

Hopewell High School

2026-2027 Student Handbook



11530 Beatties Ford Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
(980) 343-5988 Phone
(980) 343 5990 Fax

School Mission:

To provide every Hopewell Titan with an engaging learning atmosphere rich with high expectations and school pride that will cultivate success beyond high school.

School Vision:

To be a student-centered high school committed to helping students reach their full potential.

The Titan Creed: As a Hopewell Titan Student...

I will be Respectful, Responsible, Reflective, and Resilient

I will be a courageous learner determined to achieve success

I will be an engaged learner who shows school pride and goes above and beyond at all times

In compliance with Federal Law, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools administers all education programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability

Students and Families:

Welcome to the 2026-2027 School Year! We are excited for another year of learning and growth with our Titan Students. Great things are ahead for the upcoming school year. As your Principal, I remain committed to a safe and orderly environment that allows students to grow, both academically, socially and emotionally. Our school consists of approximately 1,900 students and over 150 staff members. We are diverse and pride ourselves on this! Families are critical to the success of our goals and mission. We cannot do this work without you. I ask for your partnership and involvement as we work to make Hopewell High School the absolute best place to be! Our theme for the year is: **The Titan Legacy - Building Today's Success. Leaving Tomorrow's Legacy.**

Hopewell High School hours are **6:45 a.m. until 2:15 p.m.** The tardy bell rings promptly at **7:15 a.m.** Students may not be dropped off prior to **6:45 a.m.** as staff members are not on duty and there is no supervision. Students are expected to be in their homeroom or class when the tardy bell rings. You can review a copy of our bell schedule here: <https://bit.ly/3Qdv8Nc> Early dismissal will not occur after **1:45 p.m.** If your parent needs you for an appointment, they must be picked up prior to **1:45 p.m.** to avoid a disruption to our school day. We ask that you do your best to keep appointments before or after school, on workdays/holidays; or at other times that do not disrupt learning. In order for attendance to be accurately reflected, please bring a note for our documentation.

To uphold our commitment to safety and security, visitors are limited at Hopewell. All students and visitors must check in by buzzing the front door and if admitted, complete the sign in process at the kiosk. Please note that we do not buzz visitors in during class changes or if the office is full. All visitors will go through our Evolv Scanner system. We encourage all families to register as a volunteer as this involvement is vital to the success of our school. Registration can be completed at this link: <https://bit.ly/46vYUVH> Please note that this process must be completed EACH school year.

Each student will be assigned a Chromebook and charger that they will take home with them on a daily basis. Distribution will not begin until after the start of school. Parents will be required to complete a technology waiver and there are fees for damaged, lost, or stolen items. We ask for your support in ensuring that your chromebook is charged each day for learning.

Please note that you will receive all information for transportation and Homeroom electronically this year. Students can receive this information at Open House or on the first day of school by reporting to their homeroom. Homeroom lists will be posted throughout the school. It is extremely important that your child carefully read all of the information in this letter with you. Please keep it on file for future reference. If you have questions regarding any of the information enclosed, please call our school at **(980) 343-5988**. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff at Hopewell High School, I wish each of you a wonderful school year.

Go Titans!

Mr. Vanosdall





★ 2026-2027 ★

HOPEWELL

Administrative Team

BUILDING TODAY'S SUCCESS ★ LEAVING TOMORROW'S LEGACY



LEAD
With Purpose



SERVE
With Integrity



INSPIRE
Excellence



TOGETHER
We Are Titans

*Titan
Pride*



Jim Vanosdall
Principal



james.vanosdall@cms.k12.nc.us



Frank Zaremba
Assistant Principal
12th Grade



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Ayana Barry-Buchanan
Assistant Principal
11th Grade



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Sarah Ferdon
Assistant Principal
10th Grade



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Dennis Mehall
Dean of Students
9th Grade



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Patrick Brust
Cambridge Coordinator



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ONE TITAN ★ ONE TEAM

= *United Together* =

Late Morning Arrival

Students arriving after 7:15 a.m. are considered tardy and must report to the designated location to receive a tardy pass before going to class.

Students arriving late with appropriate documentation (e.g., a doctor's note) should check in through the front office to receive an excused tardy pass.

Students who miss more than 45 minutes of a class period will be marked absent for that period.

Excessive tardiness may result in disciplinary consequences and the loss of school privileges, including but not limited to:

- Student parking
 - Athletic participation
 - Extracurricular activities
 - Field trips
 - Other school-sponsored events
-

Evolv Security Screening

To maintain a safe learning environment, all students are required to pass through Evolv security scanners before entering the building each morning.

Students found in possession of prohibited items, as outlined in the CMS Student Code of Conduct, may be subject to disciplinary action and/or referral to law enforcement.

Note: Metal three-ring binders are prohibited on all CMS campuses.

School Dismissal

The instructional day ends at 2:15 p.m.

Students must remain in class until dismissed by the bell and their teacher.

Students staying after school must be under the direct supervision of a staff member.

Students who remain on campus without supervision may be subject to disciplinary action.

Early Dismissal

Students may be signed out only by individuals listed in Infinite Campus who present valid identification.

Students who drive may be approved for early dismissal with prior written parent/guardian permission and school verification.

To help ensure a smooth and safe dismissal process:

- Parents should schedule sign-outs before or after their student's lunch period whenever possible.

- Early dismissals must occur before 1:45 p.m.
 - Students will not be released after 1:45 p.m. except in emergency situations.
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Senior Early Release

Seniors approved for Early Release will receive an Early Release card.

Students with Early Release:

- Must leave campus immediately after their final scheduled class.
- May attend Lunch but must leave campus immediately afterward.
- May not leave and return to campus unless participating in an approved school activity.

Failure to comply with Early Release expectations may result in the loss of Early Release privileges or assignment to a full-day schedule.

Lunch Expectations

Students may not leave campus during lunch, including visits to vehicles in the parking lot.

During lunch, students are permitted only in the following approved areas:

- Cafeteria
- Cafeteria Lobby
- Cafeteria Amphitheater
- Media Center (with pass)
- Zen Den (when open / with pass)

Students found in unauthorized areas may face disciplinary consequences.

Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate respect and responsibility.
- Clean up after themselves.
- Dispose of trash properly.
- Follow directions from staff members.

Other food during the day may be consumed in classrooms only with teacher approval.

Food Deliveries

Students may not order or receive food deliveries during the school day, including services such as:

- DoorDash
 - Uber Eats
 - Grubhub
 - Any other commercial delivery service
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Class Transitions

Students are expected to attend every class listed on their schedule.

Students have five minutes between classes to report to their next class. A one-minute warning bell will signal that students should be in their classrooms.

Students are expected to be seated and ready for instruction when the tardy bell rings.

A student is considered tardy if:

- They are not inside the classroom when the bell rings, and
- They do not have an approved pass from a staff member.

Students arriving more than five minutes late without a pass may be considered skipping and may be required to report to a designated location.

Off-Limits Areas

The following locations are off limits to students during the school day unless specifically authorized:

- Parking lots
- Student vehicles
- Athletic fields
- School driveways
- The woods surrounding campus
- Nearby neighborhoods
- Staff workrooms
- Gymnasium (unless assigned to a class or activity)
- Hallways and restrooms during instructional time without a pass

During Lunch

Students may only be in the:

- Cafeteria
- Cafeteria Lobby
- Cafeteria Amphitheater
- Media Center
- Zen Den

Students are not permitted in classrooms during lunch unless specifically authorized by administration.

Personal Technology Device (PTD) Policy

In accordance with North Carolina House Bill 959, personal technology devices are restricted during instructional time.

What Is a Personal Technology Device?

Personal Technology Devices (PTDs) include:

- Cell phones
- Smart watches
- Earbuds and headphones
- Personal laptops, iPads, and tablets
- Digital cameras
- Meta glasses
- Any electronic device not issued by CMS

Restricted means OFF and AWAY.

What Is Instructional Time?

Instructional time begins when a student enters a classroom and ends when the student exits the classroom at the end of the block.

Student Expectations

Students may use personal technology devices:

- Before 7:15 a.m.
- During class changes
- During lunch

Students may not:

- Use devices during instructional time.
- Use devices while on restroom breaks during class.
- Access phones or earbuds during class periods.

Teachers will collect phones at the start of class and store them securely. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary consequences according to the CMS Student Code of Conduct.

Cell Phone Policy

Upon entering any instructional area, students must place cell phones in the teacher-designated collection area.

Key Expectations

- Cell phones, earbuds, iPads, tablets and headphones may not be used during instructional time.
- Devices may not be charged during class.
- Bluetooth devices may not be worn in classrooms.
- Phones remain in the classroom during restroom breaks.
- All phones must remain on silent mode throughout the school day.
- Students may not photograph, record, or livestream staff or students without permission.
- Cell phone use during class changes and lunch must be respectful and non-disruptive.

Refusal to Comply

Refusal to surrender a cell phone or other electronic device when directed by a staff member may be considered insubordination and may result in disciplinary consequences.

Device Responsibility

CMS and Hopewell High School are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices brought to school.

Parent/Guardian Expectations

Parents and guardians should not contact students directly during instructional time. If an urgent message must be delivered, please contact the Hopewell High School Main Office: 980-343-5988

Academic Honesty

Hopewell High School Honor Code

Hopewell High School is committed to academic integrity. Students are expected to complete their own work and demonstrate honesty in all academic settings.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Copying another student's work
- Unauthorized use of AI or translation tools
- Recording or sharing assessment materials
- Submitting work that is not one's own

Violations may result in disciplinary consequences and may affect eligibility for:

- Athletics
- Extracurricular activities
- Leadership positions
- Honor societies
- Field trips
- Other school privileges

Student Honor Pledge

"I will not cheat or help others cheat. I will take pride in my school and how I represent it. I will be responsible for my actions and committed to integrity in all that I do."

Bullying and Title IX

Bullying

Bullying, harassment, intimidation, and cyberbullying are prohibited.

Students are expected to treat others with dignity and respect.

Students who experience or witness bullying should report concerns to:

- A teacher
- A counselor
- An administrator
- Any trusted school employee

Reports may also be made through CMS's anonymous reporting systems.

Title IX

Students who believe they have experienced sexual harassment or gender-based harassment should report the incident immediately to a school administrator or the district Title IX Coordinator.

Hopewell Title IX Contacts

- Mrs. Ayana Barry-Buchanan, Assistant Principal
- Mr. Jim Vanosdall, Principal

Reports may be made in person, in writing, or through CMS online reporting procedures.

Dress Code

Students are expected to dress appropriately and in a manner that supports a safe and productive learning environment.

Expectations

- Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
 - Clothing must be appropriate for a school setting.
 - Clothing or accessories displaying profanity, drugs, alcohol, weapons, hate speech, or other disruptive messages are prohibited.
 - Pajamas, blankets, bedroom slippers, and similar items are not permitted.
 - Hoods should remain down inside the building unless approved by staff.
 - Administration reserves the right to address attire that substantially disrupts the educational environment.
-

Extracurricular Activities

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege.

Student behavior, attendance, academics, and compliance with school rules may be considered when determining eligibility for participation in:

- Athletics
- Student Government
- Clubs and Organizations
- Field Trips
- Fine Arts Programs
- School Events

Students assigned out-of-school suspension are not eligible to participate in extracurricular activities during the suspension period.

Field Trips

Participation in field trips is a privilege.

Students must:

- Be in good academic standing.
- Be in good disciplinary standing.
- Obtain teacher approval when required.
- Return all required permission forms.

Students are responsible for completing any missed assignments.

The principal or designee retains final authority regarding all field trip participation decisions.

Student Parking

Student parking is a privilege, not a right.

Students who receive parking permits must comply with all Hopewell High School parking regulations and CMS policies. Violations may result in:

- Suspension of parking privileges
- Revocation of parking privileges
- Additional disciplinary consequences

The Hopewell JROTC program manages student parking operations.

Student Demonstrations

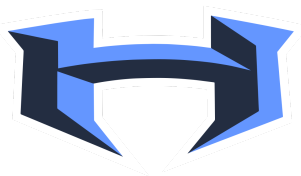
Hopewell High School recognizes students' rights to express their views in a respectful, safe, and orderly manner.

Students wishing to organize a demonstration must:

1. Meet with the principal or designee.
2. Obtain written administrative approval.
3. Submit requests at least 24 hours in advance.
4. Ensure activities do not disrupt instruction or school operations.

Unauthorized demonstrations, walkouts, or disruptions may result in disciplinary action under the CMS Student Code of Conduct.

Hopewell High School Spirit Rock — Guidelines



The decorating of Hopewell High School's Spirit Rock is subject to Board Policy [S-SFRS](#) – Student Free Speech. Nothing in this school-based policy should be interpreted to contradict Board Policy in any way.

Content/Subject Matter for Spirit Rock Messages:

Spirit Rock messages may address only the following subjects:

- Congratulations or celebrations of student or staff achievement
- Hopewell High School athletic and other school-sponsored events
- Birthdays of students and staff

Reservation, Approval, & Access

- **Who may paint:** Current Hopewell High School students, their parents/guardians or other immediate family members, officially recognized Hopewell High School clubs or teams, and Hopewell High School staff.
- **How to reserve:** Send an email to hopewellhigh@cms.k12.nc.us to apply to paint the spirit rock. Please send your request at least 48 hours prior to the date.
 1. Your application must include the name of all participants painting the rock, including any third-party artists.
 2. Your application should include a proposal of what will be put on the rock.
- **Approval:** The Principal will review applications based on Policy and the standards below. Applications will be approved, and reservations granted, on a first come/ first served basis.
 1. No student proposal that is compliant with this policy and Board Policy [S-SFRS](#) will be rejected based on viewpoint, including religious or political perspective.
 2. If an application is rejected for any reason, then the applicant may appeal using the procedures found in [S-SCOM](#).
- **When:** Reservations run from 5 p.m. on the selected day , through 4:59 p.m. on the following day. Only the reserving party may paint during that window. Messages may be displayed for more than one full school day only if there are no valid applications to paint the Spirit Rock on subsequent school days.
- **Frequency:** No more than one reservation may be made for any given school day. To help ensure that all members of the school community have a fair opportunity to paint the Spirit Rock, each Hopewell High School student, family, officially recognized student group or team, and staff member may paint it no more than once per month.

Paint & Safety Rules

- Students must provide written permission from their parent/guardian, and the parent/guardian must sign an assumption of risk form.
- Only **latex/water-based paint may be used**. No spray paint near vehicles or sidewalks; protect grass with a drop cloth.
- Do **not** paint sidewalks, trees, buildings, or the ground around the rock.
- No ladders/scaffolding may be used without prior approval from the principal; paint only the rock surface you can reach safely.
- Bring your own supplies, clean the area when finished, and remove all materials the same day.

Restricted Speech:

As explained in Board Policy S-SFSR, depending on all the facts and circumstances, the school may deny student applications, paint over messages painted on the Spirit Rock, or

otherwise restrict student expression on the Spirit Rock if the planned or actual message falls within one of the following categories of the speech as described in Board Policy S-SFSR (1) Disruptive Speech, (2) Speech that Invades the Rights of Other Students, (3) Profane Speech, and (4) Promotion of Illegal Drug Use. Please see Board Policy S-SFSR for further description of each of these categories.

Enforcement & Maintenance

- The Spirit Rock may be painted over if this policy, Board Policy [S-SFSR](#) , or any other school system policy is violated.
- Violations of this policy and/or Board Policy [S-SFSR](#) may result in loss of reservation privileges and/or disciplinary consequences per the CMS Code of Student Conduct, provided that any such consequence will be administered fairly, objectively, and without regard to viewpoint.

Questions



[CMS 2026-2027 Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Hopewell 2026-2027 Discipline Matrix](#)

THE TITAN LEGACY:

*BUILDING TODAY'S SUCCESS.
LEAVING TOMORROW'S LEGACY.*

At Hopewell High School, we honor our past, embrace our present, and commit to a future of excellence. We are **building today's success** through hard work, unity, and character—so we can **leave tomorrow's legacy** of leadership, pride, and purpose.

OUR LEGACY IS BUILT ON:

 STRONG RELATIONSHIPS We care. We connect. We belong.	 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE High expectations. Continuous growth. Limitless future.	 ACCOUNTABILITY & TEAMWORK We show up. We commit. We follow through.	 POSITIVE SCHOOL CULTURE Safe, inclusive, and supportive for everyone.	 TITAN PRIDE IN EVERYTHING WE DO We represent. We inspire. We lead.
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HOPEWELL HIGH SCHOOL
*Building Today's Success.
Leaving Tomorrow's Legacy.* ★ ★ ★