

DYERSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL



"Preparing Students for Life"
STUDENT HANDBOOK 2024-2025

Name: _____

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I. INTRODUCTION TO DYERSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL

A. Principal's Message

Welcome to Dyersburg Middle School! We are committed to providing you with a rewarding, challenging and beneficial educational experience. We have assembled an excellent group of instructors who are looking forward to helping you develop both academically and socially. Along with our high-quality academics and instruction, we provide many extra-curricular opportunities. We encourage every student to be involved in at least one of these activities at DMS.

This handbook contains information and rules concerning Dyersburg Middle School. In addition, it serves as a guide to assist in learning expectations of students so they may achieve success. It is the responsibility of every student and parent to review the contents of this document.

Our belief is that all students can learn and achieve success. Our faculty and staff are committed to working toward those beliefs. We expect students to cooperate with and be respectful of teachers. In return, the faculty and staff will respect the rights and feelings of students, parents and guardians; to provide the best experience possible for all students; and to administer discipline in a fair, firm and consistent manner.

We encourage our students to devote themselves to the pursuit of excellence in all areas of their lives. We look forward to seeing you at Dyersburg Middle School!

Matt Spraker
Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Dyersburg City Schools is to provide a safe, positive environment where all children can reach their full potential.

A. Philosophy of Dyersburg Middle School

As an educational institution, it is the responsibility of this school to foster an atmosphere in which cooperative relationships among parents, school staff, and students result in the formulation and continuation of educational goals. These goals should be inspiring, yet attainable; idealistic, yet practical. We believe that educational progress is achieved by challenging each child as an individual on their own level and by offering him a wide variety of experiences - intellectual, aesthetic, physical, and cultural- as a means of working toward this goal. It is our ideal that each student develops a spirit of inquiry and a respect for knowledge; that they be taught to think logically, independently, and creatively.

Not only is Dyersburg Middle School committed toward educational advancement, we also are obligated to provide moral and social guidance. Our ultimate goal in education is to help each child be able to take their place in society as an important member who has a profound respect and understanding of themselves and others, a keen sense of personal integrity, and a feeling of responsibility to his community and fellow man.

We feel that the transient children we deal with each day are unique because of the physical and emotional changes that occur during these middle school years. We constantly strive to know and understand these children so that we may more effectively meet their physical, social, and emotional needs as well as the academic.

B. Goals of Dyersburg Middle School

1. To implement a program that provides the necessary academic, social, and emotional skills that would ease the transition from middle school to high school.
2. To provide a setting in which the student may acquire practical skills, as well as develop meaningful values and positive attitudes that will enable them to become a productive member of his community.
3. To provide opportunities for each student to develop a positive self-image and a feeling of self-worth, as well as a feeling of respect for those of different cultural backgrounds.
4. To give each student experiences and opportunities to acquire critical-thinking and decision-making skills and to encourage positive work habits.
5. To provide each student the opportunity to reach their fullest potential in a program that is challenging, both academically and socially.
6. To provide the personnel and facilities that will promote a program of sound physical development for preadolescent children.
7. To continually study, revise, and up-grade the curriculum and methods of instruction in order to meet the needs of our students in an ever-changing society.
8. To develop within the individual the knowledge of the underlying principles of a democratic society and to instill in them a desire to assume their responsibilities within such a community.
9. To provide for the personal development of students through individual counseling, group interaction, and the relationships developed through the interdisciplinary team approach.
10. To actively involve the community in ways that will enhance and assist the various programs of the school.

C. Directory

Dyersburg City Schools

Kim Worley, Director of Schools

Board of Education

Mr. Jim Coy Houston

Dr. Scott Self

Mr. Mike Hickman

Mrs. Courtney Patrick

Mr. Gleyn Twilla

Mrs. Whitney Allmon

Mr. Carlos Doss

Staff

Principal –Matt Spraker

Assistant Principal – Mattie Sellers

Assistant Principal – Connie Thompson

Instructional Supervisor – Jenny Hatch

Student Advisor- Jenny Smith

School Nurse - Tara Vick

Attendance/Reception- Qiana Johnson

Librarian – Misty Odom

ISS – Howard McCadney

Choir Director –Dustin Walters

Special Ed Lead Teacher –Melissa Baker

Special Education - Randell Gatlin & Susie Collier

Inclusion 6th grade – Maggie Worley & Jamie Anderson

Inclusion 7th grade –LaMarcus Mosley & Alyssa Roberts

Inclusion 8th grade - Peyton Metzger

Reading Interventionist - Betsy Jones & Leslie Lay

Plus One- Heather Hayes, Marikate Estes, Trina Roy, & Misty Odom

Math Interventionist- Debbie Frye, Gena Walker, Penny Blair, & Laura Ann Henderson

Literacy Coach- Mindy Nichols

Behavior Specialist- Brian Jordan

Truancy-Lisa Escue

Bookkeeper - Sara Jasso

Technology Coach- Vanessa Anderson

Custodian- Danny Holland

Band Director – Justin Russell

Cafeteria Manager-Terri Cloinger

6A Mylissa Clark, Jennifer Moore, Amanda Kimbrell

6B Emily Escue, McKenzie Wells, Whitney Sanders

6C Jennifer Douglas, Kendra Nash, Hoyt Newsom

7A Melissa Meeks, Heather Thompson

7B Charlotte Haslett, Ginny Roper, Kemisha Thompson

7C Thomas Arnold, Natalie Farrow, Kaci Lewis

8A Lisa Slayback, Kristen Roach, Amy White

8B Carole McCullough, Clark Newsom

8C Kristen Caldwell, Mandy Moore, Jennifer Wylie

E. Activity Teachers

Agriculture–Melissa Lowery

Character Education - Cal Johnson & Pat Warren

PE - Paige Golson & John Bolan

Career Exploration-MariKate Estes

Digital Arts –Chris Dishman

STEM –Trina Roy

Personal Finance - Al Bolden

Computer Science-Vanessa Anderson

Dyersburg City Schools Point of Contact

Dyersburg Primary School **731-286-3615**

Linda DeBerry, Principal
David Ayers, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Jackson, Instructional Supervisor

Dyersburg Intermediate School **731-286-3620**

Jeremy Hinson, Principal
Cathybeth French, Assistant Principal
Chris Haliburton, Instructional Supervisor
Mindy Nichols, Literacy Coach

Dyersburg Middle School **731-286-3625**

Matt Spraker, Principal
Mattie Sellers, Assistant Principal
Connie Thompson, Assistant Principal
Jenny Hatch, Instructional Supervisor
Mindy Nichols, Literacy Coach
Jenny Smith, Student Advisor
Brian Jordan, Behavior Specialist

Dyersburg High School **731-286-3630**

Kamela Rogers, Principal
Joy Norman, Assistant Principal
Tina Williams, Assistant Principal
Seela Newbill, Instructional Director
Mindy Nichols, Literacy Coach
Hillary Jackson, Student Services
Blaine Mahaffey, Athletic Director

College Street School **731-286-3610**

Joanna Lamb, 4-12 Principal of College Street,
System 504 Coordinator

Family Resource Center **731-286-3630**

Lisa Escue, Truancy Prevention/Lead Attendance

Dyersburg City Schools Central Office

731-286-3600

Kim Worley, Director of Schools

Julie Norville, Assistant Director of Schools, Personnel Director

Daniel Mobley, Special Education Director

Margaret Castleman, Federal Programs ESSER Coordinator, School Board Secretary

Lenita Click, Director of Federal Programs

Kim Yeiter, Technology Coordinator/CTE Director, Title IX Coordinator/Investigator

Steve Nunley, Director of Pupil Services

Kristen Bird, Supervisor of School Nutrition

Sherry Ray, Maintenance Coordinator

Brian Jordan, Director of Mental Health

Megan Brock, Marketing and Public Relations

Josh Rogers, Director of Operations

Dana Evans, Food Service, Worker's Compensation

Mindy Collins, Administrative Assistant, Insurance, Licensure

Darla Estes, Central Office Receptionist, Travel

Tracy Smith, CFO, Retirement

Amy Scotts, Payroll

Christy Pewitt, Payroll

Kaitlin Jeter, Accounts Payable

Kim Bowlin, Central Registration

II. ENTRANCE REOUIREMENTS

Students enrolling in Dyersburg Middle School who did not register in the spring should be accompanied by a parent/guardian. The following pertinent information is requested to be presented to school officials:

1. Your birth certificate
2. Your Social Security Number
3. Your medical records (current immunizations or physical information)
4. Transfer papers from the school you attended last year
5. Report cards from last year
6. Any other medical records or information that school officials might need

If you have questions or problems with providing the above information, please see the school principal.

A. Immunization Requirements

In accordance with Tennessee State Law, every transfer student is requested to provide the school with a Tennessee Certificate of Immunization. Also, all students entering the 7th grade (including currently enrolled students) must have:

*Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis booster (Tdap) - evidence of one Tdap dose given any time before 7th grade entry is required regardless of Td history

*Varicella - 2 doses or credible history of disease

B. Residency Requirements

The Dyersburg City School System is open to any student (K-12) who lives in Dyer County.

C. Registration

Registration dates occur during the spring for the upcoming school year; however, parents may register students during the summer and on the first day of school. Placement on interdisciplinary teams will be left up to the discretion of the administrative staff since it is the school's responsibility to maintain a balance between the teams.

D. Guardianship

A guardian is someone who has the legal right to take care of you if you are not under the direct supervision of either of your parents. If you have a guardian, he or she must bring evidence to the school office that he/she has been appointed legally, by a court of law, to take care of you. When you enroll at DMS, your residence will be the same as your parents' or guardian's residence.

E. Academic Achievement Requirements

To be enrolled in Dyersburg Middle School, you must show that you have successfully completed the grade before the one for which you are enrolling. This only applies to students who did not go to a city school last year but can be pre-empted by school administration.

If test information is incomplete, you may be asked to take some additional tests such as achievement tests or basic skills tests. These will help us in choosing the best classes for you.

F. Announcements

In order to receive daily announcements please send an email to dmsannouncements@dyersburgcityschools.org

III. TRANSFER

A. Requirements

You must have transfer papers from your previous school if you are entering DMS and did not attend a city school last year. You must also meet the other entrance requirements for new students stated in the information entitled ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS.

If you are suspended or expelled from another school system, you cannot enroll at Dyersburg Middle School. No student who is under disciplinary action from another system shall be granted entrance into the Dyersburg City Schools without a conference with the superintendent or his designee.

After a student has enrolled in a non-city school, he/she will not be permitted to transfer during the school year to a city school, unless there is a change in residence of the student's parents or guardian. City residents who have enrolled in non-city schools will be eligible for admission to the city system only at the beginning of the school year.

B. Tuition Students

Students who attend DMS but live outside Dyer County will be charged \$200.00 tuition fee per year. Students who attend DMS but live outside of Tennessee or considered as out of state students will be charged a \$4500 tuition fee per year. Tuition fees are paid to the school office.

Any parent, guardian, or student that falsifies his/her residential address in order to avoid tuition payment shall not be permitted to enroll nor continue enrollment in the Dyersburg City Schools. If a student is paying tuition and withdraws, the unused part of the tuition fee will be refunded.

IV. GRADING - REPORTING

Students at DMS receive a grade progress report in the form of report cards every nine weeks during the school year. Other progress reports are sent home as needed. Phone calls, letters and notes, and parent conferences are other means of alerting parents or guardians of a student's progress or problems.

A. Nine Weeks Tests Nine Weeks Tests count 20% of each semester's final grades. Daily grades count 80% of each semester's final grade. **Exams will not be given early.** However, they may be made up due to an excused absence. Parents must notify the teachers to set up a time for makeup exams after the excused absence.

B. Grading Scale

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: 50-below

C. Golden Honor Roll/Honor Roll

Honor roll grades include academic subjects and activity classes. Band and choir are not included when determining Honor Roll or Golden Honor Roll status. Honor Roll and Golden Honor Roll for the school year are based on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd nine weeks.

Honor Roll: A student must have all A's and no more than one B to receive Honor Roll for the nine weeks.

Golden Honor Roll: A student must maintain all A's (90-100) each nine weeks in order to receive Golden Honor Roll.

D. Tennessee State Assessments

State Assessments will be given to 6th through 8th graders. These assessments will count 20% of the 2nd semester average.

E. Chromebook

Each student at Dyersburg Middle School will be issued a chromebook to be used in class. Please see the Acceptable Use Policy and Student Equipment Agreement. All 8th-grade students not owing fees will be issued a device and charger to bring to and from school each day. Students may not use a personal Chromebook at school. (School-issued devices only.) School-issued devices should be charged each night and be free from any personal stickers or markings. Students are responsible for any damages to their assigned Chromebook. 6th and 7th-grade students will be assigned a device that is for their use only and will be kept in the team Chromebook cart when not in use. All students are responsible for any damaged or lost devices. These damages include Chromebook: \$300.00, Power Supply: \$35.00, Damaged Screen: \$50.00 Chromebook backpack: \$15.00.

V. STUDENT HEALTH SCHOOL NURSE

The Dyersburg City Schools provide the services of a registered nurse. She also takes an active part in teacher in-service programs and health-related classes for students.

A. Contagious Disease

A student should not attend school with any disease that is contagious. The principal of DMS may require a certificate from a doctor or the Dyer County Health Department stating that a student is clear to attend school.

B. Medication

Whenever possible, the parent and student should make arrangements so that medication can be administered at home, **before** and **after** school. Most short-term prescriptions can be handled this way;

for example, an antibiotic such as amoxicillin, to be taken three times a day for ten (10) days, can be administered as follows:

First dose ...in the morning prior to school

Second dose... after school

Third dose...at bedtime

This will allow the student more time for classroom instruction. If a student's physician believes the student's learning ability is being compromised by not receiving medications during school hours and the physician prescribes it that way, the school nurse's designee in each principal's office may administer the medication **only after** the **Medication Administration Consent** has been completed and signed by the physician, signed by the parent, returned to the school and filed with the principal's office. Until school personnel have this form completed, it will be necessary for the parent to come to school to administer the desired medication.

The **Medication Administration Consent** must be renewed at the beginning of each academic year. Changes in prescription medication require written authorization from the health care provider on an updated **Medication Administration Consent** form.

The medication to be administered at school **MUST** be supplied in the original prescription bottle for the specified student. Parents may desire to ask the pharmacist to divide the medication into two bottles completely labeled -- one for home and one for school. School personnel will maintain a record of dosages. This information will be filed in the student's cumulative record at the end of the academic year. The nurse's designee will be provided training on administration, use, action, possible side effects, and storage of medication. Medications will be stored in a locked cabinet.

C. Accidents/First Aid

School personnel are authorized to administer first aid only for minor injuries occurring in school or on the school campus. Parents are encouraged to provide the school with accurate telephone and address information, as well as the name of the child's doctor and someone to contact in the case of an emergency.

D. Homebound Program

If a student has an accident or illness that will make him or her miss ten or more consecutive school days, he or she can qualify for a homebound teacher.

A request for a homebound teacher must be accompanied by a letter from a doctor stating that the student is unable to attend school for the required period of days. Pregnant students may also be recommended by a doctor to receive a homebound teacher. Request forms for homebound services may be obtained from Dyersburg City Schools Central Office on Lake Road. They should be filled out as soon as possible to make sure that a student's education is interrupted as little as possible. As soon as the forms are filled out, they should be returned to the Dyersburg City Schools' Central Office along with the doctor's statement. This is a free service offered to the students of Dyersburg City Schools.

E. Physical/Sexual Child Abuse and Neglect

School personnel are required by state law to watch for signs of child abuse or neglect. They are also required by law to report any such information or suspicions to the proper authorities.

VI. FOOD SERVICE

Dyersburg Middle School students will receive a FREE breakfast and lunch meal for the 2024-2025 school year through Community Eligibility Provision.

Adult Breakfast: \$3.10 Visitor Breakfast: \$3.50 Adult Lunches: \$4.50 Visitor Lunches: \$5

We also offer a secure online payment system, <https://www.schoolcafe.com/DYERSBURGCITYSCHOOLS>. We strongly encourage you to utilize this system for student meal payments. Parents can pay online with a bank account, debit, or credit card. Parents can also schedule automatic payments and payment reminders, set up low-balance and past-due alerts, and track cafeteria purchases.

A la carte purchases such as ice cream, chips, and extra juice/milk and fruit are only allowed when students have money in their lunch account or cash on hand.

Commercially prepared food is NOT permitted in the cafeteria. Carbonated drinks are not permitted in the cafeteria. Students may only bring food items to the cafeteria as part of a packed lunch.

Menus are prepared in advance and we do our best to follow the daily menu. We will attempt to send a monthly menu home with each student. Menus will be posted on the Dyersburg Middle School website.

DMS Cafeteria Manager: Terri Cloinger - If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the cafeteria manager at 731-286-1962 or at tcloinger@dyersburgcityschools.org.

VII. PROMOTION-RETENTION POLICY

A. Early Identification -- Parental Support

The teacher shall identify the student who is at risk of retention no later than the Spring Parent/ Teacher Conference. The parent shall be informed by a letter of notification of possible non-promotion and a scheduled conference with the student's teachers.

B. Teacher Recommendation, Evaluation and Judgment

Teacher recommendation and judgment must be given consideration in determining promotion or retention.

C. Mastery of Essential Competencies

In grades **K-12**, a student must master no less than 50% of the total essential competencies.

D. Attendance

It is relevant to consider excessive absenteeism in making promotion or retention decisions.

E. Conduct

Retention should not be used as a disciplinary measure.

F. Special Procedures for Special Students

Special education classes are offered for those who qualify. Promotion or retention of these students is handled by the IEP Team which is made up of special education teachers, regular classroom teachers, the guidance counselor, and an administrator.

G. Social Promotion

One very important goal for each DMS student is to achieve academically to the very best of his or her ability. Sometimes, circumstances occur where a student does not get the essential knowledge needed to go on to the next grade.

Ordinarily, these students have the opportunity to repeat a grade, but in some instances, it is the decision of the teachers, parents and administrators to promote a student who has not mastered the required work. Some special circumstances that might bring about such a decision could be as follows: (1) retaining a student would not help him or her academically or (2) a student would be hurt emotionally because of age, size, or social maturity. Social promotion or advancement will be written on a student's permanent school record and his or her report cards.

H. Appeals

The law clearly authorizes the local Board of Education through its officers and employees to assign students, not only to schools, but also to grades, classes, or courses of study within the school. (TCA 49-6-3101 (f): 49-6-3102 et seq)

If a parent or guardian disagrees with our decision to promote or retain his/her child, he/she may appeal to the building principal, the instructional supervisor at the City Schools Central Office, the superintendent, and ultimately to the Dyersburg City Schools Board of Education.

I. After Retention

If a student has not been successful in one of our instructional programs, we try to alter the curriculum and/or teaching teams to give him or her another chance for success through a different program.

VIII. SPECIAL PROGRAMS

To help meet the unique needs of the students we teach, we try to tailor our curriculum to the courses we feel our students need and we try to offer them in the methods we know that work best with this age student. Some of these programs are:

- PE, Financial Literacy, Career Exploration, Agriculture, Character Development, STEM, Computer Science, and Digital Arts.
- Advanced Math course
- Student Assistance Program
- The Accelerated Reader Program
- Volunteer State Book Awards Program

- Intramural Program
- Special Education Programs
- Band and Chorus
- Speech Therapy
- Guidance Programs
- Gifted and Talented Program
- Inter-school competition in football, girl's/boy's basketball, track, girl's volleyball, softball, baseball, soccer, tennis, cross country, and golf
- After-School Clubs and Organizations for skills or interests, such as:

STEM	FFA	Beta Club	Robotics
4-H	Drama	SkillsUSA	Photography
Yearbook	Chess	Geography	

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Dyersburg City Schools defines a student who misses 15 days of the school calendar as **Excessively Absent**. Absences counted as being excessively absent include the following types of absences: Excused, Unexcused, out-of-school suspension and expulsion. All student's absences count toward being Excessively Absent, whether they are excused or unexcused. In-school suspension and school sponsored field trips are not considered being absent from school.
- A child that becomes classified as Excessively Absent shall be required to have a doctor's excuse/note to receive an excused absence. The Excessively Absent classification and subsequent excuse procedure shall continue for the remainder of the current year and the next school year. However, parents/guardian shall send notes when students are absent for documentation purposes.
- Students shall be removed from the Excessively Absent list the following year they miss fewer than 15 days.
- If a student transfers into Dyersburg City Schools, then a student's attendance record from the transferring school(s) or placement(s) will count toward being Excessively Absent for the current school year.
- A parent may appeal the decision of their child being considered Excessively Absent due to extenuating circumstances, which may include, but is not limited to, extended hospitalization or military deployment of a parent. A written letter of appeal stating the reasons for absences shall be sent to the principal of the child's school. The principal shall evaluate the child's attendance record, render a decision, and respond in writing to the parent within 10 school days of the appeal. If the principal grants the appeal, then the child will be removed from the Excessively Absent list.
- Individual schools may impose other penalties for students that are classified as Chronically Absent.
- Tennessee law requires that each child between the ages of seven and eighteen must attend school. Any student who is absent from school must provide, upon his/her return to school, a written excuse signed by the parent/guardian. After 10 absences, a written statement from a doctor is required. The principal shall have the authority to refer any student with five or more unexcused absences to the Attendance Supervisor. Teachers, staff, and parents may also reference the Dyersburg City Board of Education Attendance Policy.

A. Excused Absences

Students will be allowed 5 Excused Absences per year with a parent note. The principal/s or their designee has the authority to excuse students when absent under the following conditions:

1. Illness of a student
2. Doctor or dental appointment
3. Death or serious illness or injury in the student's immediate family
4. Emergencies requiring the student's presence at home
5. Special recognized religious holidays regularly observed by persons of their faith
6. Legal court summons, not as a result of the student's misconduct
7. Others at the discretion of the principal

After 5 parent notes, all other parent notes will be Unexcused.

B. Explained Absences

Absences for good and valid reasons not cited above may be classified as EXPLAINED ABSENCES by the principal/s or their designee. Except in cases of extenuating circumstances, prior approval should be granted through the office for such absences. These absences will count toward a student being Excessively Absent.

C. Unexcused Absences

Absences resulting from truancy, out of school suspensions, or other reasons not cited above shall be classified as an unexcused absence. These absences will count toward a student being Excessively Absent.

D. Revises requirements for progressive truancy plan: SB273/HB206 (Public Chapter 223)

Effective Date: July 1, 2021 (Applies to the 2021-2022 school year and each year after)

Local Education Agencies - As enacted, revises the requirements for an LEA's progressive truancy intervention plan; requires, beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, that each progressive truancy plan adopted by an LEA include a first tier of schoolwide, truancy prevention-oriented supports for all enrolled students. - Amends TCA Title 49, Chapter 6.

Present law requires directors of schools or attendance supervisors to devise and recommend, and LEAs to adopt, a three-tiered progressive truancy intervention plan for students who violate compulsory attendance requirements prior to the filing of a truancy petition or a criminal prosecution for educational neglect. The interventions must be designed to address student conduct related to truancy in the school setting and minimize the need for referrals to juvenile court.

This bill specifies that the first tier of the progressive truancy plan will be applicable to all enrolled students and the second and third tier of the truancy plan will be required for students who have accumulated a minimum of five days of unexcused absences. This bill changes the requirements for the first two tiers of the progressive truancy plan but does not change the requirements for tier three.

Requirements for the tiers under the new law are as follows:

- 1) Tier 1 must include schoolwide, prevention-oriented supports. 2) Tier 2 must be implemented upon a student's accumulation of 5+ unexcused absences, as specified in the LEA's progressive truancy plan, and must include, at a minimum:
 - a. A conference with the student and the parent, guardian, or other person having control of the student;
 - b. A resulting attendance contract to be signed by the student, the parent, guardian, or other person having control of the student, and an attendance supervisor or designee. The contract must include:
 - c. A specific description of the school's attendance expectations for the student; The period for which the contract is in effect; and Penalties for additional absences and alleged school offenses, including additional disciplinary action and potential referral to juvenile court;
 - d. Regularly scheduled follow-up meetings, which may be with the student and the parent, guardian, or other person having control of the student to discuss the student's progress;
 - e. An individualized assessment by a school employee of the reasons a student has been absent from school; and
 - f. If necessary, referral of the child to counseling or community-based services.

TOSS 2021 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Tier 3 must be implemented if the truancy interventions under tier 2 are unsuccessful.

Tier 3 may consist of 1 or more of the following:

- a. School-based community services;
- b. Participation in a school-based restorative justice program;
- c. Referral to a school-based teen court; or
- d. Saturday or after-school courses designed to improve attendance and behavior.

E. Makeup/Missed Class Assignments

Class assignments that are missed, not turned in on time, of a poor quality, or inadequate will be completed outside of the regular school day. Students will be required to complete these assignments outside of regular school day. This may require a minor referral.

Extra measures will be taken to encourage students to complete missed assignments in a timely manner. To assist in our efforts we may:

- Contact parents and solicit their assistance.
- Request a parent conference
- This may require a referral to Principal's Detention, working lunch detention/MUCU, team detention, or before/afterschool tutoring, A Day during activity time, etc.

Requesting Assignments During an Absence

A student who will be absent may get his/her assignments by calling the office. Teachers must be given 24 hours to complete the assignment request. Assignments requested on Monday morning, for example, may be picked up no earlier than Tuesday morning.

F. Due Process

Every student is entitled to due process in instances of disciplinary action for which the student may be subjected to penalties of suspension or expulsion. Due process provides that the student have the opportunity to provide his/her version of the facts pertaining to the incident, that written notice of the suspension with the reason for the suspension be given to the parent/guardian, and that parents/guardian of a suspended student have the right to appeal.

G. Tardiness

- 1. Students who report to school late due to illness, injury, or doctor or dental appointments will be excused. Proper documentation will be required.**
2. Students who arrive after 8:00 AM without the proper doctor documentation will be considered tardy. Parents will need to enter the building with their children to provide a parent excuse for the tardy.
- 3. Students will be allowed 5 parent notes for tardiness.**
4. **After 5 parent notes**, penalty for tardiness will be administered by the assistant principals in accordance with the following guidelines:
 - 6th offense Written minor referral
 - 7th offense Written minor referral
 - 8th offense Written minor referralContinued tardiness in excess of **eight (8) offenses** will require that student to attend **Principal's Detention**. Tardies will be cumulative for the entire school year.

H. Truancy

It is very important that each student be in school every day that he or she is physically able. In cases of truancy or "skipping school," disciplinary action will be taken. If absences are excessive (past five days without adequate excuse) the School Administration will contact parents and/or necessary authorities. Absences past ten days without adequate excuse will be turned over the Attendance Supervisor.

I. Leaving Campus

Students are not allowed to leave the school grounds before the school day closes without parents' and principal's approval. A student must sign out in the DMS school office before leaving school. If a student returns during the same day, he or she must sign in at the school office upon returning. If a student leaves the school grounds or campus without permission, it will be a major offense and will be dealt with accordingly.

J. School Closings

For Current School Announcements, School Closings, and other DCS information will be located on Dyersburg City Schools website. Also, school closings will also be found on social media, radio station, and local TV stations.

X. MISCELLANEOUS RULES

◆ Photo I.D. Requirement

An official photo I.D. will be required to check out, visit a classroom, or have lunch with a student. Thank you for your cooperation as we maintain the safety of all students of Dyersburg City Schools.

◆ **Public Display of Affection**

There is a proper time and place for expressing affection to another person you care very much about. The public school setting, both during the school day and at extracurricular activities, is not considered an appropriate place for this expression. Inappropriate displays of affection can produce awkward moments not only for students, but the staff as well, and your cooperation as students in this delicate matter is most appreciated.

◆ **Use of Personal Communication Devices in School**

Students may possess personal communication devices and personal electronic devices. All devices must be turned off and stored in student's locker and may NOT be on their person during the school day. These devices include, but are not limited to all wearable technology that have the capability to record, live stream, or interact with wireless technology; smart phones; cell phones; smartwatches; air pods, etc. The principal or his/her designee may grant a student permission to use such devices at his/her discretion such as severe weather, school closings, medical issues, etc.

Unauthorized use or improper storage of a device will result in appropriate discipline as stated in the student handbook. A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action by Assistant Principal

Students shall not possess personal communication devices and personal electronic devices while assigned to the College Street Campus. College Street Campus students in possession of these devices shall be subject to disciplinary action, and the device shall be confiscated. The device shall only be released to the student's parent/guardian.

Violation #1 -Warning - Parent may pick up cell phone in the office at the end of the day

Violation #2 -Lunch Detention/MUCU - Parent may pick up cell phone in the office at the end of the day

Violation #3 -30 min detention before school - Parent may pick up cell phone in the office at the end of the day.

Violation #4 -Principal's Detention after school - Parent may pick up cell phone in the office at the end of the day

Violation #5 -period(s) of ISS - Parent may pick up cell phone in the office at the end of the day

If the student refuses to give up the phone, the student will be assigned

1st Violation: 1 day at STOP, 2 ISS

2nd Violation: 2 days at STOP, 1 ISS

3rd Violation: 3 days at STOP

◆ **Hallway Courtesy**

Students are to walk and keep to the right in the hallways. Students are not to block hallway traffic by standing/lingering in groups. Running is prohibited in the hallways.

◆ **Gum Chewing**

Students are not permitted to have gum at DMS. A gum chewing violation will be assigned by a team teacher.

-First offense per 9-weeks: Student will be asked to dispose of the gum and given a warning.

-Second offense per 9-weeks: Student will be asked to dispose of the gum and given a warning.

-Third offense or more per 9-weeks: Student will be given a team detention.

◆ **Animals**

Students may bring animals to school only for completion of a class project or assignment and with permission of the teacher.

◆ **Telephones**

Office telephones are to be used with permission only. A student will not be called from class to answer the phone unless the call is an **emergency**. If it is not an emergency, the office will take the message and number and the student will be informed of the call.

◆ **Visitors**

Students are not to bring guests with them to school, such as brother or sisters or out-of-town guests, unless the principal has granted prior approval.

◆ **Solicitation of Funds**

Students are not to solicit funds on the campus or at any school-sponsored activity without prior approval of the principal.

◆ **Library Books**

Students who damage or misplace DMS library books will incur the fees below:

Hardback Fiction/Chapter book \$25.00

Hardback Nonfiction books \$20.00

Paperback \$10.00

◆ **Fees**

Students who are on the DMS fees list will lose certain school privileges until paid. These privileges could be the use of the library, participation in sports, entrance to dances, reward celebrations, or assemblies, etc.

◆ **Threat Assessment Team Statement**

A threat assessment team shall be created within the school district to develop intervention-based approaches to prevent violence, manage reports of potential threats, and create a system that fosters a safe, supportive, and effective school environment.

A. Classroom Behavior

In an attempt to make the learning environment in the classroom pleasant and productive, students are

- a. To arrive at class and be in their seats on time.
- b. To enter and leave the classroom in a quiet and orderly manner.
- c. To come to class prepared with textbooks, pencils, and whatever else is needed for the day's work. Anyone unable to do his/her work because of lack of materials may have to make up work after school.
- d. To take pride in helping maintain a clean environment and to keep desks and tables in good condition.
- e. Not to open the windows or adjust the shades unless specifically requested to do so by a faculty member.
- f. Expected to respect private property by not going in the teacher's desk or cabinet or another student's desk or locker.
- g. Expected to return all materials in the form of textbooks, resource materials, Media Center materials, etc., to their proper place.

- h. To request permission of the teacher if it becomes necessary to leave the room.
- i. To extend courtesies to any substitute teacher, visitor, teacher, parent, or administrator who comes into the room.
- j. To exhibit behavior necessary for maximum learning for self and others.

B. Behavior and Discipline

Dyersburg Middle School does not tolerate threats, fighting, stealing, disrespect, insubordination, and defiant attitude toward faculty and staff. DMS also reserves the right to exclude students from extra curricular activities for academic. Any form of threatful behavior or concerns will be referred to the Threat Assessment Team.

C. Team Detention

Team detentions usually meet one day per week and the team will designate the day on which it meets. Team detention rules are as follows:

1. Students should report to assigned classroom by assigned time
2. Students should be on time and be prepared to work. Students will not be admitted late and will not be permitted to leave early.
3. Talking, sleeping, eating or drinking will not be permitted.
4. Transportation home is the student's responsibility and should be arranged in advance.
5. Students must stay on the day(s) assigned or face additional disciplinary action.
6. Lack of transportation will not be an excuse for not attending detention.
7. Failure to attend or complete an assigned Detention will result in further disciplinary action.

XI. MONEY AND VALUABLES

Students are advised to bring money and valuables to school only if necessary.

During physical education class, students are to ask their physical education teacher either to hold onto their valuables or secure them in a safe place. Students may bring money and valuables to the office for safe keeping during the school day. The school cannot accept responsibility for money or valuables that are lost or stolen.

XII. ASSEMBLIES, CONCERTS, AND PLAYS

Assemblies, concerts, and plays are a worthwhile aspect of a student's education and are designed to be both entertaining and educational. Attendance at these events is regarded as a privilege, and it is important that students exhibit the following appropriate behavior during these events:

- a. Sit together as a class
- b. Wait quietly for the program to begin
- c. Give undivided attention to the speaker or program
- d. Remember the performers or speakers are guests at the Middle School and are to be treated with respect
- e. Respond to the program in an appropriate manner; whistling, booing, and other unnecessary noises are strictly forbidden in these Middle School programs
- f. Leave quietly and without pushing when the program is over
- g. Students disruptive during the assembly will be removed

XIII. MISBEHAVIORS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Each student in Dyersburg Middle School is responsible for his or her behavior. No one student has the right to deprive others of a teacher's instruction or time. It is necessary to set up a system of rules to deal with those few students who may on occasion not act responsibly. The entire school implemented the following rules.

A. Minor Misbehaviors

Minor misbehaviors are those that disrupt normal classroom operation. These misbehaviors are generally taken care of by the teacher, although other school personnel may be called at any time.

Teachers may choose to employ the following measures for minor misbehaviors:

- Verbal reprimand/talk with student
- Special or added assignments
- Withdrawing certain privileges
- Isolation in the classroom or other areas
- Strict supervised study
- Assigning extra, non-academic work (pick up litter, etc.)
- Other appropriate measures
- Parent contact
- Office visit
- Make Up Catch Up during lunch
- Guidance counselor visit
- Student serves team detention(s)

****Minor Referrals**

Team detentions usually meet at least one day per week and the team will designate the day and time on which it meets. Team detention rules are as follows:

1. Students should report to assigned classroom by assigned time
2. Students should be on time and be prepared to work. Students will not be admitted late and will not be permitted to leave early.
3. Talking, sleeping, eating or drinking will not be permitted.
4. Transportation home is the student's responsibility and should be arranged in advance.
5. Students must stay on the day(s) assigned or face additional disciplinary action.
6. Lack of transportation will not be an excuse for not attending detention.
- 7. Failure to attend or complete an assigned Detention will result in further disciplinary action.**

****Consequences for not following guidelines in an activity class include:**

- Verbal warnings/prompts
- Parent contact
- Detention(s)
- Office or Guidance counselor visit
- Major Referral

NOTE: Parent signature is required on ALL office referrals.

Examples of Minor Misbehaviors may include:

- Inappropriate language
- Physical contact
- Defiance/disrespect/non-compliance
- Forgery
- Disruption
- Property misuse
- Technology violation
- Tardy

This list is **not conclusive** but covers most incidents. Other behaviors could arise that may be considered a minor incident.

B. Major Misbehaviors

Major misbehaviors are more serious in nature and generally require the student to be seen by an administrator.

Examples of Major Misbehaviors may include:

- Abusive language/profanity
- Fighting/physical aggression
- Defiance/disrespect/insubordination
- Harassment/bullying/hostile threats/cyber bullying
- Disruption
- Dress Code
- Skipping class/truancy
- Forgery/theft
- Inappropriate display of affection
- Alcohol/drugs/tobacco
- Vandalism/property damage
- Technology violation
- Being out of assigned area without permission

This list is **not conclusive** but covers most incidents. Other incidents could arise that could be considered major misbehaviors.

C. Consequences for Major Misbehaviors could include:

- Conference with Administrator/Counselor
- Principal's Detention (Assigned by Administration: Failure to attend will result in a one day assigned suspension. Upon missing your fourth Principal's Detention student will be referred to the Discipline Hearing Authority.)
- ISS (In School Suspension)
- OSS (Out of School Suspension)
- Combination of ISS and OSS
- Placement in "The College Street Campus"
- STOP Class
- Expulsion
- Restitution for lost, damaged or stolen property
- Referral to Law Enforcement Authorities
- Other appropriate measure as determined by the administration

D. In-School-Suspension

The ISS program is a disciplinary alternative that allows a student to remain in school. The purpose of ISS is to motivate the student to complete all class assignments and act in an acceptable manner. The objectives of the ISS program are as follows:

1. To help the student learn to manage his own behavior--one that would be acceptable in the “normal” educational setting.
2. To continue to educate the student who would otherwise miss that educational opportunity while suspended from school. Credit will be given for satisfactory work done while in ISS.
3. To encourage the student to complete his/her education.
4. Any student that is removed from ISS due to behavior will be assigned to the STOP Class or suspended from school. Once the student returns to DMS, he/she will complete the time originally assigned in ISS.

E. STOP Class (Short-Term Opportunity Placement Class)

The STOP Class is a disciplinary placement that removes the student from DMS but allows the student an alternate learning environment. The length of time will be dependent on the incident. A child placed in the S.T.O.P. Short-term Opportunity Placement Class will:

- a. Provide their own transportation to and from the College Street Campus.
- b. Hours 7:45am-2:45pm.
- c. Be responsible for work in the S.T.O.P. Class AND any work missed in their regular classes.
- d. Attendance is mandatory to return to DMS.
- e. No cell phones or Chrome books are allowed.

Students attending the STOP class are not to be on the DMS campus from the hour/day the placement begins until the day the student is allowed to return to school. Therefore, they must not attend any dance, games or other activities, weekday or weekend, during the term of the placement.

F. Fighting/Physical Aggression/Conflict

Social Media: Students making comments on social media that encourage or lead to conflicts or fights at school will face disciplinary action. Any recording, photograph, or video taken at school or school sponsored event, that causes a disruption within the school day, will be subject to disciplinary action. Inappropriate filming and picture taking are violations of state privacy laws and school policy.

Fighting: Fighting will not be tolerated at Dyersburg Middle School. Violations are cumulative while a student is at DMS and penalties will be determined by the severity of the incident. Penalties may include but are not limited to suspension up to 10 days and referral to the Discipline Hearing Authority and/or being criminally cited. The first fight a student will receive 3 days of STOP and 3 days of ISS. The second fight a student will receive 5 days STOP and 5 days ISS. On the 3rd time that a student fights at DMS, he/she will go to DHA.

Alerting Administration: Students should inform administration of a potential student conflict or fight. Students are then expected to make every effort to avoid ALL contact and communication with whom there is a conflict. Simply informing administration and then continuing to pursue the conflict will NOT excuse one from disciplinary action in the event a fight occurs.

Criminal Charges: Administration can pursue criminal charges in ALL fighting and assault cases. The SRO officer will decide the charges that are applicable in each situation (i.e. Unruly Behavior, Disorderly Conduct, Simple Assault, Aggravated Assault, etc.)

Expectations for Bystanders: In fight situations, any students instigating, gathering to watch, interfering with staff, videoing, etc. may be subject to disciplinary action. Actions that students ARE expected to take in fight situations include: disperse quickly, leave the scene immediately, go to class, inform staff, etc.

Videoing Fights/Conflict: The act of videoing a fight or conflict will NOT be tolerated. A student who even "appears" to be videoing a fight/conflict will have his/her phone confiscated and searched by an administrator for the purpose of deleting the video. Note: the absence of a video at the time of the search does NOT prohibit disciplinary action. This student will be charged with a **technology offense along** with the appropriate consequence for the offense.

If administration receives evidence that a fight/conflict video/recording has been **posted on social media OR even forwarded to another individual**, the responsible student will face the above penalty and possibly other disciplinary action to **include suspension from school**.

Video Recording

Use of cameras, video and/or audio recording or any other multimedia application on personal communication devices is strictly prohibited on school property and at all non-public school functions, except in a circumstance where the principal or his/ her designee has expressly granted permission for such use in the interest of enhancing the educational experience or opportunity of a student.

A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action as set forth in the Code of Conduct. Visitors to school property to non-public school functions may be asked to leave if in violation of this policy.

G. Off-Campus Behavior

Certain off-campus behavior may cause a student to be subject to punishment by school officials, up to and including suspension from school and/or participation in school activities. Such behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Drug transmittal
2. Violence or threatened violence against another student or DMS staff
3. Vulgar, obscene, or threatening language directed toward DMS staff
4. Vandalism to the personal property of DMS staff
5. Gang-related activity that could carryover onto the DMS campus
6. Criminal charges resulting from the student's behavior in the community

H. School Bus Conduct

Busing will be provided for School Students who live within the city limits. Students who ride buses are required to observe all school rules of behavior, bus rules and established safety precautions. The students are under the supervision and control of the bus driver while on the bus and all reasonable directions should be followed. Continuous audio and video monitoring may occur. The bus driver, supervisor, or school principal may assign seating. Students that misbehave are subject to the standard discipline procedures. A student may be denied the privilege of riding the bus by the principal if the behavior is such as to cause a serious disruption on the bus or if the actions endanger the safety or well-being of other students. A complete list of bus conduct is on the Dyersburg City Schools website at www.dyersburgcityschools.org. Parents are responsible for their child's care, custody, supervision, and control until the child boards the bus and on return, when the child leaves the bus. Bus students must ride to the same address each day. Any changes must be with written permission of the school principal/designee.

Maps of bus routes are in the school office and office personnel can answer certain questions. Further questions about bus schedules should be referred to the Dyer County Bus Shop at 731-285-5852.

I. Search and Seizure

Interrogations by School Personnel

Students may be questioned by teachers or principals about any matter pertaining to the operation of a school and/or the enforcement of its rules. Questions must be conducted discreetly and under circumstances that will avoid unnecessary embarrassment to the person being questioned. Any student answering falsely, evasively, or refusing to answer a proper question may be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or dismissal.

If a student is suspected or accused of any such matter committed in a school during school hours or on school property at any time, the principal may interrogate the student, without the presence of parent(s) and without giving the student constitutional warnings. If a student is a suspect or is accused of a crime not involving the operation of a school or if interrogation of a particular student is police instigated, a parent shall be notified, and constitutional warnings shall first be given to the student before interrogation begins.

Interrogations by Police

If the principal has requested assistance by the police department to investigate a crime involving his school, the police shall have permission to interrogate a student suspect during school hours. First an attempt to notify the parent(s) of the student of the intended interrogation will be made, but the interrogation may proceed if the parent is unavailable or unwilling to attend. The principal or his designee shall be present during the interrogation.

If the police deem circumstances of sufficient urgency to interrogate students at school for unrelated crimes committed outside of school hours, the police department shall first contact the principal regarding the planned interrogation and inform him of the probable cause to investigate within the school. The police shall not commence interrogation until the approval of the principal is obtained and a parent or guardian of the student has been notified. The principal or his designee may be present during the interrogation.

Searches by School Personnel

Any principal, or his designee, having reasonable cause for a search may search any student, place or thing on school property or in the actual or constructive possession of any student during any organized school activity off campus, including buses, if he receives information that would cause a reasonable person to believe that the search will lead to the discovery of the following:

1. Evidence of any violation of the law;
2. Evidence of any violation of the school rules or regulations or proper standards of student or faculty conduct;
3. Any object or substance that, because of its presence, presents an immediate danger of harm or illness to any person.

The student using a locker that is the property of the school system has no right of privacy in that locker or its contents. All lockers or other storage areas provided for student use on school premises remain the property of the school system and are provided for the use of students subject to inspection, access for maintenance and search.

A student may be subject to physical search or a student's pocket, purse, or other container may be required to be emptied because of the results of a locker search, or because of information received from a teacher, staff member, or other student if such action is reasonable to the principal.

A principal or his designee, or both such persons, may search any vehicle parked or otherwise located on school property if there is probable cause to believe that the vehicle contains a dangerous weapon or drug or contains evidence of a violation of school rules or regulations that endangers or has endangered the health or safety of any member of the student body.

Searches by Police

If public health or safety is involved, upon request of the principal who shall be present, police officers may make a general search of student's lockers and desks, for drugs, weapons, or items of an illegal or prohibited nature. Whenever the possibility of uncovering evidence of a criminal nature exists, the principal or his designee may request the assistance of a law enforcement officer to do the following: (1) Search any area of the school premises, any student or any motor vehicle on the school premises; or (2) Identify or dispose of anything found in the course of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.

Surveillance Cameras Statement of Policy:

The primary use of security cameras are used to accomplish two important goals in the Dyersburg City School System:

- To enhance the safety of students and staff;
- To protect school property against theft or vandalism;

J. GANG RELATED ISSUES

Any form of gang activity will not be tolerated at Dyersburg Middle School. This may result in suspension and/or referral to the Discipline Hearing Committee. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following:

1. Wearing and/or having in possession any type of clothing, apparel or accessory that denotes the students' membership in or affiliation with any gang while on school property or at school sponsored/sanctioned activities.

2. Any activity that encourages or promotes participation in a gang or facilitates illegal acts of a gang.
3. Any gang related conduct that is disruptive to the educational process or endangers persons or property.

K. REPLICA WEAPON POLICY

Any replicas of weapons are strictly prohibited in Dyersburg City Schools' building or on school grounds at any time, or in school buses or off the school grounds at a school- sponsored activity, function, or event. The replica weapon is anything that can be used, designed to be used, or intended for the purpose of threatening or intimidating another person or persons includes, but is not limited to BB gun, pellet gun, air soft gun, knives, or tasers. Possession of any of these items will result in appropriate disciplinary measures.

XIV. TOBACCO USE POLICY

Students enrolled in Dyersburg City Schools shall not possess, distribute, sell, smoke, use or consume tobacco or tobacco products at any time either while on school premises, or any school provided vehicle, or while participating in any school sponsored activity regardless of location.

Puff Sticks/Vapors or other related products

Students enrolled in Dyersburg City Schools shall not possess or use puff sticks, vapors, or related products at any time while on school premises or any school sponsored activity regardless of location. This will result in a school disciplinary action and a citation may be issued.

DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS/RESPONSES

In the absence of additional complicating circumstances, the following penalties can be imposed for violation of this policy could range from Principal's Detention to out-of-school suspension based on the number of offenses the student has incurred cumulatively from year to year. In addition, students could be referred to juvenile authorities and could be issued citations and cited into court. This policy is applicable to all forms of tobacco and may, with repeated problems, become applicable to paraphernalia for the use of tobacco.

XV. ALCOHOL/DRUG POLICY

Dyersburg City Schools are committed to preventing alcohol and drug problems with a four-step program: (1) a method for providing a comprehensive alcohol and drug education curriculum in each grade level, (2) provision of alcohol and drug education to parents, (3) a clear set of policies and procedures for identifying youth with problems and providing a supportive environment for immediate intervention and assistance, and (4) punishment for alcohol/drug-related offenses that includes suspension and/or expulsion.

Services provided by Northwest Counseling Center or other licensed drug rehabilitation program may be a condition for re-admittance to school. The student will pay the cost of these services. Students suspended for drug violations may be required to submit evidence of satisfactory results of a drug screening examination as a condition for remittance; furthermore, those students may be required to undergo periodic, unannounced drug screenings as a condition of continued enrollment. The student shall pay the cost of these examinations.

A. Zero-Tolerance Behavior

In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment free of drugs, violence and dangerous weapons, any student who engages in the following behaviors will be subject to expulsion from the regular school program for at least one (1) calendar year. The Director of Schools shall have the authority to modify this suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis.

Zero-tolerance acts are as follows:

1. Students who bring or unlawfully possess a drug or a dangerous weapon onto a school bus, onto school property or to any school event or activity.
2. Any student who, while on a school bus, on school property or while attending any school event or activity
 - (a) Unlawfully possesses a drug or dangerous weapon; or
 - (b) Commits battery on a teacher, or other employee of the school; or
 - (c) Makes threats of mass violence.

B. Possession

No student shall use, possess, give exchange, market, transfer or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, hallucinogenic drug, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind:

1. On school grounds at any time.
2. On the school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by any school group.
3. Off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event.
4. On school buses or school property.

Any student who violates this policy shall be suspended from school.

C. Transmittal

Any student who possesses, sells, or transmits on school grounds, school property, or at a school function any narcotic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, fake drug, hallucinogenic drug, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind shall be reported to the proper law enforcement authorities. Such students shall be suspended pending a hearing by the principal.

Any student who is charged by an appropriate law enforcement agency with selling or transmitting any narcotic drug-amphetamine, barbiturate, hallucinogenic drug, or marijuana-whether on campus or off campus shall be suspended pending a hearing by the principal. The student shall be subject to expulsion from the Dyersburg City Schools pending action by the Board of Education.

Drug/alcohol violations shall be cumulative while the student is enrolled in any one school. Violations will be carried over from year to year.

XVI. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

School hours are 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Students should arrive soon enough each day to be on time for the beginning of school. The doors to the school will be opened at 7:00 A.M. each morning. When students first arrive on campus in the mornings, they are to report to the gymnasium, cafeteria, tutoring classrooms, and other designated area. Adult supervision will be provided in these areas at 7:00 am. Students will be permitted to go to their classrooms and lockers at 7:45 a.m.

In the afternoons, students should depart from the campus by 3:30 P.M. This does not include students that are remaining at school awaiting their bus, participating in after school/supervised activities or at the request of school personnel.

A. Bus Students

All students who reside in the city limits of Dyersburg and attend Dyersburg Middle School will have the opportunity to ride a school bus to and from school. Students who ride an early bus in the morning will be seated in the gymnasium with adult supervision until time to be dismissed. Students who ride buses are required to observe all school rules of behavior, safety precautions, and bus rules. Students failing to do so will be referred to the school principal or his designee. Students will not be allowed to utilize electronic devices (cellphones, iPads, Smartwatch, etc.) during second 2nd run duty time, unless teacher permission is given. This length of time is considered as a learning opportunity or study time for students.

B. Car Riders

Students being picked up should report to their respective areas at the end of the day for pick up.

A.M. Drop-off

- ◆ The front entrance will be the only morning drop off destination; back doors will be locked.

P.M. Pickup

- ◆ 6th Grade students should report to the front of the building (west side/facing Frank Maynard Blvd.)
- ◆ 7th & 8th Grade* students should report to the back of the building.
- ◆ If a 7th or 8th grade student has a sibling in the 6th grade, both students should be picked up **in the front**.

For student safety it is imperative that students not be in areas other than their assigned pickup points. Non-compliance will result in disciplinary action.

XVII. PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences are a part of the regular school program. One is scheduled during the fall semester and one is scheduled during the spring semester. Parent/Teacher conferences may be held at any time during the year as needed on a pre-arranged basis. Since your child's teachers have a common planning time, it will be much easier for you, as a parent, to meet with them during the school day and get a better total educational picture of your child. If it is necessary or more convenient, teachers will meet with you before or after school to discuss your child's progress or problems.

XVIII. STUDENT INSURANCE

Students in the Dyersburg City Schools are not automatically covered by a health/accident insurance program while at DMS or during other school-related activities. Parents may purchase accident insurance and are encouraged to do so. Forms are sent out during the first few weeks of school. They are kept in the office for transfer students and those who wish to buy the insurance at a later date. Those students who participate in athletics are required to show proof of accident insurance before they can take part.

XIV. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students are encouraged to participate in various extracurricular activities offered at DMS. Several examples of these activities are listed in "Special Programs." Because the needs and interests of middle school students change, we constantly add to and delete certain activities to meet these needs. Students are made aware of new offerings throughout the year. All athletic events at DMS for this school year will have an admission charge of \$5.00 for students and adults.

XX. DYERSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Students shall dress in a clean, neat and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the operation of the school. General guidelines for attire are set forth below:

FOOTWEAR: Shoes must be worn. No flip-flops, house shoes or shoe skates.

SOCKS: Socks are not required.

PANTS (GRADES 6-8): Pants must fit at the waist and inseam. No sagging. Males must wear a black or brown belt that remains visible at all times. Pants should be one solid color (black, khaki, or gray) with no wording other than factory logo. Pants cannot be gathered at the bottom or have rips or tears. Pants should have no lace, beads or other embellishments. All pants male or female should have belt loops and/or pockets. No gym-type shorts, leggings, or spandex can be worn as acceptable dress code pants.

DRESSES/SHORTS/SKIRTS/CAPRIS/GAUCHOS: Must **not** be **above** the **knee** when standing. Must be black, khaki, or gray. (No gym-type shorts, leggings, or spandex) Dresses must have collars that follow the same rule as shirts.

SHIRTS: Should be one color (black, white, gold, gray), collared (polo, button-up dress shirt), with appropriate buttons to the top of the garment. Long or short sleeves are acceptable, and should not have displays other than a school approved emblem or small brand logo. No wording. **No see-through blouses may be worn.** Males should have shirttails tucked in and belt line visible. Females can wear shirttails out, but they must extend to at least mid-pocket on the pants but not below the bottom of the pocket. There should be no gaps between shirt and pants when sitting. **No crop tops.**

FOUNDATION GARMENTS: Single color (black, white, gray, or gold) undershirts, turtleneck or mock turtleneck may be worn as undergarments. Foundation garments must be worn tucked in and under an acceptable shirt.

HEADWEAR: Limited to any combination of the following colors: black, white, gray, or gold. (No bandana or bandana print. No more than 3 inches thick and cannot cover the full head. No logos. (i.e. headbands)

COATS/JACKETS: Coats/Jackets/School Sweatshirt/Pullover/or Zip Up: Plain black, white, gray or gold sweatshirts or school sweatshirts (pullover or zip up) may be worn over an approved collared shirt. **(No Hoodies)** Aside from a business card-sized logo, no writing or caricatures on the garment except school spirit words and Dyersburg logos will be allowed. Hooded jackets and headwear worn in winter must be removed upon arrival. No Hoodies are allowed in any area of the school building.

EARRINGS/PIERCINGS: Earrings that do not cause a distraction are permitted. A student may wear a small nose stud that is not distracting or presents a safety issue.

JEWELRY: Jewelry must not be distracting, a safety issue or contain gang paraphernalia.

SPECIAL DAYS: These are days set aside by the school administration to allow variation in the dress codes, such as spirit day. Dates will be announced and all clothing must be appropriate as defined by the principal on those days.

NOTES: Students who transfer into DCS during the year and cannot adhere to dress code immediately may submit a request to school principal upon admission to school for assistance.

No student's appearance should distract from or in any way disrupt the educational process.

Parents who do not wish for their children to wear standardized dress because of religious beliefs or medical reasons must submit their reasons in writing to the school principal.

Compliance/Dress Code Consequences:

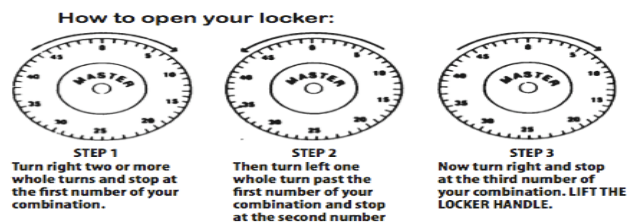
- First Violation – verbal reprimand
- Second Violation – detention/parent contact/minor referral
- Third Violation –Parent conference to bring appropriate clothing to school
- Fourth Violation – Principal's Detention
- Fifth Violation – Major Referral

XXI. DMS STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS

Dyersburg Middle School will participate in the Crime Stoppers Program affiliated with Crime Stoppers of Dyer County. We feel it is in the best interest of students in a school society to be given an opportunity to stand up for what is right and to take action against what is wrong without being harassed by others. We also want students to know that possessing knowledge of wrong doing and not sharing that knowledge condones wrongs and prevents any help from coming to those who may be on the wrong track. Crime Stoppers at the middle school level is also a preventative measure at an earlier age to help reduce future criminal acts by our youth.

XXII. LOCKERS

Lockers are provided for all students. We suggest that students purchase master combination locks that are sold in the office to secure their lockers. The office will keep a record of the combinations of all locks that it sells in the event that students forget their combinations or should parents desire to get materials from a locker in the student's absence. Students will not be allowed to bring locks from home to secure their lockers.



XXIII. NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

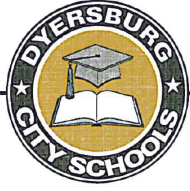
It is the policy of the Dyersburg City Schools System not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, national origin, creed, age, marital status or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title VI and Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquires regarding compliance with Title VI and IX may be directed to the Title VI and IX Coordinator at the Dyersburg City School System's Central Office.

XXIV. FAMILY AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Dyersburg Middle School's Family and Community Involvement Plan is based on a framework through which families, educators, and communities can work together to improve teaching and learning. Our plan involves flexibility; addresses local needs and builds parents' capacity to improve their own children's academic achievements. Written copies of the plan are available in the school office by request.

XXV. DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM MISSING DEVICE

Individuals must report lost, damaged or stolen equipment immediately (within 24 hours) to their teacher/supervisor. Property loss and/or damage reports must be completed on the appropriate forms and will be closely monitored. Stolen equipment must be reported to the School's Administrators to ensure thorough investigations, pursuit of criminal prosecution and full restitution, when possible, to the fullest extent of the law. Any person who knowingly files an application for insurance, statement of claim or police report containing any materially false information or attempts to conceal information concerning any fact material there to, is violating the law and may be punished by criminal and /or civil penalties. Portable Devices must be immediately returned upon request to the teacher/supervisor. Failure to do so will result in appropriate action. The individual is responsible for returning all parts and accessories in working order.



**PARENTAL NOTIFICATION
Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) August 2017**

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended in Dec. 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) makes it clear that Congress expects local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools receiving federal funds to ensure that parents are actively involved and knowledgeable about their schools and their children's education. The law requires schools to give parents many different kinds of information and notices in a uniform and understandable format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that the parents can understand. Listed below are some of these required notices that must be made to parents by school districts or individual public schools.

Teacher Qualifications and Highly Effective Teachers

At the beginning of each year, an LEA shall notify parents that they may request, and the LEA will provide, information regarding whether professionals are highly effective, including the qualifications of the student's teachers and paraprofessionals. This includes information about whether the student's teacher:

- 1) has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- 2) is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- 3) is teaching in the field of discipline not of the certification of the teacher; and
- 4) is teaching alongside paraprofessionals and, if so, the paraprofessional's qualifications [ESSA § 1112(e)(1)(A)].

Student Privacy

Districts must give parents annual notice at the beginning of the school year of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when the following activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled:

- ✓ activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal student information for the purpose of marketing or selling that information;
- ✓ administration of surveys containing request for certain types of sensitive information; and
- ✓ any nonemergency, invasive physical examination that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school, scheduled in advance, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of student.

A district must develop and adopt policies regarding the rights of parents to inspect:

- ✓ third-party surveys before they are administered or distributed to students;
- ✓ measures to protect student privacy when surveys ask for certain sensitive information;
- ✓ any instructional materials;
- ✓ administration of physical examinations or screening of students;
- ✓ collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information; and

- ✓ the parental right to inspect any instrument used to collect personal information before it is distributed to students.

Districts must give parents annual notice of an adoption or continued use of such policies and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in such policies [20 U.S.C. 1232g].

Public Release of Student Directory Information

Under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), an LEA must provide notice to parents of the types of student information that it releases publicly. This type of student information, commonly referred to as “directory information,” includes such items as names, addresses, and telephone numbers and is information generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The notice must include an explanation of a parent’s right to request that the information not be disclosed without prior written consent.

Additionally, ESSA requires that parents be notified that the school routinely discloses names, addresses, and telephone numbers to military recruiters upon request, subject to a parent’s request not to disclose such information without written consent [§8025].

A single notice provided through a mailing, student handbook, or other method that is reasonably calculated to inform parents of the above information is sufficient to satisfy the parental notification requirements of both FERPA and ESSA. The notification must advise the parent of how to opt out of the public, nonconsensual disclosure of directory information and the method and timeline within which to do so [20 U.S.C. 1232g] [ESEA §8025].

Military Recruiter Access to Student Information

Districts receiving federal education funds must notify parents of secondary school students that they have a right to request their child’s name, address, and telephone number not be released to a military recruiter without their prior written consent. Districts must comply with any such requests [ESEA §8528(a)(2)(B)].

Parent and Family Engagement

A district receiving Title I funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written district-level parent and family engagement policy. Each school served under Title I must also develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written school-level parent and family engagement policy. If an individual school or district has a parent and family engagement policy that applies to all, it may amend the policy to meet the requirements under the ESEA [ESEA Title I, Part A, §1116(a)(2)] [20 U.S.C. §6318(b); (c)].

Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school [ESEA Title I, Part A, §1116(b)(1)].

Schools must:

- ✓ hold at least one annual meeting for Title I parents;
- ✓ offer a flexible number of meetings;
- ✓ involve parents and families in an ongoing manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs;
- ✓ provide Title I parents and families with timely information about the programs, a description and explanation of the curriculum, forms of academic assessment and expected levels of student proficiency;

- ✓ if requested, provide opportunities for regular meetings to discuss decisions related to the education of their children; and
- ✓ develop a school-parent compact that outlines the responsibilities of each party for improved student academic achievement [ESEA Title I, Part A, §1116(c)].

Report Cards on Statewide Academic Assessment

Each school district that receives Title I, Part A funds must prepare and disseminate an annual report card. Generally, the state or district must include on its report card information about public schools related to student achievement, accountability, teacher qualifications and other required information, as well as any other information that the state or district deems relevant.

These report cards must be concise and presented in an understandable and uniform format accessible to persons with disabilities and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that parents can understand. In Tennessee, **these requirements are met through the state’s report card** [ESEA Title I, Part A, §1111(h)(1) and (h)(2)].

Achievement on State Assessment

All schools must provide to parents, teachers, and principals the individual student interpretive, descriptive, and diagnostic reports, which allow specific academic needs to be understood and addressed, and include information on the student’s achievement on academic assessments aligned with state academic achievement standards [ESEA §1111(b)(2)(B)(x)].

National Assessment of Education Progress

Districts, schools, and students may voluntarily participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Parents of children selected to participate in any NAEP assessment must be informed before the assessment is administered that their child may be excused from participation for any reason, is not required to finish any assessment, and is not required to answer any test question. A district must make reasonable efforts to inform parents and the public about their right to access all assessment data (except personally identifiable information), questions, and current assessment instruments [ESEA Title VI, Part C, §411(c)(1); (d)(1)–(2)].

Schoolwide Programs

An eligible school operating a schoolwide program shall make the comprehensive plan available to the LEA, parents, and the public. The information contained in such plan shall be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that the parents can understand [20 U.S.C. §6314][ESEA Title I, Part A, §1114].

English Learner Programs

A school district that uses federal funds to provide a language instruction education program for English learners must no later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year inform the parents of each child identified for participation or participating in such a program:

- ✓ the reasons for the identification of the child as an English learner;
- ✓ the child’s level of English proficiency;
- ✓ how that level was determined and the status of the child’s academic achievement;
- ✓ methods of instruction used in the program in which their child is participating and methods of instruction used in other available programs;
- ✓ how the program will meet the educational strengths and needs of their child;
- ✓ how the program will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation;
- ✓ the specific exit requirements for the program;

- ✓ in the case of a child with a disability, how the program meets the child's IEP objectives; and
- ✓ information about parental rights detailing the right of parents to have their child immediately removed from such program upon their request and the options that parents have to decline to enroll their child in such program or to choose another available program or method of instruction.

For a child not identified as an English learner prior to the beginning of the school year, the district must notify parents within the first two weeks of the child being placed in such a program [ESEA Title I, Part A, §1112].

Homeless Children

To be eligible for McKinney-Vento funds, the school must provide written notice at the time any child seeks enrollment in the school, and at least twice annually while the child is enrolled in the school, to the parent or guardian or unaccompanied youth that, shall be signed by the parent or guardian or unaccompanied youth; that sets forth the general rights provided; and specifically states:

- ✓ the choice of schools homeless children are eligible to attend;
- ✓ that no homeless child is required to attend a separate school for homeless children;
- ✓ that homeless children shall be provided comparable services, including transportation services, educational services, and meals; and
- ✓ that homeless children should not be stigmatized by school personnel.

If the district sends a homeless child to a school other than the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian, the district must provide the parents a written explanation for, including notice of the right to appeal, the decision. The information must also be provided whenever a dispute arises over school selection [ESSA Title IX, Part C, §722(g)(3)(B)].

Each LEA liaison for homeless children and youth shall ensure the parents or guardians of homeless children and youth are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children [ESSA Title IX, Part C, §722(g)(6)(A)(iv)].

Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated where such children and youths receive services under the McKinney-Vento Act, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens [ESSA Title X, Part C, §722(g)(6)(A)(v)].

21st Century Community Learning Centers

A program or activity funded as part of a 21st Century Community Learning Center providing before and after school activities to advance student academic achievement must undergo periodic evaluation to assess its progress toward achieving its goal of providing high-quality opportunities for academic enrichment. The results of evaluations shall be made available to the public upon request, with public notice of such availability provided [ESEA §4205(b)(2)].

Waiver Request

If a school district requests the U.S. Secretary of Education to waive any provision or regulation of the ESEA, it must provide notice and information about the waiver to the public in the manner in which is customarily provides public notice [20 U.S.C. §7861(b)(3)(B)] [ESEA Title IX, Part D, §8401(b)(3)(B)(ii)].

Dyersburg City Schools
Parent Media Release Form
2024-2025

Student _____ Grade _____ Homeroom _____

Dyersburg City Schools celebrates the successes of all our students. Many times we may share these successes through social media, print, and radio. In addition, teachers use technology in the classroom such as Zoom and Google classroom to engage students so that all students may continue to learn. In order that we may use your child's name, voice, video image, and/or photograph, we ask that you sign the release form below. Thank you for your help and support in creating a positive public image for our school and to help all students continue learning.

CHECK ONE:

Yes, I grant permission for Dyersburg City Schools to release my child's name, voice, video image, and/or photograph.

No, I do not grant permission to Dyersburg City Schools to release my child's name, voice, video image, and/or photograph.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Dyersburg City Schools
Code of Conduct for Families, Volunteers, and Visitors
Authority 2024 Tenn. Pub. Acts 810

I. Statement of Purpose

In order to foster a climate and culture of appropriate language, respect for person and property of others and maintenance of a safe secure and peaceful educational setting that promotes learning and positive character development, this Code of Conduct applies to all families, volunteers and visitors who are present at school, in person or virtually, and at school-sponsored activities, meetings, and/or functions during and after regular school hours.

II. Visitors to School Property

Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student at the school is considered a “visitor.” All visitors shall provide to the school office to be recorded a copy of a government-issued identification, which includes the visitor’s name, date of birth and photo, or alternate acceptable identification at the discretion of the principal/designee. Persons who do not provide required identification will not be permitted on premises. Visitors are required to wear a badge or nametag throughout their visit.

III. Conduct Prohibited on School Property

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. No person shall:

1. Act in a threatening manner toward any staff member or student;
2. Use abusive language toward a staff member or student;
3. Approach someone else’s child in order to discuss an issue or chastise them.
4. Injure any other person or threaten to do so;
5. Damage or destroy school property, or threaten to damage or destroy school property or the property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any other person lawfully on school property;
6. Disrupt classes, school programs or other school activities;
7. Record or videotape any interactions within the school building where there is an expectation of privacy (classroom instruction, conversations with teachers, students, staff), unless all participants to the conversation have given their permission for the recording or videotaping;
8. Disrupt school transportation or confront transportation staff on the bus, the road, in neighborhoods, or on school system grounds, or enter upon a school bus without express permission to do so;
9. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are suggestive and inappropriate, obscene, advocate illegal action, promote alcohol or illegal substances, or are disruptive to the school program;
10. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, disability or other characteristic protected by law;
11. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed;
12. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions of vehicles while on school property;
13. Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, tobacco, tobacco products, vaping products, controlled substances, or be under the influence on school property or at school functions;

14. Possess or use firearms or dangerous weapons in or on school property or at any school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers, or otherwise provided by law;
15. Loiter on school property or at school functions;
16. Gamble on school property or at school functions;
17. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties;
18. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code; or
19. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance, or Board policy while on school property or while at a school function.

IV. Consequences for Violating the Code of Conduct

Together with school security, principals/designees have the authority to enforce this Code of Conduct as well as all district policies and procedures and are authorized to determine the appropriate offense level outlined below. Penalties for lack of adherence to this Code of Conduct shall be enforceable by the board of education and by local law enforcement officers if necessary. No restriction, however, will prevent the parent/guardian from working collaboratively with the school to meet the child's educational needs, nor will a parent/guardian be excluded from meetings regarding their child's education and performance. The school's code of conduct for visitors will be enforced uniformly, without partiality or discrimination.

V. Level 1 Offense

Level 1 offenses are those that do not jeopardize the safety or welfare of students or staff.

A level 1 offense could result in a verbal warning, written warning, or a request to leave campus depending on the severity of the offense. After a second infraction, the principal will notify the Director of Schools, or a designated representative (including the school resource officer). Failure to correct the conduct could result in escalation to a Level 2 offense.

VI. Level 2 Offense

Level 2 offenses disrupt the school environment and/or the safety and welfare of students and staff. For Level 2 offenses, a formal "No Trespass Letter" banning the visitor from the premises for a quarter, semester or year will be sent at the discretion of the Principal or Director of Schools. The Principal shall inform the Safety Director and Director of Schools of the Level 2 Offense. Law enforcement will be notified of the ban. The district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal action. At the termination of a formal ban and "No Trespass Letter" from school premises, a meeting with the principal and Safety Director is required.

All information located herein shall conform to requirements of Tennessee Law, the Tennessee Department of Education, the Tennessee Board of Education and local school board policies.

Pursuant to 2024 Tenn. Pub. Acts 810, this Visitor Code of Conduct was reviewed by Debra D. Owen TN BPR 021626.

Dyersburg City Schools Acceptable Computer Use Policy for District Students

Purpose: Dyersburg City Schools (DCS) provides students access to electronic media including the Internet as a means to enhance their education. The purposes and uses for this resource are no different than any other type of resource, and as such, the school retains control over the manner in which it is used. The purpose of this contract is to assure that students recognize the limitations, which the school imposes, on their use of electronic media resources. In addition, this contract requires that users agree to abide by the Dyersburg City Schools Board of Education policies, and stipulations of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) as well as laws pertaining to stalking and harassment.

THE CONTRACT

The district's instructional program includes iSafe curriculum that contains content addressing responsible Internet use and safety. Parents are encouraged to discuss Internet responsibility at home and will be informed of on-line modules to help them protect their children. On-line professional development will also be provided to district faculty and staff through iSafe. The district uses an Internet filter designed to protect students and adults from pornographic and obscene information and restrict access to materials that may be potentially harmful to minors; however, it is impossible for the Dyersburg City School System to completely prevent students from finding ways to access controversial materials, and will not be held responsible for materials acquired on the network. Failure to follow all or part of these guidelines, or any action that may expose Dyersburg City Schools to risks of unauthorized access to data, disclosure of information, legal liability, potential system failure, or compromise the safety of users is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action up to and including loss of network privileges, confiscation of computer equipment, suspension, and/or criminal prosecution.

I agree to the following:

- To use the resources available through the Internet and other electronic media to supplement material available to me through my classroom, the media center, or through any other resource provided by the school.
- To NOT make use of material or attempt to locate material which would not be acceptable in a school setting.
- I understand that I must be closely supervised by faculty each time I make use of computer resources, and that I must adhere to each individual teacher's guidelines.
- I agree NOT to attempt to discover passwords or other measures the school uses to control computer access. Should I inadvertently discover passwords, or any other measure used to control access to this resource, I agree to report this to whoever may be in charge at the time.
- I agree NOT to change or attempt to change the configuration of any software on a school system computer without the expressed permission and close supervision of the appropriate DCS faculty/staff.
- I understand that I am NOT to access any personal email account (any account that is not supplied by DCS) from DCS campus without the expressed permission and close supervision of the appropriate DCS faculty/staff. This permission must be requested each time I attempt to access my email account from a DCS computer. I agree to make available for inspection, by an administrator or teacher, any messages sent or received by me at a campus location.
- I agree to use appropriate language in all communications. I agree not to use profanity or obscenity, and I will avoid offensive or inflammatory speech. I agree not to make personal attacks on anyone using this resource.
- I agree NOT to download executable program files from the Internet. I also agree NOT to install any software on any school system computer.
- I agree to abide by copyright laws. I agree to copy or transfer only materials for which copying or transferring is authorized.
- I agree NOT to use this resource for any illegal or commercial activity. This includes, but is not limited to, tampering with computer hardware or software, unauthorized entry into computers and vandalism or destruction of computer files. I am aware that such activity is a crime under state and federal laws.
- I agree NOT to introduce or knowingly allow the introduction of any computer virus to any school system computer.
- I agree to respect the privacy of others.
- I understand that information and/or advice obtained via the Internet may or may not be correct.
- I understand that there is no privacy either guaranteed or implied in relation to any electronic media.
- I understand that Dyersburg City Schools makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The district will not be responsible for any damages including the loss of data resulting from delays, nondeliveries, misdeliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or my errors or omissions.
- I agree not to attach computers, printers, network equipment (including wireless access points), or other types of hardware to the District's network without prior approval.

PARENTS: If you do NOT wish to have your child's picture posted on a school system web page, please contact the school office. Our policy is to never list the child's full name with a picture.

DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOLS
509 LAKE ROAD
P.O. BOX 1507
DYERSBURG, TN 38024
731-286-3600

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Throughout the school year health screenings (height, weight, vision, hearing, and blood pressure) will be provided to students in designated grades. Trained school personnel will provide these screenings with strict adherence to the confidentiality of each student. These screenings do not qualify as an examination and parents are encouraged to make sure your child has annual medical check-ups as well as bi-annual dental check-ups.

Each parent will be notified in writing of the results of these screenings. A form listing the results will advise if follow up to your child's healthcare provider (often called a "referral") is needed.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact the Nurse at your child's school.

If you **DO NOT** want your child to participate in these health screenings, complete the lower half of this form and turn it in to the school nurse.

I do not want my child to participate in the health screenings listed above.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student's Date of Birth: _____ Today's Date: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Student Equipment Agreement Form

Student ID: _____ School Year: 24-25

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

DMS Tag Number: _____ Serial #: n/a

BORROWER'S AGREEMENT: The borrower (student/parent named below) agrees to assume full responsibility for the safety, care and maintenance of the chromebook. While the chromebook is in the borrower's possession, the borrower agrees to abide by all DMS Policies.

The chromebook is the property of the school district, and as such, is subject to monitoring and search of contents at any time. Please note that there is NO expectation of privacy in location, use or data stored on the chromebook. The device must be returned to the district immediately upon request, at the end of the year, or upon departure or termination from the District.

Replacement costs for the Chromebooks are as follows:

- Chromebook: \$300.00
- Power Supply: \$35.00
- Damage Screen: \$50.00
- Chromebook backpack: \$15.00

While the equipment is in my possession, I agree to the following:

1. I will take care of my chromebook as identified in the DMS Chromebook Procedures.
2. I will never leave the chromebook unattended and understand that if found at school, I will be subject to discipline. If my chromebook is damaged, lost or stolen I will report it to the school immediately.
3. I understand the chromebook is my responsibility and will not loan it to other individuals.
4. I will know where the chromebook is at all times.
5. I will bring a charged chromebook to school daily and will protect it by carrying it in the protective sleeve.
6. I will keep food and beverages away from my chromebook since they may cause damage to the device.
7. I will not disassemble any part of my chromebook or attempt any repairs.
8. I will use my chromebook in a way that is responsible and appropriate, meet DCS expectations and are educational.
9. I will not place decorations (such as labels, stickers, markers, etc.) on the chromebook. I will not deface the DCS identifiers on my chromebook.
10. I understand my chromebook is subject to inspection at any time, without notice and remains the property of the DCS. I will provide the chromebook passwords to staff immediately upon request.
11. I will follow the policies outlined in the chromebook Procedures while at school, as well as outside the school day.
12. I understand I am subject to disciplinary action if inappropriate content is found on the device. 13. I agree to return the DCS chromebook, power cords and any other accessories in good working condition.

Signatures below indicate I agree to the stipulations above and as outlined in the Chromebook Use, Policy, Procedures, and Information Guide. Copies of the chromebook handbook are available in the front office

Student Signature: _____

Grade: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____



Acceptable Use Policy For The Network, Devices, and Accounts

This Document Must Be Signed Before Using any Dyersburg City School Owned Network, Devices, or Account. Students/Parents Must Renew Signature Every School Year.

Dyersburg City Schools seeks to empower students and teachers with the latest technology and resources that enable them to more effectively lead, teach, and learn. However, the use of the school network, accounts, and devices is a privilege. Inappropriate use can result in cancellation of these privileges as well as other consequences.

I Will . . .	I Will Not . . .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Follow board policy and be respectful, responsible, and safe while using all school technology resources. ● Use school devices, accounts, and networks knowing that there is absolutely no expectation of privacy. ● Care for the device I am borrowing to prevent loss or damage. ● Utilize DCS devices for approved and appropriate uses as indicated by board policy. ● Downloading software programs must be pre-approved by the Director of Technology. ● Only use the device that is assigned to me. ● Report any threatening, obscene, inappropriate, bullying, or other offensive behavior to a school representative or supervisor. ● Only search for or visit appropriate websites. ● Follow teachers' and/or administrators' rules and requests with regard to technology usage. ● Be kind, courteous, and professional when communicating with others. ● Keep my username and password secure. ● Promptly return the device I am borrowing from Dyersburg City Schools upon request. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Send, display, request, or attempt to download offensive messages or pictures. ● Bully, harass, insult, defame, discriminate against, threaten, attack, use obscene language, or injure others. ● Film or photograph others without their consent. ● Attempt unauthorized access to the network or resources. ● Bypass filters to access unauthorized websites. ● Damage a device, network, or account. ● Use another individual's login credentials or trespass into another individual's account or files. ● Reveal personal or confidential information about myself or others (e.g., addresses, phone numbers). ● Plagiarize, cheat, facilitate academic dishonesty, or violate copyright laws. ● Engage in inappropriate uses of video conferencing, text messages, chats, social media, etc. or use these tools in ways that violate the terms of this policy. ● Change settings of computers or programs (outside of minor personalizations) or attempt to repair or alter devices or any other equipment. ● Engage with or facilitate any illegal activity.

In addition to this acceptable and responsible use policy, the use of Dyersburg City Schools' network, devices, and accounts by employees and students is governed by Dyersburg City Schools Board Policy. The following policies are explicit in their definition of uses of technology resources and the consequences of abuse: Use of Internet 4.406; Use of Electronic Mail 1.805; Web Pages 4.407; and Use of Copyrighted Material 4.404.

Student / Employee Name – Print:	Parent Name - Print (If Signer is a Student):
Student / Employee Signature and Date:	Parent Signature and Date (If Signer is a Student):

Revised: March 2023

DMS STUDENT-ATHLETE/CLUB/PARENT CONTRACT 2024-2025

Document can be accessed at <https://dms.dyersburgcityschools.org/athleticforms>

Dyersburg Middle School provides a variety of athletic/team opportunities for students to develop, test and display their skills. Participation should result in growth of the athlete/team member, coach, and school.

Student Athletes' Academic Expectations

Each student athlete's/team member's grades will be monitored every 4.5 weeks by the head coach and administration. If a student is making below a 60 in any subject at each check, he/she will be ineligible until they are passing all classes.

- A) Athletes/Managers must finish each nine weeks' grading period with NO scores under a 60. Any athlete who fails a class for a nine weeks period will be placed under academic probation the following nine weeks by administration until adequate improvement is shown. This could include loss of practices and/or games.

- B) If academically ineligible or placed on academic probation, athletes/managers may practice but are not eligible to play or travel to scheduled events.

Student Athletes' Behavior Expectations

- A) Athletes/managers are expected to:
 - 1. Be ROLE MODELS for the student body.
 - 2. Be cooperative in class.
 - 3. Be respectful to administrators, teachers, staff, students, and school property.
 - 4. Be careful with social media usage and posting. Once posted, it is out there forever and could have implications (including discipline) for the athlete, not only at DMS, but in future endeavors as well. Employers and coaches monitor these sites and past postings have cost students athletic scholarships and jobs.
 - 5. Be respectful to school property. Leave home and visiting locker rooms/bleachers how you found them.
 - 6. Be on their best behavior on trips; Bus/field/gym/locker rooms. Each individual is a representative of Dyersburg Middle School; Represent with pride and upstanding character.
 - 7. Take care of their equipment and space.
 - 8. **ALWAYS respect coaches and officials' decisions and additionally respect their opponents.**

- B) If a student has a discipline issue during the school day, the administration will inform the AD/Coach who will then address the infraction based on team expectations. Continued violations of school/team policy will result in suspension or dismissal from the team.

- C) Possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs will result in immediate dismissal from the team. Athletes involved with any of the above will automatically be removed from the team for the remainder of that particular sports season.

Parental Expectations

- A) Athletes must be present for 1 half day to be eligible to participate. 7:45-11:30 or 11:30-3:05.
- B) Parents must provide transportation for their athlete after practices and games. **Parents should be prompt. If a parent is consistently LATE picking up their athlete, he or she will be dismissed from the team.**
- C) Provide a signature to the coach if your child is not returning on the bus from an away game.
- D) Always keep in mind that playing time is a privilege, **not a right.**
- D) **Show sportsmanship at games/events towards student athletes, coaches, and officials. If sportsmanship cannot be followed, you will be asked to leave without a refund.**
- E) Siblings of athletes (5th grade and under) attending athletic events are to be supervised by guardians at all times and will not be admitted to an event without a parent/guardian. **There will be absolutely no running around/horseplay at any facilities. All kids are expected to SIT in the bleachers, especially at basketball games (for safety reasons) where players and officials routinely end up outside the playing court and possibly in the bleachers.**
- F) As a parent, I understand the inherent risk of injury to myself/my children when attending a DMS athletic event. (Foul balls, faltering on stairs, athlete's falling into the bleachers, uneven walking paths when entering stadiums, debris from wind gusts, etc.)
- G) **The officiating shortage is real and upon us. Not one official has or will ever deliberately "cheat" our team or your child. This is Middle School athletics, we will not have NCAA officials for our contests. We will have men/women who either work full time jobs during the day or are retired. Please understand that all calls are made in good faith and are the judgment of the official. Not one official, nor athlete, coach, or parent is perfect or will they ever officiate, coach, or play the "perfect game." If you would like to officiate, you may go to <https://tssaa.org/home/contest-officials> and sign up.**
- H) A parent ejected from a sporting event by an administrator, SRO, or official, may be asked to not return to another event for up to a calendar year. **According to new TSSAA policy, a fan being ejected from an event by an official will result in a minimum \$250 fine to the school.**

J) My signature at the bottom gives consent that includes travel to, and full participation in, all practices, rehearsals, meets, games, contests, competitions, meetings and events covered by the activities listed in this release. I further consent to treatment deemed necessary by medical personnel sought by any representative of school district for any illness or injury to my child that may occur in pursuing the above enumerated extracurricular activity/activities. I also consent to abide by all of the school district guidelines and policies governing my child's participation in the above-named extracurricular activity/activities. This includes such policies as academic requirements, expectations for behavior, homework and test expectations, attendance, missing classes, leaving class early, etc.

Other Expectations

- A) If an athlete fails to return a uniform by the end of the school year, they must pay the full cost of that uniform.
- B) Unexcused absences from practice/games is unacceptable and could lead to dismissal.
- C) A physical is required and must be on file with DMS before the student-athlete can participate in any sports related activity.
- D) **Athletes should dress appropriately for games in which they will be a spectator before or after their contest. Athletes should sit in a designated section of the bleachers and stay with their team. Appropriate language should be used at all times especially during games in which guests (fans) and community members are in attendance.**
- E) Athletes who start a sports season that aligns with the TSSAA calendar are not allowed to participate in another school sports' event without consent from their in-season coach. Athletes are not allowed to quit an in-season sport to attend an offseason school sporting event. An athlete who removes him/herself from a team while in season must wait until the next season starts (according to the TSSAA calendar) to begin participation.

Discipline Eligibility Requirements- *Coaches reserve the right to administer more severe consequences and the information below only pertains to minimum discipline requirements from DMS Administration.*

Offseason-Behavior in the offseason will affect future participation. These numbers below trump in-season numbers.

- 1. 5 days of ISS or any OSS/STOP for behavior infractions (including tardy to class) will result in loss of 10% of games (rounding up) during the first season the athlete participates in.
- 2. 8 days of ISS for behavior infractions will result in loss of 25% of games (rounding up) during the first season the athlete participates in.
- 3. Any student who receives OSS/STOP twice in a school year will be ineligible for 50% of games during the first season in which the athlete participates.
- 4. Any student who is placed in Alternative school will be ineligible for any sports/clubs at DMS for the first 30 school days upon return.

Season:

- 1. If a student-athlete is assigned a **Principal's Detention** for a behavior infraction, (including tardy to class) they will **attend and SIT-OUT** (school dress code) a **practice**.
- 2. If a student-athlete is assigned **ISS**, the student athlete will **sit out the next practice and the next game**. (Will be required to attend practices and games in school dress code)
- 3. If a student-athlete is assigned **ISS** for the **2nd time**, the student-athlete will be **suspended the next 2 games and from all activities related to that sport until the 2 games are complete**. (Must attend all practices and games in school dress code.
- 4. Out of School Suspension (**OSS**)/**STOP**- 1st time-3 game suspension. 2nd time-**Dismissal** from the team for the **remainder of the season**.
- 5. Alternative School- **Dismissal** from the team for the remainder of the semester.

Your signature indicates that you understand and are committed to the **Student-Athlete-Parent Contract** and your child is able to participate in any and all things listed below.

Football-Softball-Cross Country-Cheer-Dance-Basketball-Track-Tennis-Golf-Baseball-Soccer-Volleyball-Art-Beta-Book-Chess-Drama-FCA-FFA-Photography-STEM-Yearbook

Student AthletesName/Signature _____ ParentsName/Signature _____ Date _____

DYERSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL
“PREPARING STUDENTS FOR LIFE”
400 FRANK MAYNARD DRIVE * DYERSBURG, TN 38024

MATT SPRAKER
PRINCIPAL

MATTIE SELLERS
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CONNIE THOMPSON
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

731-286-3625

FAX 731-286-3624

JENNY HATCH
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPERVISOR

JENNY SMITH
SCHOOL COUNSELOR

DMS Parent/Student Agreement & Contract

We have received a copy of the Dyersburg Middle School Student Handbook and agree to the policies, procedures and regulations regarding student life at Dyersburg Middle School. We will support and cooperate with these policies.

Parent Signature: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please sign the above agreement and return this page to your child's team teacher.

The principal of Dyersburg Middle School reserves the right to amend policies, procedures and regulations in this Handbook. Parents will be given prompt notification if changes are made.

2024-2025 Dyersburg Middle School

NOTES

