substantially likely to injure self or others in the child's regular placement, he/she may petition an impartial due process hearing officer or get a court injunction to order that the child be removed to an interim alternative educational setting for a period up to 45 days.

Expulsions
Expulsion of a student with disabilities is equivalent to a change in educational placement and, therefore, requires special procedures. Before a student with disabilities may be expelled, an IEP team must determine whether or not there is a connection or causal relationship between the disabling condition and the misconduct. If it is determined that there is a causal relationship between the student's misconduct and the student's disability, the student would continue to receive services in the regular school setting. If the behavior is not related to the disability, then the student is subject to regular discipline. However, provisions must be made to allow the student to continue to progress in the regular curriculum and meet the goals of the IEP. The district will continue to provide a free and appropriate education as set forth in a student's IEP to expelled students with disabilities. Nothing contained in this administrative rule will be construed as limiting an administrator's ability to remove a student with disabilities from school immediately under emergency conditions. Issued 5/28/90; Revised 8/26/91, 5/29/07, 4/15/11, 2/27/12, 5/23/16, 6/13/23, 12/12/23

Suspensions and Exclusions

- Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will be in the best interest of the school. Student conduct that disrupts the classroom environment or involves substantial disorder or invasion of the rights of others is a basis for in-school suspension (ISS/OSS) or expulsion of the student.
- If a fight is taking place, and a student videos the incident, he/she will receive, at minimum, three days of OSS.
- <u>If a student refuses to serve in-school suspension (BIC) and is sent home (OSS) for defiance and failure to serve a disciplinary consequence, the student is expected to serve the original consequence upon return to school.</u>
- Suspended students may be sent home for a period of one to ten days. For criminal or extremely serious matters, such as the possession of a weapon, a first offense will result in the recommendation of an exclusion or expulsion.
    - Students who are recommended for exclusion from school will be provided an opportunity for a hearing before the district hearing officer. The hearing officer may recommend that the student be readmitted to school immediately, be readmitted on probation, be assigned to another school, be assigned to Raven Academy or its virtual program, or be expelled.
- Suspensions or exclusions in no way preclude the right of the principal to have a student arrested when the conduct of the student has violated the law or poses a threat to property or the well-being of other students and staff. While on suspension or awaiting an exclusion hearing, students are not allowed on school grounds and may not attend any school district activity. Click here to read POLICY JKE Expulsion of Students.

Policy JICJPossession/Use Of Personal Electronic Devices Or District-Owned Devices Issued 6/23

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

Personal Electronic Device

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

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

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

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

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

District-Owned Device

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

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

Students are responsible for the care of the district-owned device. Parents/Legal guardians will cover the cost of damage to or loss of the device. Students will return the device at the end of the school year or when directed by an administrator. Adopted 7/28/03; Revised 6/28/10, 6/25/12, 8/27/12, 5/23/16, 8/22/16, 6/13/23

Legal References: S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended: Section 59-63-280 - Requires board to adopt a policy on student use of electronic devices.

Policy JICFAA Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying Issued 1/16

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for maintaining a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

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

For purposes of this policy, harassment, intimidation, or bullying is defined as a gesture, electronic communication, or a written, verbal, physical, or sexual act reasonably perceived to have the effect of either of the following:

- harming a student physically or emotionally, or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage
- insulting or demeaning a student or group of students, causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school
- demonstrates motivation by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression, or a mental, physical, or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to harassment, intimidation, or bullying is encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent. Complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and confidentially. All school employees are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal or his/her designee. Reports by students or employees may be made anonymously.

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

The board expects students to conduct themselves in an orderly, courteous, dignified, and respectful manner. Students and employees have a responsibility to know and respect the policies, rules, and regulations of the school and district. Any student or employee who is found to have engaged in the prohibited actions as outlined in this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion in the case of a student or termination in the case of an employee. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials. The district will take all other appropriate steps to correct or rectify the situation.

Students, parents/legal guardians, teachers, and staff members should be aware that the district may take disciplinary actions for conduct initiated and/or created off-campus involving the inappropriate use of the Internet or web-based resources if such conduct poses a threat or substantially interferes with or disrupts the work and discipline of the schools, including discipline for student harassment and bullying.

The superintendent or his/her designee will be responsible for ensuring notice of this policy is provided to students, staff, parents/legal guardians, volunteers, and members of the community, including its applicability to all areas of the school environment as outlined in this policy.

The superintendent or his/her designee will also ensure that a process is established for discussing the district policy with students.

Cf. GBEB, JIC, JICDA

Adopted 1/22/07; Revised 11/28/11, 1/25/16

Legal references:
S. C. Code, 1976, as amended:
Section 16-3-510 - Organizations and entities revised (hazing unlawful; definitions).
Section 59-19-90 - General powers and duties of school trustees.
Section 59-63-110, et seq. - Safe School Climate Act.
Sections 59-63-210 through 270 - Grounds for which trustees may expel, suspend, or transfer pupils; petition for readmission; notices and parent conferences; expulsion for remainder of year and hearings; transfer of pupils; corporal punishment; regulation or prohibition of clubs or activities.
Section 59-63-275 - Student hazing prohibited.
Section 59-67-240 - Other duties of bus driver; discipline of students for misconduct.

Federal Cases:
Kolwalski v. Berkeley County Schools, 652 F.3d 565 (4th Cir. 2011).

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

Thank you for accessing your Parent/Student Handbook. Please confirm that you read and understand STMS' student expectations by completing this acknowledgement.