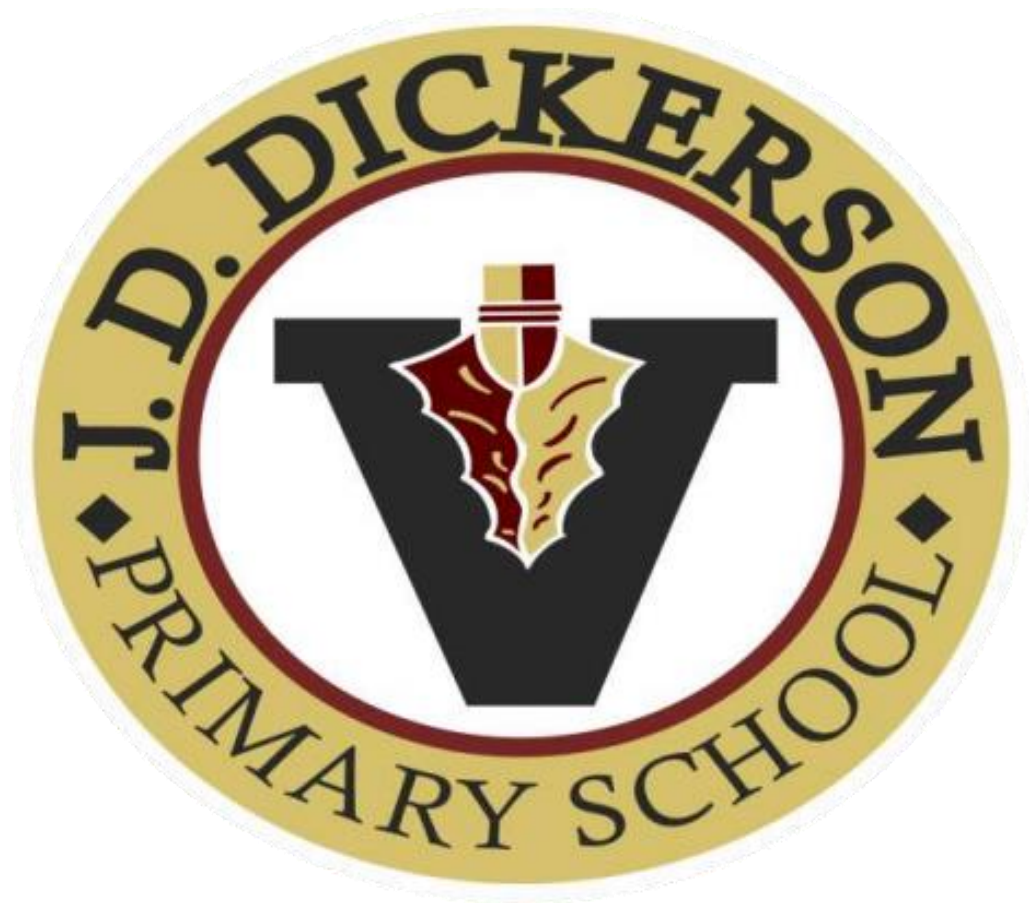


J. D. DICKERSON PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Parent/Student Handbook
2023-2024**



“Ignite, Invest, Inspire”

Effective Date: July 1, 2023
Edit Date: June 28, 2023

J. D. Dickerson Primary School

MOTTO

Where Little Indians Get Their Start

VISION

All students will become future, productive, contributing members in society.

MISSION

Ignite, Invest, Inspire

Vidalia City Schools Strategic Plan System Goals and Objectives

I. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL

I.A Increase students' readiness for post-secondary options

I.B Increase mastery of content

I.C Improve developmental areas for all students

II. ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

II.A Improve facility safety and security

II.B Maximize financial efficiency and effectiveness

II.C Develop and improve cohesive operational processes and practices

III. POSITIVE CULTURE AND CLIMATE

III.A Develop and sustain positive staff-student relationships

III.B Improve safe, healthy and secure learning environments

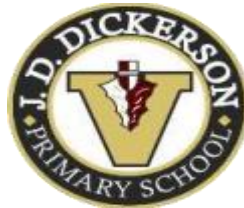
III.C Increase community, family and school engagement

IV. QUALITY STAFF LEARNING AND GROWTH

IV.A Recruit highly qualified staff

IV.B Improve and sustain staff knowledge

IV.C Retain highly qualified staff



The Vidalia Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or handicapping condition in educational programs, activities or employment.

<https://www.jddickerson.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/JDDickersonPrimary/>

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***Other permission signature forms will be sent home on the first day.**

“Message from the Principal”

Welcome to J. D. Dickerson Primary School,

It is our pleasure to welcome all students, parents, and community members to the 2023-2024 school year. We are excited to serve as your new principal and assistant principal at this amazing school that we both hold near and dear to our hearts. We look forward to working with our team and continuing the positive work at JDD. Our goal is to maintain academic excellence while meeting the social and emotional needs of the students, as well. Our “Little Indians” are extremely important to us, and it is our desire to foster growth in each individual student. We plan to work with all stakeholders to provide students with the best educational experience possible. We anticipate a very productive school year. Remember, this is *where “Little Vidalia Indians” get their start.*

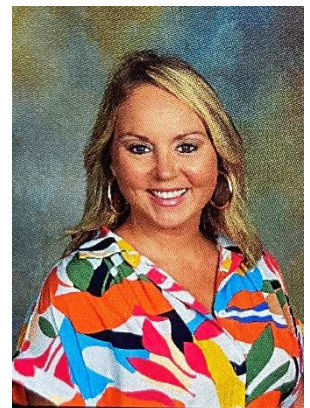
Sincerely,

Charleen Norfleet, Principal

Beth Wiggins, Assistant Principal

#PROUD2BJDD

#jddchooseexcellence



Vidalia City School School Calendar 2023-2024

Pre-Planning	July 31-August 3, 2023
1 st Semester Begins	August 4, 2023
First Day of School	August 4, 2023
Labor Day Holiday	September 4, 2023
Staff Professional Learning/Student Holiday	September 5, 2023
Progress Report	September 7, 2023
Parent Conferences/Student Holidays	October 5, 2023
Mid-Term	October 6, 2023
Staff/Student Holidays	October 6-9, 2023
Staff Professional Learning/Student Holidays	October 10, 2023
Thanksgiving Holidays	November 20-24, 2023
Staff Professional Learning/Student Holiday	November 27, 2023
1 st Semester Ends	December 19, 2023
Early Release Days (Students)	December 18-19, 2023
Christmas Holidays	December 20-29, 2023
Staff/Student Holidays	January 1-2, 2024
Staff Professional Learning/Student Holidays	January 3-4, 2024
2 nd Semester Begins	January 5, 2024
Report Cards	January 11, 2024
Progress Reports	February 8, 2024
Staff Professional Learning/Student Holidays	February 16, 2024
President's Day Holiday	February 19, 2024
Mid-Term	March 7, 2024
Parent Conferences/Student Holiday	March 14, 2024
Staff Professional Learning/Student Holiday	March 15, 2024
Staff Professional Learning/Student Holidays	March 29, 2024
Spring Break	April 1-5, 2024
Early Release Days (Students)	May 21-22, 2024
2 nd Semester Ends	May 22, 2024
Last Day of School	May 22, 2024
Report Cards	May 22, 2024
Post Planning	May 23-24, 2024
High School Graduation	May 24, 2024

GENERAL INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

START TIME

School begins PROMPTLY at 7:40 a.m. The tardy bell rings at 7:50 a.m. Students will be supervised beginning at 7:20 a.m. Students should not be dropped off at school before 7:20 a.m. There will be two lanes for drop-off and pickup with staff on duty to assist your child safely across traffic. Please drive slowly and carefully! Students are not to be dropped off or picked up at the Gym/ Bus area. FOR SAFETY PURPOSES PLEASE DROP YOUR CHILD OFF IN THE DESIGNATED AREAS ONLY! Please wait for staff members to unload students from the vehicles.

TARDIES

Students are expected to report to school on time by 7:40 a.m. A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings at 7:50 a.m. Students who arrive tardy due to doctor/dentist appointments should furnish a doctor/dentist excuse.

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Dismissal for Pre-Kindergarten through First Grade students who walk or ride in vans is 2:25 p.m. Dismissal for car rider is 2:30 p.m. Do not park your cars on the side of the school or in the Faculty/Staff parking lot during dismissal. Parents should remain in their cars and go through the traffic line. The students will be brought to your car in the traffic line. Bus riders and After School Program students are dismissed beginning at 2:25.

TRANSPORTATION HOME CHANGES

Parents must send a note to the teacher if a change in the way their student(s) normally go home has to occur. If the teacher does not receive a note, the student will be sent home the way he/she normally goes home. ONLY EMERGENCY CHANGES IN THE WAY STUDENTS GET HOME SHOULD BE CALLED IN TO THE OFFICE BY 1:30 P.M.

BUS REQUEST CHANGES

The school staff cannot approve any change in bus assignment. Mr. Robert Taylor, Transportation Director, must approve any change in the bus a student ride. He may be contacted at 537-0162. Parents need to call Mr. Taylor by 1:30 p.m. for bus change approval and notify the school of the approved change by 2:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Fire and natural disaster drill instructions are provided for staff and students and practice monthly. When an alarm is sounded, all students must proceed as directed in a quick, quiet and orderly manner, remaining quiet to hear any possible change of instructions. An all clear will be sounded when the drill is over. The Vidalia City School System has adopted and trained staff in the use of Centegix Emergency Response system. Centegix routes requests for help to key personnel and emergency response agencies instantly to lessen response time.

LOST AND FOUND

Students should return found items to the office. Students who have lost items should check with the office. It is recommended that items of great value, either monetarily or sentimental, not be brought to school. PLEASE PUT YOUR STUDENT'S NAME IN HIS/HER JACKET AND ON ALL OTHER ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL. The school is not responsible for any lost items.

**Vidalia City Schools
Student Dress Code
2023-2024**

Listed are all approved items that may be worn by students enrolled in Vidalia City Schools.

General Guidelines

- Clothing or accessories that depict inappropriate messages of any kind, to include, but not limited to, violence, gambling, gangs, prejudice, racism, sexual innuendoes, political messages, alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco are not allowed.
- Clothing that is disruptive or distracting to the learning environment is not allowed
- No clothing may draw attention to the anatomical parts
- Proper undergarments must be worn at all times and must not be visible
- Clothing must be worn on the correct side
- No bandana print on any clothing or accessories
- Midriffs are not allowed to be visible at any time

Tops

- All tops must be solid including no writing and no pictures
- Clothing brand logos must be smaller than 2 inches
- All tops must be Vidalia City dress code colors: maroon, gold, black, white, or gray
- Tops and bottoms must be contrasting colors
- Undershirts must be maroon, gold, black, white or gray with no wording or pictures
- Shirts must be collared, polo-style, button up, or crewneck shirt with short or long sleeves
- Crewneck shirts must be around the base of the neck.



- The base shirt (shirt that touches the skin first) MUST be around the base of the neck
- Shirts that button up the front must have attached collar (see above)
- Only the top two buttons can be unbuttoned and must be within three inches from the top of the placket.
- Shirt length must reach past the waistband, but within the student's arm length.
- No hoodies are allowed
- Vidalia City Schools' spirit wear is allowed as long as it is dress code color and dress code shirt style (collared, polo, button up, or crewneck) (see examples below). Spirit wear hoodies are not allowed



Bottoms

- All bottoms (pants, shorts, skirts, capris) must be appropriate size and solid dress code color: Denim, Black, Gray, Khaki, or Maroon
- All shorts, pants, and skirts must be denim (includes black or white) or khaki/chino style button up. No athletic pants or shorts are allowed, with the exception of JD Dickerson Primary students. Due to developmental needs of these students, athletic pants and shorts will be allowed.
- All bottoms must be without frays or holes
- All bottoms must be without words or pictures
- All bottoms must, at minimum, touch the top of the knee when standing and pants at appropriate waistline.
- Tights must be solid (no fishnet) black, gray, or khaki and can only be worn under approved bottoms.



Dresses

- Must be a solid Vidalia City dress code color (maroon, gold, black, white, or gray)
- Must, at minimum, touch the knee when standing up

Outerwear

- Students can wear their choice of outerwear to and from school. However, any outerwear worn inside the building must follow dress code policy described below
- Jackets, sweatshirts, or sweaters worn during the school day must be solid Vidalia City dress code colors (maroon, gold, black, white, gray, or blue denim) or “spirit” outerwear. No hooded sweatshirts, shirts, jackets, or spirit wear is allowed.
- Trench coats are not allowed at any time – before, during, or after school

Shoes

- Bare feet, slippers, bedroom shoes, or cleats will not be allowed.
- Shoes with shoelaces must be tied. Shoes with Velcro must be fastened
- Sandals with a back and open toed shoes are allowed – Slippers, athletic slides, and flip flops are not permitted

Headgear/Jewelry/Accessories

- Headgear wider than two inches may not be worn in the building unless for a special day designated by the school. Headgear includes, but is not limited to, hats, beanies, bandanas, scarves, shower caps, and bonnets.
- No writing or pictures allowed on headgear with the exception of the brand logo
- Hair must be free of all grooming items
- Body paint or writing on skin is not allowed
- No clothing accessories or jewelry with spikes or protruding studs are allowed and no chains hanging from clothing or pockets are allowed
- No objects should be attached to clothing unless school related (ribbons, buttons, towels, etc...)
- Items, accessories, and tattoos that signify or are related to gangs, gang membership, or gang activity or are disruptive to school safety and discipline are prohibited and are required to be covered
- Items, accessories, and tattoos that contain vulgarity, political advertisement, sexual innuendos, tobacco products, alcoholic products, firearms, or illegal substances are prohibited and are required to be covered
- Earrings and studded nose rings are allowed. All other piercings must be covered or removed while on campus

Any accommodation for dress code due to medical issues will require a doctor's note and communication with the school nurse. Any student requiring accommodation for dress code due to religious affiliation must file for variance with administration. Administration has the right to make adjustments to the dress code for the benefit of students and/or for safety.

OFFICE / ENROLLMENT

ENROLLMENT

To enroll a child in school, the parent must supply:

1. Georgia Certificate of Immunization
2. Georgia Eye, Ear and Dental Certificate
3. Birth Certificate
4. Copy of Student Social Security Card
5. *Proof of Residency (water bill, electric bill) * If you are residing with another family, the head of that household must provide a **notarized** letter stating that you do in fact reside there. A water or power bill must also be provided with the head of household's name on it.

A withdrawal form from the previous school may be required.

STUDENT LANGUAGE ARTS PLACEMENT

Students transferring to the Vidalia City Schools shall be assigned to the grade level/group indicated as appropriate according to placement test results. Such placement shall be tentative pending teacher observation of achievement level and analysis of standardized achievement test results and other data. Placement may be changed later by the school administration in accordance with what is educationally best for the pupil. (Bd. Policy JBCD)

WITHDRAWAL and TRANSFER

The procedure for withdrawal from school is:

1. The student's parents must notify school of withdrawal date.
2. The parent must obtain a withdrawal form from the school once.
3. The student must turn in all books that were issued to him/her.
4. The student must return all library books to the Media Center.
5. The student must clear obligations from lunchroom.
6. All financial obligations to the school must be paid before records are released.
7. The Principal must sign the completed withdrawal form. A copy of the withdrawal form will be given to the student to take to the new school.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS / PHONE NUMBER

Parents who move during the school year must notify the school secretary within 5 business days in order for school records to be kept current. The same applies for telephone numbers. NOTIFYING THE SCHOOL OF THESE CHANGES IS ESSENTIAL, ESPECIALLY IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS FOR STUDENT ACCOUNTING

According to Georgia Law (SB507 as it amends, O.C.G.A. 20-2-150), ALL students enrolling in Georgia schools must present an official copy of the social security number or a signed waiver form. This means school official needs to see the social security card or an official document that satisfies the local school official in verifying the number. School officials may make a copy to place in the child's permanent record folder.

STUDENT RECORDS

Any parent or guardian who wishes to inspect their child 's permanent record should make a request through the principal 's office at least one day prior to the date of inspection. A school official will be present to review and interpret the record.

Pupil records may be released to a third party with the written permission of the parent or guardian.

When a student transfers to a new school, records will be sent upon receipt of a written request from the new school. Special Education records require a separate written request and are released through the Director of Special Education Services.

VISITORS

In the interest of security and safety for our students, all visitors must report to the main once. Any school visitor who needs to go into the school beyond the main office must sign in. Upon leaving the building, the visitor must sign out in the main once. No school age children are allowed to visit at any time during school hours, unless the principal authorizes special permission. In accordance with state law, it shall be unlawful for any person to disrupt or interfere in the operation of any school, school bus or stop within the district. Any person violating this provision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature.

SCHOOL INSURANCE

Accident insurance at a minimal cost will be available. This insurance protects the students from the time he leaves home until he returns home providing he/she goes directly to and from school. Twenty-four-hour coverage is also available.

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED AT SCHOOL

Toys, games and other items create a distraction for students and are not allowed at school. The

following is a partial list of items that are included but not limited to:

1. Toys and games (including footballs, baseball and similar equipment)
2. Trading cards or playing cards of any type
3. Electronic equipment (games, beeping watches, pagers, cell phones, tape/CD/DVD players, and any other electronic items)
4. Party invitations (These are not to be handed out at school.)
5. Valentine deliveries of any type (This is a system policy.)
6. Any other item which causes a distraction to instruction
7. No rolling book bags

These will be taken up and kept in the office until a parent/guardian comes to get the item(s). The school reserves the right to seize any other item that may cause disruption to the school program.

ENROLLMENT / NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

Upon admission of a non-resident student to Vidalia City Schools, continued acceptance in successive years shall be contingent upon said student continuing to meet provisions set forth in Board Policy (Bd. Policy JBCD). The Vidalia City Board of Education reserves the right to review any student 's eligibility at any time. The Board further reserves the right to dismiss any student at any time should said student fail to meet the provisions set forth in this policy.

DEFINITION OF RESIDENT STUDENT

A resident student is one whose parent 's or legal guardian 's major domicile is within the corporate limits of the City of Vidalia.

CHANGE OF RESIDENCY STATUS

Should a resident student move from the City of Vidalia, that student may be allowed to complete the current school year provided a prorated portion of the annual tuition is paid within 5 school days of the change of residence. Said student may apply for readmission as a non-resident for the following school term.

Should a non-resident student attending Vidalia City Schools move into the City of Vidalia, no refund of tuition shall be made.

PRIORITY FOR ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

Non-resident students are accepted on a "by school" basis. Eligible non-resident students shall be selected for admission to Vidalia City Schools in the following priority order:

1. Children of system employees who work more than one-half time and are eligible for local and state benefits.
2. Currently enrolled non-resident students
3. Siblings of currently enrolled non-resident students
4. Non-resident students whose parents/guardians pay school tax to the City of Vidalia

Non-resident students not included in priorities 1, 2, 3, or 4 may be eligible applicants if space is available. A random drawing of students from the eligible pool shall fill the remaining vacancies at grades K and 1. All applicants should be notified of acceptance or denial within 24 hours of determination of eligibility.

SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

All non-resident applicants requiring special services shall be considered for admittance on an individual

basis.

TUITION FOR NON-RESIDENT STUDENT

The Vidalia City Schools Board of Education shall set tuition for non-resident students annually. In accordance with the Quality Basic Education Act (20-20133), tuition —shall not exceed average locally financed per student cost for the preceding year, excluding the local fair share funds required by code section 20-2-164. † Tuition shall be payable annually and in advance to the school which the student will attend. All Non-Resident tuition is due, paid in full, upon enrollment. Tuition for the children of system employees who work more than one-half time and are eligible for local and state benefits shall be waived as long as such employment continues. The Board shall annually determine the tuition status of those applicants placed in non-profit, non-discriminatory youth institutions.

TAX CREDIT FOR NON-RESIDENT TUITION

Tuition may be paid partially or fully paid by presenting a city ad valorem tax receipt from the preceding year, stamped “PAID” by the City Clerk of Vidalia. Credit for tuition payment shall be granted only for SCHOOL TAX paid. No “PAID” city ad valorem tax receipt may be used for more than 9 consecutive school months. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to secure and present a “PAID” city ad valorem tax receipt at the time of tuition payment.

NON-RESIDENT TUITION

The Vidalia City Board of Education has set Non-Resident Tuition for the **2023-2024 school year at \$200 per child**. This fee applies to students who reside outside the city limits of Vidalia, Georgia refer to VBOE Policy JBCB. Tax credits are allowed for non-resident students whose parents pay school taxes to the City of Vidalia, Georgia. Tuition may be partially or fully paid by presenting a City of Vidalia Ad Valorem Tax Receipt from the preceding year. (The school tax portion of the bill will be deducted from tuition.)

Tuition should be paid to the school where the child will attend. Each school will begin receiving tuition payments during regular business hours on the **first day of pre-planning** and must be paid in full (or arrangements made with the building principal) on or before **Labor Day**. **All non-resident tuition not paid in full by this date will result in the school withdrawing the student from his/her school, or he/she will be withdrawn. All non-resident students enrolling after Labor Day will have two weeks from date of enrollment to pay in full or he/she will be withdrawn.** No prorated tuition refunds will be given for those students who move out of the city during the school term. **On-payment of tuition fees, late payment, or returned checks are grounds for revocation of tuition status. Tuition is non-refundable.**

DENIAL FOR NON-RESIDENT TUITION

Non-resident students may be denied admission to Vidalia City Schools for any of the following reasons:

1. Overcrowding
2. Past discipline record
3. Past attendance record
4. Non-payment or late payment of tuition
5. Falsification or misrepresentation of pertinent information during the application process
6. Other good and sufficient cause

Applications to attend the Vidalia City Schools may be made to the building principal during the school

year. The building principal will evaluate the applicant as outlined in the policy JBCB. Questionable cases will be referred to the superintendent along with the results of the principal 's evaluation. Should an applicant be turned down, the superintendent will be notified immediately. (Bd. Policy JBCB)

TRANSPORTATION FOR NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Non-resident students are **NOT** eligible to ride school buses to or from school, unless prior arrangements have been made with the transportation department.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is critical to your child 's success. Parents are responsible for getting their children to comply with attendance regulations. Parental cooperation with teachers and administrators will help to ensure the academic progress of the student.

ATTENDANCE LAW / ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Students who are ages six to sixteen are subject to the State of Georgia mandatory attendance law. Students who enroll prior to age six are subject to the same attendance law as if they had enrolled at age six. Parents of these students are subject to penalties if they violate the mandatory attendance law.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

School attendance on a daily basis is the best way to ensure that a child receives instruction that will help him or her to be a successful, productive, independent citizen. When attendance problems begin to affect a child's school progress, actions will be taken by the staff of the J. D. Dickerson Primary School and the Vidalia City School System Pupil Services Coordinator. Possible actions include:

1. A contact from the child 's teacher
2. A contact from the J. D. Dickerson School Secretary
3. A contact from the J. D. Dickerson administrative staff
4. A contact from the Pupil Services Coordinator
5. An Attendance Case Review Panel meeting which the parent(s)/guardian is required to attend
6. A hearing in Juvenile Court which the parent(s)/guardian is required to attend
7. A hearing in Toombs County Magistrate 's Court which the parent(s)/guardian required to attend
8. A hearing in State Superior Court which the parent(s)/guardian is required to attend
9. A referral to the Toombs County Department of Family and Children Services
10. A referral to the Department of Juvenile Justice
11. Other actions as needed to improve school attendance for any child

These actions are listed in no particular order. One or more actions may be taken in the course of trying to improve the school attendance of any child who is a student in the Vidalia City School System. Parents of students, and students who are not residents of the City of Vidalia, but who attend Vidalia City Schools are subject to the same actions as parents of students and students residing in the city limits of Vidalia. Attendance problems for students who reside outside of Vidalia City limits may result in the child being withdrawn from the Vidalia City School System at the discretion of the Principal of the J. D. Dickerson Primary School, or the principal's designee.

ABSENCES

Regular attendance at school is critical to student progress. A student who reaches (6) absences is

considered at-risk in accordance with federal legislation (NCLB). A student will be considered for retention in the presently assigned grade level if an excessive number of absences impact student progress due to missing the instruction provided by the teacher. The State Department of Education has set up the following reasons for lawful absences:

1. Personal illnesses (limit of five per semester without Dr. 's note)
2. Serious illness or death in the family
3. A court order or an order by a governmental agency
4. Recognized religious holidays of a pupil 's particular faith
5. Conditions rendering school attendance impossible or hazardous to the safety of the pupil

When a student returns to school after being absent he/she **MUST** present a WRITTEN excuse or Doctor 's excuse to his/her teacher. *The excuse must be turned in within three days of returning to school or the absence(s) will remain on record as unexcused.* The following items should be included in the excuse:

The student should present this written excuse to the teacher who will sign or initial the note. Failure to bring a note within a three-day period will result in an unexcused absence. No more than five parental notes will be accepted per semester for excused absences. Beyond five parental notes, a doctor 's note is required in order for the absence to be deemed as excused. Even if a parent has called into the school to say that the student was sick, a note must accompany the child upon returning to school.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

When a student has an unexcused absence, teachers are not required to provide make up work a student may have missed during his/her absence.

FIVE-DAY NOTE

A five-day note is one in which a parent informs the school in writing of an absence five days prior to the unexcused absence(s). When a parent submits a five-day note request, the current attendance record and/or records from previous years are used to determine approval. Based upon the current attendance record, if the requested absence(s) will result in or near to an excess of seven (7) absences per semester or 14 absences for the entire school term, permission will be denied. If the administrator approves the absences, the parent/student may request make-up work for the unexcused absences. Five-day notes are unexcused.

EARLY DISMISSAL / EARLY SIGN OUT

Parents are encouraged to schedule appointments other than during school hours. However, when emergency demands, the appointment should be made as early or as late in the school day as possible. Please be aware that three tardiness and/or early sign outs are equal to one absence.

Steps for early dismissal are as follows:

1. Parent or guardian must come into the office to request early dismissal.
2. Student will be called to the office for dismissal.
3. Parent or guardian must sign the student sign-out sheet.
4. A doctor 's note should be returned to the office upon the student 's return.

ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

PARENTS TO LUNCH (Lunch on the Lawn)

Once a year parents will be invited to join their child for school lunch. You will be notified by your child 's teacher of the date. The students enjoy having their parents visit with them during lunch on this day. The cost of the meal is **\$5.00** (*price is subject to change*) and should be paid in advance.

BIRTHDAYS

Our faculty and staff recognize students on their special day. At the end of every month, we have a special celebration in the lunchroom for all students who had a birthday. June and July birthdays will also be included.

FIELD DAY

Field Day is scheduled during the spring of each year. It is a day set aside for fun and outside games. Parents and community members are invited to come view the games. Everyone is a winner! Field Day is a privilege and students who repeatedly display inappropriate conduct at school may be eliminated from participating **at any point** during the year.

FIELD TRIPS / SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Occasionally instructional field trips are planned. Also, special programs are brought to our school, usually provided by the PTO. These occasions are also special privileges and may be denied for students who repeatedly display inappropriate conduct at school.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SUPPORT (PBIS) CELEBRATIONS

Each nine weeks students are eligible to receive some form of reward for their continued efforts with good behavior, by earning a set number of points per semester. The points may vary from year to year in accordance with the number of days in the grading period. Students will be informed of the point amount at the beginning of each semester grading period. These occasions are also special privileges and may be denied for students who repeatedly display inappropriate conduct at school. Also, a student must be present in class at school in order to receive his/her point for any given day.

PLANNED SCHOOL EVENTS POLICY

Planned events for J. D. Dickerson Primary School are for Dickerson 's students only. Students from other schools within this system are not permitted to attend. It is school policy that when school is in session for the system, all Vidalia City School System students are to attend their schools. A student may not be eligible to attend any planned school event if he/she has repeatedly displayed inappropriate behavior in class or has earned three or more once referrals per semester. For each referral earned after three, it could result in the loss of another planned event.

GUIDANCE OFFICE

2023-2024

The J. D. Dickerson Guidance Department encourages academic, personal, social, and career development. The comprehensive, developmental curriculum provided through this program is designed to meet the needs of students in grades PreK-1st. The overall goal of this program is to facilitate the development of each student to become future, productive, contributing members in society.

SCHOOL COUNSELING

School counseling services are delivered in the following ways:

- Classroom Guidance Curriculum- *designing, structuring, and delivering classroom lessons so that students develop specific outcome-driven competencies in all grades PK-1 (personal/social, academic, career) and driven by the needs of the school population*
- Individual Student Planning-*assisting students with goal formation/planning (behavioral, academic, etc.)*
- Responsive Services- *meeting immediate student needs (counseling, crisis intervention, consultation, referral, peer mediation, information-providing)*
- System Support- *consultation with other professionals, coordination of various supports for students and families*

The School Counseling Department is open to serve students and parents Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The JDD Guidance office may be contacted via phone 912-537-3421.

MEDICAL

DISPENSING OF MEDICATION

- At the written request of the parent or guardian, the school nurse or school staff may administer medication in accordance with the following procedures:
- The parent/legal guardian must complete the required —Medication Authorization Form when medication must be administered during the school day. For prescription medication a physician must sign the form. The form can be obtained from your school nurse when the medication is delivered to the school. The completed form **MUST** accompany all medication. Any changes in medication or the dosage will require a new authorization form.
- All medication administered at school must be in the original container and given to the school nurse or office personnel **ONLY**. Students may not have medication in their possession, except with a physician 's written request/order. Under no circumstances should medication be shown or shared with other students. Aspirin products must also have a physician signature prior to administration.
- Unused medication should be obtained from the school nurse within one week after medication is discontinued; otherwise the school nurse will dispose of the medication.
- A daily record will be kept on all prescribed and non-prescribed medication. This record will include student 's name, date/time, medication administered, and signature of supervising personnel.

STUDENT ILLNESS

Sick students who are considered contagious must not be sent to school. If your child has a fever of

100.4 degrees or higher, please do not send the child to school. After a child has no fever for 24 hours, then they may return to school. When a student becomes ill at school, the nurse will contact the parent or guardian and the parent must decide to pick up the student IMMEDIATELY. If a parent cannot be contacted, an emergency number provided by the parent will be called. If no contact can be made, the student will be kept in the office until contact can be made or until dismissal time.

STUDENT INJURIES

If your child sustains an injury at school and it is reported to the nurse, the following procedures will be followed: · Minor injuries, scrapes, and cuts will be treated. Parents will be called as deemed necessary. In cases of more serious injury, parents will be notified. If unavailable, the emergency contact will be notified. If neither of these persons can be reached, the child will either be transported to the hospital emergency room or an ambulance will be called depending on the circumstance and the school 's assessment of the situation.

The function of the school in relation to sudden illness and accident is one of emergency handling of these situations. School personnel shall act promptly and intelligently in emergencies for the saving of life, the prevention of further injury, and the alleviation of pain. As soon as possible, the parent or guardian shall be notified. The school is not responsible for subsequent treatment. *PLEASE KEEP YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBERS UPDATED SO THAT YOU CAN ALWAYS BE CONTACTED!

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES / HEALTH CONCERNS

Because schools bring large numbers of children into close daily contact they serve as a place where the transmissions of all kinds of communicable diseases occur. Some of the most common diseases/health concerns would include the common cold, influenza, chicken pox, head lice, MRSA, and measles.

Control of these illnesses depends to a great extent on observant caring parents and teachers. However, some communicable diseases require a trained eye and special treatment as well as monitoring by a physician in order for one to regain good health.

When a child has symptoms of a communicable disease, such as obvious rashes or sores, nausea, high fever or similar symptoms, the parent or guardian of the child will be contacted and required to take their child home. In cases concerning head lice, a child will not be readmitted to school until first bringing some form of proof of treatment, such as a shampoo box top as well as being checked by the school nurse for nits.

MEDIA CENTER

J. D. Dickerson Primary School has a Media Center that is well stocked with books for reading and learning. A qualified Media Specialist and Paraprofessional will be available to assist students and parents in the Media Center.

All books and material taken from the library must be checked out at the circulation desk. Library hours are from **7:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.** on school days.

Note: Parents are encouraged to use our media center during school hours. Parents are allowed to check-out **ONE** additional book. Let the reading begin!

CARE OF TEXTBOOKS and LIBRARY BOOKS

The care of textbooks and library books is the responsibility of each individual student. Students must pay for any lost or damaged books they have been assigned. Cost will be determined by the condition

of the book when issued or checked out of the Media Center.

K-8 Cafeteria Program 2023-2024
JDD, SDM and JRT are CEP Schools

We welcome your child to the School Nutrition Program in the Vidalia City School System. Our food service program is self-supporting, meaning we operate from monies received through payments for meals by students and staff as well as reimbursements from USDA programs. All schools offer at least two lunch choices daily. All meals are planned for children and selections are based on the food 's children prefer. New foods are introduced occasionally in order to expose children to different tastes. Current monthly menus are sent home with students and posted on the system website. All menus must meet the U.S. Department of Agriculture requirements and guidelines. Our meals also meet the new meal guideline requirements set forth by USDA.

Parents of students at JDD, SDM, and JRT, please be aware of the following:

- Behavioral expectations will follow rules designated in the PBIS matrix at each school.
- All lunches purchased in the cafeteria will be eaten in the cafeteria or designated area.
- Students cannot bring or have catered/fast food brought to them to be eaten in the cafeteria. Lunch should be brought from home if a student chooses not to participate in the free CEP meals in the NSLP at the school. Per State and Vidalia City School board policy, sack lunches can in no way promote restaurants or fast food establishments through the use of wrappers, cups, bags, etc. All foods from restaurants must be rewrapped at home and placed in a lunch box or sack.
- All students who bring lunch boxes at JDD, SDM, or JRT will also be offered a regular meal and a —grab n go! supplement for their lunchbox as well. Fresh fruits and vegetables will be available for all students at these schools. If they choose to pick up a meal, they will be required to pick up 3 components which could be a vegetable, fruit, and plain or flavored milk. **Note:** Students are NOT required to pick up milk for their plate! That is your child 's choice. Water is available in all of our lunchrooms.
- Per USDA guidelines, students are encouraged to drink meal If your child is allergic to milk, a doctor 's diagnosis (NOT a parent note) is required. Water is always available.
- System and state guidelines do not allow students to bring glass containers or cans in to the cafeteria.

Extra Purchases or *A la carte* Items

- Your child 's student number is on their schedule & report card and is their lunch number, except JDD Primary which does not use student numbers.
- Sally Meadows and J.R. Trippe students must know their student number to purchase extras.
- If a student has a negative balance, they may not charge or purchase extra items.
- You can check your child 's account balance and put money on their account at www.k12paymentcenter.com

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) at K-8

All students eat free at JDD, SDM and JRT as we are participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs which allow students to eat free in Kindergarten through 8th grade. As such, no actions are required of you at these schools except to encourage your child to eat with us to maintain this program for all students. **REMINDER:** Extra Entrée's or a la carte items are not included under the CEP program. Students must have cash or have money on their account.

VIDALIA CITY SCHOOLS SPECIAL PROGRAMS

WELLNESS POLICY

The wellness policy requirement was established by the Child Nutrition and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program Act and has been strengthened by the Healthy, Hungry-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA). It requires each LEA participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program to develop a wellness policy for students and staff within its district.

CHILD FIND

The purpose of Child Find is to identify, locate, and evaluate children and youth, birth to age 21, who are suspected of, or have a disability or developmental delay, in order to provide free and appropriate Special Education services. Vidalia City School offers comprehensive special education services to eligible students ages three through 21 years of age. Parents of students, who suspect their child may have a disability, should contact the teacher, principal or the SST/RTI Specialist. All referrals are considered confidential, and services are provided at no cost. The parent, legal guardian, or surrogate parent retains the right to refuse services and are provided other procedural safeguards under federal and state law. Public school services include screening in areas of suspected disabilities, such as vision, hearing, autism, motor skills, speech, language, and general development. Evaluations in the schools are provided for 26 several areas of suspected disabilities, including learning disabilities, speech and language development, orthopedic impairments, vision or hearing problems, intellectual disabilities, emotional behavior disorders, autism spectrum disorders, health impairments, traumatic brain injuries, and significant developmental delay. For more information concerning eligibility criteria and referral procedures, contact Katrina Blount-Woodard, Director of Student Services at (912) 537-3088, Ext. 2010 or kbwoodard@vidalia-city.k12.ga.us.

HOSPITAL HOMEBOUND

Hospital Homebound (HHB) instruction is designed to provide continuity of educational services between the classroom and home or health care facility for students in Vidalia City Schools whose medical needs, either physical and psychiatric, do not allow school attendance for a limited period of time. HHB instruction may be used to supplement the classroom program for students with health impairments whose conditions may interfere with regular school attendance (e.g., students receiving dialysis or radiation/chemotherapy; or students with other serious health conditions). Students must be enrolled in a Vidalia City School in order to receive HHB instruction. For additional information, contact the School Counselor at the local school for forms and information.

SECTION 504 RIGHTS AND PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

Notice of Rights of Students and Parents Under Section 504 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, commonly referred to as "Section 504," is a nondiscrimination statute enacted by the United States Congress. The purpose of Section 504 is to prohibit discrimination and to assure that disabled students have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to non-disabled students. For more information regarding Section 504, or if you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Katrina Blount Woodard, Director of Student Services at (912) 537-3088, Ext. 211.

GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM

According to definition, a gifted student is one "who demonstrates a high degree of intellectual and/or creative abilities, or excels in specific academic fields and who needs special instruction and/or special ancillary services to achieve at levels commensurate with his/her abilities." Therefore, competencies in the areas of cognitive skills, learning skills, research and reference skills,

communication skills and meta-cognitive skills are extended through gifted education programs beyond what is experienced in the regular classroom. The Vidalia City Schools' Gifted Education Program was developed under the standards and guidelines provided by the state of Georgia. For more information contact Katrina Black, Director of Student Services at (912) 537-3088, Ext. 2010 or kbwoodard@vidalia city.k12.ga.us

STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM (SST) / PYRAMID OF INTERVENTION (POI)

Referrals to SST can be made only after a student has been placed by the teacher(s) on Tier Two of the Pyramid of Interventions. All students in the school begin on Tier One of the POI, which is the regular classroom instruction. At-risk students, those experiencing academic or behavioral difficulties, may be referred to Tier Two of the POI, which includes activities specifically designed for those having difficulty. While on Tier Two, the student 's teachers meet regularly whereby the student 's progress on intensive interventions is monitored and documented. If the student 's progress is minimal, the student may then be considered for an SST referral (Tier Three of the POI). Parents are informed if their child is referred to

Tier Two of the POI and to SST. If referred to SST, the SST Committee, which is chaired by the school counselor, views the documented progress while on Tier Two. The SST Committee, of which the parent is an invited member, may then make recommendations as to future educational planning, which may include further evaluation for educational planning. Parental permission is requested before any further testing is begun. Testing is conducted under the supervision of the Director of Special Education.

A brief overview of the four levels/tiers of the Pyramid of Intervention is noted below:

- Tier4: Referral to Special Education
- Tier 3: Referral to SST (Student Support Team)
- Tier 2: Referral for Tier 2 Classroom/School Interventions for at-risk students
- Tier 1: All students making satisfactory progress and not on Tiers 2, 3, 4 are considered onTier1 **Vidalia City Schools**

Vision/Hearing Screening for Response to Intervention (RTI)

A plan of intervention, referred to as RTI (Response to Intervention), is in place for students who are struggling academically or behaviorally. An explanation of the four Tiers is explained in the above section of this handbook. Prior to referral to Tier two or beyond, a Vision/Hearing Screening is required and can be conducted at the school. Please note that parents are informed if their child is referred at Tier Two and beyond. Please indicate your agreement for this screening on the signature permission page in this handbook and return to your child 's school.

STAFF/TEACHER INFORMATION

PARENT – TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Parents may request a conference with their child’s teacher by writing a note to the teacher or calling the school to make an appointment. Teachers will contact parents to schedule a minimum of two parent-teacher conferences each year. Weekly or daily folders and behavior reports are sent home. Please sign these communications and have your child return it to the school.

PARENT – TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

The J. D. Dickerson Primary School PTO is an important part of the total school program. The PTO is an organized body of parents, teachers, and staff working together to provide a common bond that strengthens home and school. Various activities occur throughout the year which allows interaction among parents, students, staff, and the community. PTO provides many forms of enrichment for our students, staff, and school. Please make plans to become a part of this organization.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The J. D. Dickerson Primary School Council is a seven-member group whose purpose is to develop and have active participation toward the goal of student-focused school improvement. Membership is comprised of two parent representatives, two business representatives, two teachers, and the principal. The Council members serve for a two-year term. The Council serves as an advisory body on school matters such as calendar, curriculum, handbook, facility use, and other school activities. Any individual may request to address the Council at a scheduled quarterly meeting by securing and submitting a Public Participation Request Form by the Friday prior to the scheduled meeting.

RETENTION AND GRADING

PROCEDURES FOR RETENTION CANDIDATES

Each teacher shall be responsible for determining through a variety of assessments whether a student appears to be on grade level or achieving at a level which, with accelerated, differentiated, or additional instruction or interventions, would allow the student to perform at grade level by the conclusion of the subsequent school year. JDPS teachers determine retention based upon a student’s scores in Acadience & Math Yearly Benchmarks, GKids, etc. and weekly classroom assessments as well as classroom performance. A school level team will review a student’s performance and parents will be notified and given the opportunity to attend a parent conference prior to any decision to retain the student.

GRADING POLICY

Students are assigned a numerical, standards-based grade at J. D. Dickerson Primary School, based on daily work and assessments. This scale is based on ongoing student achievement. At the completion of the school year, students’ overall standard-based score will be converted to a letter grade coinciding with the numeric score. The standards-based scale is as follows:

Standards-Based Scale

Academic Performance	Converted Grade	Conduct Grade	Numerical Grade (PowerSchool only)
4- Meets mastery with no Support	E-Distinguished	E=Excellent	93-100
3-Meets with little support	M-Proficient	S=Satisfactory	85-92
2- Progressing	P-Developing	N=Needs improvement	70-84
1-Does Not Meet	N-Beginning	U= Unsatisfactory	0-69

DISCIPLINE PHILOSOPHY AND PROCEDURES

We believe that all students should be respectful as well as respected. J. D. Dickerson Primary School exists to educate our youngest students. Part of that education is to learn certain expectations for acceptable behavior to ensure that learning happens for **all** students. We use the basic premises set forth in the Assertive Discipline Program integrated with the expectations generated by the system-wide initiative PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions Support). We strive to create an environment that encourages intellectual and social growth of students and is consistent in its expectations of appropriate behavior for early childhood students. Those expectations include but are not limited to the following:

1. Communicate clear expectations of school behavior to students
2. Provide consequences for inappropriate behavior
3. Recognize students that consistently demonstrate appropriate behavior.

CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE PLANS

We have a school-wide plan based on the Positive Behavior Support Intervention Program. Positive behavior support is an application of a behaviorally-based systems approach to enhance the capacity of schools, families, and communities to design effective environments that improve the link between research-validated practices and the environments in which teaching and learning occurs. This program is reflected in each classroom plan. All classrooms have a discipline plan based on and directly tied to the Positive Behavior Support Intervention Program. This makes the rules and consequences consistent from classroom to classroom. Conduct grades are tied to following the classroom and school rules.

**J. D. DICKERSON'S BEHAVIOR MATRIX
2023-2024**

	Be Responsible	Be Respectful	Be Safe
BEFORE SCHOOL (HALLWAY)	*Follow directions promptly *Place book bag next to door and report to breakfast	*Sit quietly by classroom door *Quietly read your book	*Keep legs crossed so others can walk safely in hall *Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
HALLWAY	*Stay on blue squares when moving through hallways *Use Perfect 10 model (1 line, 0 talking)	*Use inside/quiet voices *Respect others' belongings (book bags, items on wall, decorations)	*Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself *Always walk in the hall
CAFETERIA	*Keep table and floor area clean *Raise your hand if you need help	*Eat your own food * Avoid playing with food	*Chew food completely before swallowing *Always stay seated on your bottom on your stool
RESTROOM	*Use tissue/paper towels correctly *Take care of your business and come out quickly	*Be considerate of others' privacy *Flush toilet when finished	*Avoid physical contact in restroom *Keep water off the floor
PLAYGROUND	*Line up immediately when bell rings *Put trash in trash cans	*Share equipment * Use kind words	*Avoid pushing/shoving when lining up *Remember to leave rocks on the ground

DISCIPLINE REFERRALS

When discipline cases are referred to the administration, the system discipline code will be applied. Repeat violators may require more severe disciplinary measures. **All discipline referrals are subject to the discretion of the administrator.** Incidents not covered by the system code will be handled as follows:

1st Referral:

- A. Talk with and question the student about the problem.
- B. Contact the parent or guardian.

2nd Referral:

- A. Talk with and question the student about the problem.
- B. Contact the parent or guardian
- C. Tomahawk Time

3rd Referral:

- A. Talk with and question the student about the problem.
- B. Contact the parent or guardian
- C. Extended Tomahawk Time

4 or more referrals may result in more ISS or possibly OSS; parents will be contacted and notified of the consequence administered.

INTERROGATIONS (GA CODE 32-912)

The principal or his/her authorized representative possesses the authority to conduct reasonable interrogations of students in order to properly investigate student misconduct.

SEARCHES (GA CODE 32-912)

The District School System endeavors to provide a safe and secure environment for all students. The Board (VBOE) authorizes reasonable searches of students directed to that end by authorized school officials. Searches based on reasonable suspicion may proceed without hindrance or delay, but they shall be conducted in a manner which insures that students are not arbitrarily stripped of personal privacy.

The principal of each school, or his/her authorized representative, possesses the authority to conduct inspection of students' articles carried upon their persons. Such search shall be based on reasonable suspicion of the presence of deleterious items. Examples of deleterious items shall include, but are not limited to, secreted noisemakers, water guns, contraband drugs, a handgun, or other dangerous weapons.

In the event a student 's person or his/her personal possessions reveal the student is concealing material which is prohibited by federal, state, or local law, enforcement authorities shall be notified so that they may take appropriate action.

DISCIPLINE REFERRALS THAT FALL UNDER THE VIDALIA CITY SCHOOLS CODE OF CONDUCT

Discipline referrals that fall under the Vidalia City Schools Code of Conduct may result in one of the following.

- A. Tomahawk Time
- B. Loss of special event privileges
- C. In-School Suspension (ISS)
- D. Out of School Suspension (OSS)

All discipline referrals are subject to the discretion of the administrator. When a child is sent to the office, all classroom options have been exhausted.

TOMAHAWK TIME

Tomahawk time is a resource that is used by faculty and staff to provide support for students that need re-teaching of the school wide expectations. It is commonly used to provide a place for students

to de-escalate and use problem solving skills before returning to class.

LOSS OF SPECIAL EVENT PRIVILEGES

Repeated discipline referrals may result in the loss of special privileges. Parents will be notified prior to the event scheduled to be lost for the student.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

J. D. Dickerson Primary School has an in-school suspension program that operates in accordance with state and local policies. The ISS program is a classroom which is supervised by in-school suspension personnel. Students may be assigned ISS from 1 to 10 days. In-school suspension is an alternative to out of school suspension. Failure to follow rules in ISS could result in the assignment of additional ISS days or out of school suspension. Contact with parents will be made when ISS is assigned as a

consequence of rule infractions. Students will be required to complete classroom assignments in the ISS classroom. If a student is given OSS while serving in ISS, when the student returns to school the student will serve the remainder of the assigned ISS days.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS)

Students may be assigned out of school suspension. Students may be assigned from 1 to 10 days of out of school suspension. Out of school suspension is a serious consequence. Parents will be contacted when OSS is assigned as a consequence.

BULLYING

Any personnel who suspects that bullying is occurring or is made aware of an incident of bullying will immediately report to the school administration. Upon a finding by a school administrator that a student has committed an act of bullying or is a victim of bullying, the administrator or designee shall notify the parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of the student by telephone call or through written notice, which may be done electronically.

In grades K-5, each bullying incident shall be investigated by the administration and appropriate punishment provided based on the severity of the incident. Options may include but are not limited to counseling, extended ISS, web-based learning, home schooling, or any other educational placement deemed appropriate by the administration.

The consequences for acts of bullying will follow the VBOE policy and are at the discretion of the administration. The Vidalia Board of Education Bullying Policy (**Descriptor Code JCDAG**) may be read in its entirety on the District website.

“20-2-751.7. (a) The Professional Standards Commission shall establish a state mandated process for students to follow in reporting instances of alleged inappropriate behavior by a teacher, administrator, or other school employee toward a student which shall not prohibit the ability of a student to report the incident to law enforcement authorities. Each local school system shall be required to implement and follow such state mandated process and shall include the mandated process in student handbooks and in employee handbooks or policies.

Student Reporting of Acts of Sexual Abuse or Sexual Misconduct

(a) Any student (or parent of friend of a student) who has been the victim of an act of sexual misconduct by a teacher, administrator or other school system employee is urged to make an oral report of the act to any teacher, counselor or administrator at his/her school.

(b) Any teacher, counselor or administrator receiving a report of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct of a student by a teacher, administrator or other employee shall make an oral report of the incident immediately by telephone or other wise to the school principal or principal 's designee, and shall submit a written report of the incident to the school principal or principal 's designee within 24 hours. *If the principal is the person accused of the sexual abuse or sexual misconduct, the oral and written reports should be made to the superintendent or the superintendent 's designee.*

(c) Any school principal or principal 's designee receiving a report of sexual abuse as defined in O.C.G.A. 19-7-5 shall make an oral report immediately, but in no case later than 24 hours from the time there is reasonable cause to believe a child has been abused. The report should be made by telephone and followed by a written report in writing, if requested, to a child welfare agency providing protective services, as designated by the Department of Human Resources, or, in the absence of such agency, to an appropriate police authority or district attorney.

Reports of acts of sexual misconduct against a student by a teacher, administrator or other employee not covered by O.C.G.A. 19-7-5 or 20-2-1184 shall be investigated immediately by school or system personnel. If the investigation of the allegation of sexual misconduct indicates a reasonable cause to believe that the report of sexual misconduct is valid, the school principal or principal 's designee shall make an immediate written report to the superintendent and the Professional Standards Commission Ethics Division.

**Vidalia City Schools Code of Discipline
2023-2024**

DISCIPLINE RULES AND CONSEQUENCES

The purpose of the Code of Discipline is to promote positive student behavior, which is conducive to an appropriate learning environment. Teachers and administrators have the authority to apply the following Behavior Rubrics for inappropriate behaviors. The rubrics are guidance only and are not binding. Each disciplinary case must be judged on the specific facts of the individual case to determine appropriate penalty.

**=Does Not Apply To JDDP*

Rules 1-44 are State Laws

- **Rule 01 Alcohol** – violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol during the school year.
- **Rule 02 Arson** – unlawful and intentional damage or attempted damage to any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device. Examples include firecrackers, fireworks, and trash can fires if they are contributing factors to a damaging fire. Without a fire, firecrackers, and fireworks are included in the Discipline Incident Type code ‘23’ Weapons – Other. This code does not include a simple act of lighting a match.
- **Rule 03 Battery** – actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against his or her will or intentionally causing bodily harm to an individual. For example, when one individual physically attacks or “beats up on” another individual. This includes an attack with a weapon or one that causes serious bodily harm to the victim. Includes the actual placement of a bomb or one sent through the mail, regardless of whether the bomb explodes. This code shall be used when the attack is very serious, serious enough to warrant calling the police or bringing in security, where the intent is to do bodily harm to someone. Administrators will determine if the situation is deemed to be serious enough to result in the consequences outlined below.
- **Rule 04 Breaking and Entering – Burglary** – unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a crime. This applies to school buildings or activities related to a school function.
- **Rule 05 Computer Trespass** – unauthorized use of a computer or computer network with the intention of deleting, obstructing, interrupting, altering, damaging, or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer, network, program(s), or data.
- **Rule 06 Disorderly Conduct** – any act that substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function, substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment, or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others.
- **Rule 07 Drugs, Except Alcohol and Tobacco** – unlawful use, cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale of, purchase, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or tobacco equipment or devices used for preparing or using drugs or narcotics. Includes being under the influence of drugs or substances represented as drugs. Code includes over-the-counter medications if abused by the student. Code does not include tobacco or alcohol. Note: A form must be completed by a parent or legal guardian for prescription or over the counter medications to be taken at school. All medicine must be brought to the office. No student may possess or take ANY medicine at school without the nurse or office personnel. The only exception is prescription inhalers.
- **Rule 08 Fighting** – mutual participation in a fight involving physical violence where there is no one main offender and no major injury. Rule does not include verbal confrontations, tussles, or other minor confrontations.

Category 1:

Definition: Fight between 2 peers, where staff physical interaction is not required for altercation to cease.

Example: Student A and Student B engage in a physical altercation. Staff members approach and verbally request students to cease. Students comply without further physical contact.

Consequence: Up to 3 days OSS

Category 2:

Definition: Fight between 2 peers, where staff physical interaction is required for altercation to cease. Minimal physical contact continues, once staff members intervene.

Example: Student A and Student B engage in a physical altercation. Staff members approach and verbally request students to cease. Students do not comply and one of the teachers accidentally gets hit in the arm while intervening in the altercation, but is not hurt.

Consequence: 3-5 days OSS; Law enforcement contacted

Category 3:

Definition: Fight between 2 or more peers, where staff physical interaction is required for altercation to cease. Fighting continues, once staff members intervene, either endangering or causing actual bodily harm to staff members.

** If a student is involved in 2 altercations, of any Category, in the same school term, the 2nd altercation will automatically be defined as Category 3.

Example: Student A and Student B engage in a physical altercation. Other students engage in the altercation. Staff members approach and verbally request students to cease. Students do not comply. Teachers attempt to physically break up the altercation, yet fighting continues. One teacher is hit in the head and another hurts his/her leg breaking up the altercation.

Consequence: 10 days OSS pending a disciplinary tribunal; Law enforcement contacted. Students arrested on sight and taken to the police department.

- **Rule 09 Homicide** – murder and non-negligent manslaughter, killing of one human being by another, killing a person through negligence.
- **Rule 10 Kidnapping** – unlawful seizure, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will, or of a minor without the consent of his/her custodial parents or legal guardian.
- **Rule 11 Larceny/Theft** – unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property of another person without threat, violence, or bodily harm. Included are pocket picking, purse or backpack-snatching if left unattended, theft from a building, theft from a motor vehicle, theft from a coin-operated machine, and all other types of larcenies. The Larceny/Theft code should be used only when theft is serious enough to warrant calling the police or bringing in security. For example, students stealing pencils or paper from each other are forms of malicious or harassing behavior and not larceny because it is not serious and does not warrant calling in security to deal with it.
- **Rule 12 Motor Vehicle Theft** – theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. Code includes theft of car, truck, motorcycle, dune buggy, RV, or anything that is self-propelled.
- **Rule 13 Robbery** – taking, or attempting to take, anything of value that is owned by another person, organization, under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. An essential difference between robbery and larceny is that threat or battery is involved in a robbery. Examples include extortion of lunch money.
- **Rule 14 Sexual Battery** – any sexual act committed by force against a person incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of temporary or permanent mental incapacity. **If you have questions regarding this rule, please see the administration for a more complete**

description of this rule. This code should be used only when the incident is severe enough to warrant calling in law enforcement.

- **Rule 15 Sexual Harassment** – deliberate, repeated, and unsolicited physical actions, gestures, or verbal or written comments of a sexual nature, when such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with a student’s academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning environment. Examples include behaviors such as leering, pinching, grabbing, suggestive comments, suggestive jokes, or pressure to engage in sexual activity.
- **Rules 16 Sex Offenses** – Any sexual act where the victim is capable of giving consent. This also includes indecent exposure and obscenity. **Please see the administrators of the school if a more detailed description of this rule violation is needed.** Examples include entering or downloading pornographic content onto a school computer.
- **Rule 17 Threat/Intimidation** – unlawfully placing another person in fear of bodily harm through verbal intimidation or threats without displaying a weapon or subjecting the person to actual physical attack.
- **Rule 18 Tobacco and Electronic Cigarettes** – possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, and on transportation to or from school.
- **Rule 19 Trespassing** – entering or remaining on a public-school campus or School Board facility without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. This includes students under suspension or expulsion, and unauthorized persons who enter or remain on a campus after being directed to leave by the chief administrator or designee.
- **Rule 20 Vandalism** – the willful and/or malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it. Examples include graffiti, carving initials or words in desktops, or spray-painting on walls.
- **Rule 22 Weapons Possession – Knife** – the possession, use, or intention to use any type of knife, including a pocket or penknife, to inflict harm on another person, or to intimidate any person.
- **Rule 23 Weapons Possession – Other** – the possession, use, or intention to use any instrument or object to inflict harm on another person or to intimidate any person. Included in this code are chains, pipes, razor blades, ice picks, dirks, nunchakus, brass knuckles, Chinese stars, Billy clubs, tear gas guns, electrical weapons or devices, explosives, or propellants. Firecrackers and other fireworks are also included if fire is not involved.
- **Rule 24 Other Discipline Incident or a State-Reported Discipline Actions** – any other discipline incident for which a student is administered corporal punishment, in-school or out-of-school suspension, expelled, suspended from riding the bus, assigned to an alternative school, referred to court or juvenile system authorities, or removed from class at the teacher’s request (pursuant to O. C. G. A. 20-2-738).
- **Rule 25 Weapons Possession – Handgun** – possession of a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand; and any combination of parts from which a firearm described above can be assembled.

Note: This definition does not apply to items such as toy guns, cap guns, bb guns, and pellet

guns.

- **Rule 26 Weapons – Rifles/Shotgun** – the term “rifle” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each singled pull of the trigger. The term “shotgun” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile or each single pull of the trigger.

- **Rule 27 Serious Bodily Injury** – The term “serious bodily injury” means bodily injury which involves a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement; or protracted loss of impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.
- **Rule 28 Weapons/Other Firearms** – Firearms other than handguns, rifles, or shotguns as defined in 18 USC 921 which includes any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any above; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device, which includes any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas.
- **Rule 29 Bullying** – A pattern of behavior, which may include written, verbal, physical acts, or through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology occurring on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to have the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s education, threatening the educational environment, or causing substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm.
- **Rule 30 Other – Attendance Related (A)** – Failure to report to class, skipping class, leaving school without authorization **(B)** – Repeated or excessive unexcused absences or tardiness; failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions.
- **Rule 31 Dress Code** – Students will not violate the dress code outlined in the student handbook.
- **Rule 32 Academic Dishonesty** – Receiving or providing unauthorized assistance on classroom projects, assignments, or exams. No student shall forge signatures of other parties nor alter information on any documents. In addition to an office referral, student will be required to retake or redo any assignment that was impacted by the academic dishonesty.
- **Rule 33 Other - Student Incivility** – Insubordination or disrespect to staff members or other students; includes but is not limited to refusal to follow staff member instructions, use of vulgar or inappropriate language, and misrepresentation of the truth. *(Degree of severity determines classroom managed vs office discipline referral and can be found in both areas of the handbook)*
Student Incivility A1: *Blatant insubordination; profanity directed toward school staff*
Student Incivility A2: *Issuing false reports on school staff*
- **Rule 34 Other – Possession of Unapproved Items (A)** – The use or possession of any unauthorized item disruptive to the school environment. **(B)** – The use or possession of any unauthorized item disruptive to the school environment. *Students cannot supply, possess, transmit and/or discharge any item that is disruptive or potentially dangerous. This includes but is not limited to possession of toys, gadgets, personal items, etc.* **Electronic Equipment/Cell Phones/Internet Usage:** *Electronic devices, including Cell Phones/Smart Watches are not to be seen, used, or heard on campus or during any school activity. Ear buds/Headphones cannot be worn in the school building unless it is part of instructional delivery. Internet Usage: No student shall visit any inappropriate, unauthorized web site while on school property. This includes, but is not limited to, pornographic sites, chat rooms, and unsupervised email checks. In appropriate sites will be determined by the teacher, media specialist, and/or administrators.*
- **Rule 35 Gang Related**
A: Students shall not engage in any gang activities, included but not limited to: gang gestures, symbols, colors, hair design, eyebrow designs, clothing styles, and body art.
B: Groups shall not gather for the intent of harming or bullying
- **Rule 36 Repeated Offenses** – A collection of offenses not previously assigned a state reportable action that occurs on a single or across multiple school days that leads to a state reportable disciplinary action.
- **Rule 40 Other Non-disciplinary Incident** – Can only be used to report “physical restraint” with action
“95”
- **Rule 41 Physical Contact (A)** Behaviors such as pushing, shoving, tripping, horse playing, or other behavior that does not result in threats, intimidation, or fight. **(B)** such as pushing, shoving,

tripping, horse playing, or other behavior that does not result in threats, intimidation, or fight. Activities falling under this rule are those behaviors with no intent to harm.

- **Rule 42 Electronic Smoking Device** - Possession of, usage of, distribution and or selling of an electronic smoking device
- **Rule 43 Gambling**-Students will not gamble on school property or while attending an activity under school supervision. *Gambling includes playing cards, betting, matching, etc., for money, property, or recreational purposes. No cards of any kind are permitted on school grounds.*
- **Rule 44 Violence Against a Teacher** - Intention physical attack against a teacher with the intent to cause bodily harm resulting in severe injuries or any physical attack against a teacher (Violence against other school personnel should be reported as Battery)
 - **Consequence:** Parent contact with each offense
 - 1st Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 2nd Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 3rd Offense: ½ day ISS
 - 4th Offense: 1-day ISS
 - 5th Offense: 1day OSS

- **Rule 45 Vulgar Language, Obscene or Inappropriate Behavior, Inappropriate Touching** – No student shall use profane, vulgar, or obscene words, gestures or actions, whether written or spoken, that is directed toward faculty, staff members, or students. No student shall possess materials containing obscene language or pictures. No student shall touch or grope another student’s gender specific anatomical body parts.
 - **Consequence:** Parent contact with each offense
 - 1st Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 2nd Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 3rd Offense: ½ day ISS
 - 4th Offense: 1-day ISS
 - 5th Offense: 1day OSS
- **Rule 46 Public Display of Affection or Inappropriate Touching** – Students shall not engage in inappropriate physical display of affection or touching on school property or at school activities.
 - **Consequence:** Parent contact with each offense
 - 1st Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 2nd Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 3rd Offense: ½ day ISS
 - 4th Offense: 1-day ISS
 - 5th Offense: 1day OSS
- **Rule 47 Hall Passes/Restricted Areas** – A student must have a hall pass whenever he/she leaves class during the class period. There are no exceptions to this rule. Students are not allowed to visit other students during class hours. Students are not allowed in restricted areas deemed by administration. Students are not allowed to get permission to go to one area of the school and then visit another area without permission.
 - **Consequence:** Parent contact with each offense
 - 1st Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 2nd Offense: Tomahawk Time

- 3rd Offense: ½ day ISS
 - 4th Offense: 1-day ISS
 - 5th Offense: 1day OSS
- **Rule 48 Food, Drinks, Gum** – No student shall have food or drinks in the classroom or hallway outside of the designated times. Water is allowed during all times of the day but ONLY in a clear, plastic water bottle (the type in which the water was actually purchased; no thermos or color tinted containers). No food or drinks served by the cafeteria shall be taken from the cafeteria unless it is a package that has not been opened. This package shall not be opened outside of designated times for food and drink. No gum or sunflower seeds are allowed at any time.
 - **Consequence:** Parent contact with each offense
 - 1st Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 2nd Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 3rd Offense: ½ day ISS
 - 4th Offense: 1-day ISS
 - 5th Offense: 1day OSS
- **Rule 49 Improper Use of Motor Vehicle** – Students are not permitted to drive any motorized vehicle on the J. D. Dickerson School campus.
- **Rule 50 Lunchroom Conduct** – Lunches purchased at school will be eaten in the school lunchroom or designated areas; Inappropriate behavior in the lunchroom will not be tolerated; Loudness, breaking in line, horseplay, etc.); Loud talking and loud laughing in the lunchroom will not be tolerated; Food cannot be thrown, scattered, or played with in any form or fashion.
 - **Consequence:** Parent contact with each offense
 - 1st Offense: Silent Lunch
 - 2nd Offense: Silent Lunch
 - 3rd Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 4th Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 5th Offense: ½ day of ISS
- **Rule 51 Refusal to Report (A)** – No student shall fail to carry out assigned consequences for misconduct or fail to report to teachers or administrators for disciplinary actions.
 - **Rule 52 Violation of Terms of Probation** – If a student breaks the terms of probation upon returning to school from an alternative setting after required punishment had been met, he/she will be returned to the original punishment given for the remainder of the school year.
 - **Rule 53 Bus Conduct Referral** – Code of conduct for bus transportation must be followed as outline in the appropriate section of the student handbook.
 - **Rule 54 Fire Alarm-Activating a Fire Alarm Under False Pretense** – No student shall activate a fire alarm under false pretense.
 - **Consequences:**
 - 1st Offense: ½ day ISS and Parent contact
 - 2nd Offense: 1day ISS and Parent contact
 - 3rd Offense: 1day OSS
- **Rule 55 Verbally Abusing Students (A)** (of a repetitive and/or aggressive nature): This includes, but is not limited to, verbal behaviors such as name calling, insulting remarks, or unwanted comments and jokes, gossiping, teaching, rumors, and unwanted notes. **(B)** (Isolated

meaning not falling under criteria of repeated or bullying): This includes, but is not limited to, verbal behaviors such as name calling, insulting remarks, or unwanted comments and jokes, gossiping, teaching, rumors, and unwanted notes.

- **Consequence:** Parent contact with each offense
 - 1st Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 2nd Offense: Tomahawk Time
 - 3rd Offense: 1/2-day ISS
 - 4th Offense: 1 day ISS
 - 5th Offense: 1/2-day OSS

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VIDALIA CITY SCHOOLS BUS EXPECTATIONS

	BE RESPONSIBLE	BE RESPECTFUL	BE SAFE
At the Bus Stop/Bus Loading Area	*Arrive 5 minutes before designated pick up time. *Bring your belongings with you.	*Respect others ‘ feelings, space and belongings.	*Stay a safe distance from the street. *Wait until the bus stops before approaching bus.
Boarding the Bus	*Board in a single file line. *Go to your assigned seat...boys on the right, girls on the left; driver may assign seats.	*Line up calmly and quietly. *Respect others ‘ feelings, space and belongings.	*Wait for driver ‘s signal before boarding the bus.
On the Bus	*Stay in your assigned seat. *Keep the bus clean...eating and/or drinking is not allowed on bus. *Leave the bus in the same or better condition than you found it.	*Follow the bus driver ‘s directions. *Use an indoor voice when talking is permitted. Use respectful language. *Respect others ‘ feelings, space and belongings.	*Stay seated and face forward at all times. *Keep hands, feet and head inside the bus at all times. *Keep aisle and emergency exits clear of obstructions. *Keep all items inside your book bag. *Stay seated until bus stops
Leaving the Bus	*Take all belongings. *Exit in a single file line. *Go directly to assigned location.	*Exit the bus calmly and quietly. *Respect others when leaving the bus.	*Cross the street 12 feet in FRONT of the bus. *Exit the bus at your assigned stop, then go directly home.

VIDALIA CITY SCHOOLS BUS CONDUCT CONSEQUENCES

- 1st Referral- **Warning** given to student by bus driver to take home to parent.
- 2nd Referral- Bus Suspension for **1 Day**
- 3rd Referral- Bus Suspension for **3 Days**
- 4th Referral- Bus Suspension for **5 Days**
- 5th Referral- Bus Suspension for **10 Days**
- 6th Referral- Bus Suspension for **20 days**
- 7th Referral- Bus Suspension for the Remainder of the school Year.

The following actions at the bus loading/unloading areas and on the bus will result in suspension based on where they are in the referral process.

- Students who refuse to provide their correct name and address.
- Students caught throwing objects off/on the bus.
- Fighting on the bus or at the bus loading areas.

Student abusing (verbally/physically) the driver will result in immediate bus suspension for the remainder of year and based on the severity of the actions, may lose all future riding privileges.

Bus Referrals will be suspended during standardized testing. Consequences for those referrals will be assigned following testing.

These are general rules for riding the bus and are to be used in cooperation with state and local laws and policies. Severe violations will be subject to severe penalties.

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

In an effort to become more familiar with your child’s teacher/paraprofessional, parents may request teacher and/or paraprofessional qualifications to include level of education and/or degree, college major and years of service. Requests can be made relative to those staff that instructs your child.

RIGHT TO KNOW NOTIFICATION 2023-2024

Right to Know

Date: **August 4, 2023**

Dear Parents,

In compliance with the requirements of Every Students Succeeds Act, the **Vidalia City School System** would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student ‘s teacher(s) and/ or paraprofessional(s). The following information may be requested:

- Whether the student ‘s teacher—
 - has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides

- instruction;
- is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
- is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.

Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications. If you wish to request information concerning your child 's teacher 's and/ or paraprofessional 's qualifications, please contact the principal at each school or the Federal Programs Director, **Tammy McFadden at 912-537-3088 x 2011.**

**J. D. Dickerson Primary School
RESPONSIBLE USE/FERPA/COPPA**

Responsible Use of Electronic Media for Students

Vidalia City Schools (VCS) recognizes that the use of technology is prevalent in society. Students and staff have access to the Internet, cell phones, games, and a variety of personal technology devices. Students and staff utilize social media websites and applications as well as a variety of other digital resources that allow them to interact, share, create, and innovate. Staff members utilize these same resources as a means to effectively engage students, motivate student learning, and collaborate with colleagues. When using VCS technology or network access, students are expected to follow the Student Conduct Behavior Code, including respecting others 'privacy. Online student accounts to be used for legitimate educational purposes will be subject to monitoring and review, including a review of text and attachments that are related to that student or students. At NO TIME should a student consider VCS email (K-12), networked applications, or account or technology access private or confidential in any way. While the school district does maintain Internet filters, there may be times when a student may accidentally or purposefully discover inappropriate materials online. VCS DOES NOT CONDONE the use of such materials. Inappropriate use of VCS technology or network access is a violation of the Student Conduct Behavior Code. Access is a privilege, not a right, and all students are expected to treat this learning tool with respect. VCS technology, network access, and electronic resources must not be used to:

- Harm other people.
- Interfere with other people 's work.
- Steal property.
- Gain unauthorized access to other people 's files or programs.
- Gain unauthorized access to online resources, including using someone else 's password.
- Make changes to the hardware or software configuration of any machine, including installing or deleting any software.
- Improperly use the network, including introducing software viruses and/or bypassing local school or office security policies.
- Steal or damage data and/or computers and network equipment.
- Access, upload, download, and/or distribute pornographic, hate oriented, profane, obscene, or sexually explicit material. *Failure to follow these guidelines can violate the Official Code of Georgia, O.C.G.A., Codes 16- 9-90, 16-9-91, 16-9-93, and 16-9-93.1 as well as Title XVII of United States Public Law 106-554, known as the Children 's Internet Protection Act.* Such use can also lead to disciplinary actions, up to and including loss of access to VCS technology resources and further disciplinary actions as defined by existing VCS policies. Such disciplinary actions may include confiscation of technology being used inappropriately if an incident occurs.

Supplemental Technology and Student Email

VCS provides access to Google G Suite for Education and Microsoft Office 365 and other Online Web services including but not limited to Zoom as supplemental resources to the VCS adopted Learning Management System for local schools to use if they wish. VCS will allow the use and issue of student email (Google Gmail) accounts to students for use internal to VCS only. Students can access the email from any device via the Student Portal.

Vidalia City Schools FERPA Directory Notice

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that the Vidalia City Schools Board of Education, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child 's education records. However, Vidalia City Schools Board of Education may disclose appropriately designated —directory information without written consent, unless you have advised the Vidalia City Schools Board of Education to the contrary in accordance with Vidalia City Schools Board of Education procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Vidalia City Schools Board of Education to include information from your child 's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student 's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent 's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings, provide digital education resources, or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student 's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want the Vidalia City Schools Board of Education to disclose any or all of the types of information designated below as directory information from your child 's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Vidalia City Schools Board of Education in writing within 10 business days of the beginning of the school year for returning students or within 10 business days of enrollment for new students.

The Vidalia City Schools Board of Education has designated the following information as directory information: (Note: an LEA may, but does not have to, include all the information listed below.)

- Student's name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when

used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user 's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user

A student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge, but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA applies to operators of commercial websites and online services and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under the age of 13. COPPA allows the school to act as the parent 's agent and consent to the collection of a student 's information on the parent 's behalf within the educational context— where an operator collects personal information from students for the use and benefit of the school, and for no other commercial purpose. By signing the response form, parents grant consent for Vidalia City Schools, and Vidalia City Schools 'employees, to act as the parent 's agent in providing consent for the collection of student information within the educational context.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS & PRELIMINARY ALLOCATIONS

Title I, Part A: Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

Title I is a part of the new ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) that came into effect July 1, 2017. It provides federal funds through the Georgia Department of Education to local educational agencies (LEAs) and public schools with a certain percentage of children of poverty to ensure all children have the means to meet rigor in State academic content and student academic achievement standards.

Title I, Part A: Family & Community Engagement Program

This program ensures the six structures of Family & Community engagement (Welcoming All, Communicating Effectively, Supporting Student Success, Empowering Families, Sharing Leadership and Collaborating with the Community) are in place to develop quality links between school professionals and the parents and community we serve.

Title I, Part A: Foster Care Program

The Foster Care Program focuses on school access, improved educational outcomes, and enhanced academic stability for children and youth in foster care. The provisions derived from Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) establish guidelines for recognizing and addressing the unique needs of foster care children and youth. The Foster Care Program has the responsibility of working closely with local child welfare agencies and local educational agencies to identify children and youth in foster care and to ensure the successful implementation of ESSA provisions.

Title I, Part C: Education of Migratory Children

The Migrant Education Program (MEP) is a federally funded program designed to support comprehensive educational programs for migrant children to help reduce the educational disruption and other problems that result from repeated moves. Vidalia City Schools is part of a consortium.

Title I, Part D: Program for Neglected or Delinquent Children

The purpose of Title 1, Part D is to improve educational services for children and youth in local and State institutions for neglected or delinquent children and youth to insure these children have the same opportunities to be successful in meeting the state academic achievement as all other students.

Title II, Part A: Supporting Effective Instruction

The purpose of this program is to provide technical assistance, resources, and program monitoring to local education agencies in support of the United States Department of Education's Title II, Part A Supporting Effective Instruction Grant's purpose of increasing academic achievement by improving the effectiveness of teachers, principals and other school leaders. **Title III, Part A: Elementary and Secondary Education Act**

Title III is part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. It awards eligible Local Education Agencies with funding to provide language instruction educational programs to English Learners (ELs). School districts with large English Learner populations receive direct Title III allocations, while school districts with lower incidence populations are grouped into the —Georgia Title III Consortium. The Title III Consortium allows these —low-incidence districts to participate in Title III activities similar to districts with large numbers of ELs. Upon attainment of English language proficiency, as measured by the "ACCESS for ELLs 2.0" assessment, EL students exit from language support services.

Title IV, Part A: Student Support & Academic Achievement

Authorized in December 2015, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) introduced a new block formula grant under Title IV, Part A with a wide range of allowable uses. Title IV, Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grants are intended to improve students 'academic achievement by increasing the capacity of States, LEAs, schools, and local communities to provide all students with access to a well-rounded education, improve school conditions for student learning, and improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students. **Title IV, Part B: 21st Century Community Learning Centers**

The purpose of this after school program is to establish or expand community learning centers that operate during out-of-school hours and meet three goals: Provide academic enrichment, offer other services to enrich the regular academic program; and provide parents of the 21st CCLC students 'opportunities for literacy and related educational development. **Title V, Part B: Rural Education Initiative**

The Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) is designed to assist rural school districts in using federal resources effectively to improve the quality of instruction and student academic achievement.

Title IX, Part A: McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children/Youth

The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth program is designed to address the problems that homeless children and youth have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school. Under this program, State educational agencies must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youth.

AGREEMENT INFORMATION

FIELD TRIP AGREEMENT (Information Only)

As the parent or legal guardian, you will be asked to grant permission for the school system to transport your child on any approved field trips during this school term. You will be informed of dates and locations as field trips are scheduled.

A parent signature page is included in J. D. Dickerson Primary School's first-day-of-school packet. Please sign and return the sheet that includes this agreement. Additional permissions forms will be sent home throughout the year.

The undersigned agrees on behalf of said minor and individually to release, indemnify and hold the Vidalia School Board harmless from any and all claims for damages or injury to said minor child and

to said minor child 's property occurring during said trip other than injuries caused by gross negligence on the part of the School Board or its agents. Further, the undersigned hereby authorizes the school officials in charge of said trip to procure any medical treatment reasonably necessary for the welfare of said child during said trip. Said medical treatment shall include, but not be limited to emergency care, hospitalization and doctor 's care.

PHOTO/PROJECT RELEASE (Information Only)

J.D. Dickerson Primary School includes projects, photos of students, teachers, and school activities on its website/FB page. Occasionally, it might be necessary to use first and last names of students, but no addresses, and/or telephone numbers will ever be used. *A parent signature page is included in J. D. Dickerson Primary School's first day-of- school packet. Please sign and return the sheet that includes this agreement if you would allow* projects/photos at conferences, workshops, and other

educational functions to be shared n public sites used by J. D. Dickerson Primary School.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES BY PARENTS

Copy Fees: Any request for copies of documents that government entities can provide (ex. Birth certificate, social security card, immunization records, etc.) will incur a fee of \$3.00 per document, or notarization of document. (BOE approved 4/2022)

Response Form (Required) Please sign and return.

Parent/Student: I have received a copy of the Vidalia City Schools information regarding the responsible use of electronic media for instructional purposes whether in class or as a virtual student. I understand that all Annual Notices to parents, including Parents Right to Know, FERPA, and COPPA are located in the student handbook that can be found on each school 's website. I understand my rights and responsibilities as student enrolled in the Vidalia City School System and consent to the terms found within the handbook.

Parent: I understand the handbook is located on the school website that my child attends. I have reviewed the contents of the handbook and consent to the terms regarding the responsible use of electronic media for instructional purposes, whether in class or as a virtual student. I understand that all Annual Notices to parents, including Parents Right to Know, FERPA, and COPPA are located in the student handbook.

Student Name _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____

Revised: June 28, 2023

