

Denmark-Olar Middle School Student Handbook

Viking Voyage: BELIEVE BECOME.... BELONG



**Harriett S.Davis, Principal
Denny Ulmer , Superintendent**

**1437 Church Street
Denmark, South Carolina 29042**

**Telephone: (803) 793-3383
Fax: (803) 793-2038**



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year at Denmark-Olar Middle School! We are thrilled to embark on this year’s journey together under the inspiring theme: “Viking Voyage: Believe...Become...Belong.” This theme captures the heart of our mission—to foster belief in oneself, to support growth into one’s full potential, and to ensure every student feels valued and connected within our school community.

As we set sail on this academic voyage, we are guided by the principles of Visible Learning—an evidence-based framework developed by John Hattie and further expanded by Dr. Douglas Fisher, Dr. Nancy Frey, and Dr. John Alma rode. This approach emphasizes clarity in teaching, ownership in learning, and the power of feedback. It challenges us to make learning visible by helping students understand what they are learning, why they are learning it, and how they will know when they’ve succeeded.

But we cannot do this important work alone. Parental involvement and support are essential to our students’ academic and social-emotional growth. We encourage your active participation in parent-teacher conferences, school-sponsored events, and ongoing communication with your child’s teachers and school staff. Your engagement helps reinforce the value of education and ensures a united front in supporting every child.

Together, let us foster a positive school culture—one where education is prioritized, relationships are nurtured, and every Viking feels a strong sense of belonging. As partners in this journey, your voice, presence, and collaboration are not only welcomed but greatly needed to help us build and sustain a school community where every student thrives.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child’s education. We look forward to a successful year filled with growth, achievement, and connection.

With Viking Pride,

*Harriett S. Davis, Ed. S
Principal
Denmark-Olar Middle School*

Subject: Stay Connected with Us on ClassDojo!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are excited to announce that this school year, Denmark-Olar Middle School will be using ClassDojo as one of our main tools for communication!

ClassDojo allows us to keep you informed and engaged by sharing:

- ***Important school news and announcements***
- ***Upcoming events and activities***
- ***Classroom updates and celebrations***

We invite you to join our school community on ClassDojo by clicking the link below and following the simple steps to connect with your child's teachers and stay up to date:

<https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=class&class=687e9a3b3923e8aee57a7b96>

Your partnership is essential to your child's success, and staying connected will help us build a strong school-home relationship. If you have any questions or need assistance joining, please don't hesitate to contact the school at 803-793-3383.

We look forward to working together on this exciting Viking Voyage as we Believe...Become...Belong!

Warm regards,

***Harriett S. Davis, Ed. S
Principal
Denmark-Olar Middle School***

Who Do I Contact at Denmark-Olar Middle School?

If I have a question concerning.....

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Person</i>	<i>Email Address</i>
<i>Attendance/Truancy</i>	<i>DanielleBrown</i>	<i>dcbrown@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Discipline Referral</i>	<i>Harriett Davis</i>	<i>hadavis@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Academics</i>	<i>Dr. Brenda Hughes</i>	<i>bhughes@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Bus Transportation</i>	<i>Kevin (Butch) Crosby</i>	<i>kcrosby@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Band</i>	<i>Richard Watts</i>	<i>rwatts@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Athletics</i>	<i>Dr. Deonia Simmons</i>	<i>dsimmons@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Afterschool Program</i>	<i>Harriett Davis</i>	<i>hadavis@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Exceptional Services</i>	<i>Jamie Williams</i>	<i>jwilliams@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Guidance Services</i>	<i>Dr. Brenda Hughes</i>	<i>bhughes@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>	<i>Dr. Brenda Hughes</i>	<i>bhughes@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Appointments with the Principal</i>	<i>Danielle Brown</i>	<i>dcbrown@bambergschools.org</i>
<i>Enrolling/Withdrawing Students</i>	<i>Dr. Brenda Hughes</i>	<i>bhughes@bambergschools.org</i>



Denmark-Olar Middle School Bell Schedule 2025-2026

Student Arrival	7:20 am-7:45am
1st Period	7:50am-9:00am
2nd Period	9:05am-10:15am
3rd Period	10:20am-11:30am
4th Period (HR/Intervention)	11:30am-12:00pm
5th Period (Lunch)	12:00pm-12:35pm
6th Period	12:35pm-1:45pm
7th Period	1:50pm-2:55pm
Dismissal	2:55pm

Denmark-Olar Middle School Early Dismissal Day Schedule 2025-2026

Student Arrival	7:20am-7:45 am
1st Period	7:50 am-8:20 am
2nd Period	8:25 am-8:55 am
3rd Period	9:00 am-9:25 am
5th Period (Lunch)	9:30 am-10:00 am
6th Period	10:05am-10:30am
7th Period/Announcements	10:30am-11:00am
Dismissal	11:00 am

There will not be a 4th period (intervention) on early dismissal days



Denmark-Olar Middle School Early Release Day Schedule 2025-2026

Student Arrival	7:20 am-7:45 am
1st Period	7:50 am-8:15 am
2nd Period	8:20 am-8:45 am
3rd Period	8:50 am-9:15 am
4th Period (HR/Intervention)	9:20am-9:45am
5th Period (Lunch)	9:50am-10:25am
6th Period	10:30am-10:55am
7th Period/Announcements	11:00am-11:30am
Dismissal	11:30am

Denmark-Olar Middle School Delayed Start Day Schedule 2025-2026

Student Arrival	10:00am
1st Period	10:00am-10:35am
2nd Period	10:40 am-11:15am
3rd Period	11:20am-11:55am
4th Period (Lunch)	12:00pm-12:35pm
5th Period (HR/Intervention)	12:35pm-1:05pm
5th Period	1:10pm-1:45pm
6th Period	1:50pm-2:25pm
7th Period/Announcements	2:30pm-2:55pm
Dismissal	2:55pm

Lunch will occur BEFORE intervention on delayed start days.



DENMARK-OLAR ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS 2025-2026 GUIDANCE REPORTING SCHEDULE

INTERIM GRADES DUE IN POWERSCHOOL	INTERIM REPORT	END OF QUARTER	QUARTER GRADES DUE IN POWERSCHOOL	REPORT CARDS PICK- UP PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES 5:00-6:00PM
*September 4, 2025	September 9, 2025	October 7, 2025	October 10, 2025	October 15, 2025
*November 11, 2025	November 14, 2025	December 19, 2025	January 5, 2026	January 12 , 2026
*February 5, 2026	February 10, 2026	March 13, 2026	March 17, 2026	March 23, 2026
*April 23, 2026	April 28, 2026	May 28, 2026	May 29, 2026	

Parent Conference Days (Interims and parent report card pick-up):

- September 4th: 5:00pm-6:00pm (interim conference)
- October, 15, 2025: 5:00pm-6:00pm (report card conference)
- November 11, 2025: 5:00pm-6:00pm (interim conference)
- January 12, 2026: 5:00pm-6:00pm (report card conference)
- February 5, 2026: 5:00pm-6:00pm (interim conference)
- March 23, 2026: 5:00pm-6:00pm (report card conference)
- April 28 2026: 5:00pm-6:00pm (interim conference)

(Parents will pick up interim reports from the homeroom teacher (elementary and middle school) and the 1st block teacher (high school) and have the opportunity to conference with teachers concerning their scholar's progress).

General Information

STUDENT SERVICES

GUIDANCE

The guidance department exists for the benefit of every student at Denmark-Olar Middle School.

The guidance services; including personal, educational and vocational counseling, are available to all students. Parents are also encouraged /welcomed to confer with the school counselor at their convenience. The purpose of the Guidance Department is to:

1. Help each student receive the most from his/her actual class work.
2. Help each student to find his or her place in the extracurricular program.
3. Help each student plan for his or her life's work.
4. Help each student with his or her personal problems.
5. Administer intelligence, aptitude, interest and achievement tests to help students realize their capabilities.
6. Individually assist students with course selections based on their career path.

HEALTH ROOM PROCEDURES

A health room is provided for students who become ill at school. Except in an emergency, a pass from a teacher is required for admittance. Students unable to return to class after a maximum of one class period must contact a parent for dismissal from school. ***No student will be dismissed without parental approval.***

MEDICATION PROCEDURES

The school nurse or designee provides many services such as first aid, vision and hearing screenings. Students will be not able to receive any type of prescription or non-prescription medication at school unless the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) provides the school nurse with the medication to be administered to the student along with an order from the physician. The parent or legal guardian must obtain the Medication Policies and Procedures Form from the nurse. **This form must be completed and signed by the student's physician before any medication can be administered by the nurse or designee at school. Students are not allowed to keep prescription/non-prescription/over-the- counter medication with them at school.**

Immunization Certificate: S.C. requires that students have a Certificate of Adequate Immunization. No student will be allowed to begin school without

being in full compliance to the law. Only “transfer” students will be allowed to receive a 30-day exemption and begin school.

CHROMEBOOKS/TEXTBOOKS

It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** parents secure insurance for unintentional damage of the Chromebook. Students are responsible for the care and security of books and chromebooks issued to them during class. Students will be required to pay for lost, stolen, or damaged chromebooks and textbooks. Chromebooks will not be issued to students to take home.

TELEPHONE USE

Students who are ill or have an emergency will go to the Nurse’s Office, Main Office, or Guidance Office to phone a parent. Students will not be called to answer the phone during school hours and are not permitted to use personal devices (Proviso 1. 103).

TRANSPORTATION

School bus transportation is extended to students living more than 1.5 miles from school. This privilege can be withheld if the student displays an uncooperative attitude or disorderly conduct. The school bus driver is fully in charge of his/her bus while in route, working under the direction of the principal, and transportation supervisor. **The School District has adopted a School Bus Discipline Policy that applies to all students and schools in Bamberg County School District (see attachment)**

THE LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

The Library Media Center offers DOMS students opportunities to learn skills necessary to function well in the 21st century. You will find a variety of resources such as computers, fiction and nonfiction books, a wide array of periodical subscriptions, and daily newspapers. The media specialist will provide students with guidance in using materials needed to complete classroom assignments. Students may access the library with permission from their classroom teacher. Eating and/or drinking are prohibited in the Library Media Center.

VISITORS

Students may not bring guests to school and expect them to be admitted to regular classes. School is a place where teaching and learning is going on and receiving visitors interrupts the schedule.

All visitors must report to the main office to obtain permission to visit school classrooms. All visits must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance and approved by administration.

PLEASE NOTE:

It was enacted by the general assembly of the state of South Carolina that any person entering the premises of any school shall be deemed to have consented to a reasonable search of his person and effects.

CLOSED CAMPUS

The DOMS campus is closed to the public. Visitors must report to the office upon arrival on the grounds. Students are not allowed to leave the campus after arriving for school and prior to dismissal without permission from the administration. Students may not come and go freely from the campus during school hours to include the lunch period.

NON-STUDENT ON GROUNDS

The principal is empowered to take appropriate action against non-students who invade the building, grounds or other school property. Such action will include the right to call in the police and swear out warrants. The authority for such is Article 5, 16-551 of the South Carolina Code of Laws: "Disturbing Schools--it shall be unlawful (1) for anyone (a) to interfere with or disturb in any way or in any place the student or teachers of any school in this State (b) to loiter about school premises of (c) to act in an obnoxious manner thereon. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, shall pay a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, to be imprisoned not less than ten days or more than thirty days."

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

All announcements must be approved by the administration. Public address announcements will be made during announcement time and at the end of the day. All students are expected to be quiet during announcements so that all may hear them.

GYMNASIUM RULES

1. No food or drink allowed in the gym at any time.
2. The gym floor is off limits to anyone wearing hard sole shoes.
3. No running or playing on the bleachers is allowed.
4. Students will not be allowed in the gym during lunch unless supervised.

HALLWAYS

Due to the crowded conditions in the hallways and the possibility of accidents occurring, there is to be no running, pushing, or playing in the hallways. Always walk and keep to the right. No food or drink.

STUDENTS REMAINING AFTER SCHOOL

Any student remaining after the regular school day must be under the direct supervision of a staff member. Students will not be allowed to remain unsupervised at school in order to attend or participate in extracurricular or athletic events.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Parent Conferences: Parents are encouraged to visit teachers. Appointments must be made to coincide with teachers' schedules. Please call the guidance office at (803) 793-3383 to schedule conferences. In general, teachers will not be allowed to talk with parents during class time. Parents wishing to visit classes should call for an appointment.

Physical Education: Students are required to dress in proper gym clothing. The school will not be responsible for items stolen during Physical Education.

Flowers: Flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, etc. are not allowed in class. Delivery at school is not allowed. Deliveries on Valentine's Day will not be accepted.

Restrooms & Water Fountains: Use water fountains and restrooms before and after school, during lunch-recess, or with teacher permission. If a medical problem requires extra bathroom privileges, a doctor's note is required. **This must be updated yearly.**

Selling Items: Selling is not permitted without the principal's permission. Selling will be limited to school fund-raising efforts.

Supplies: Students should come to school prepared with all necessary items daily to include chromebooks, pencils, highlighters, ink pens, notebook paper.

Lunchroom/Canteen: Stay in designated areas. Eat canteen items during lunch. Eating is not allowed in the classroom.

Hall Conduct: A written pass is needed to be in the hall during class time. Loud talking, or running or horse playing is not permitted. Keep to the right when moving down the hall.

Parent-School Communication: In order to communicate effectively with our parents, DOMS will use the following media.

- School Messenger phone messaging system
- Class Dojo
- Email
- School website: <https://www.bambersschools.org>

Water Drinking Policy

To support student health, hydration, and well-being, students will be encouraged and permitted to drink water throughout the school day. In order to maintain a safe and clean learning environment, the following guidelines must be followed:

1. **Approved Containers**

- Water must be stored in **clear, capped, and non-glass containers**.
- Only **screw-on caps** are allowed to minimize spills.

2. **Permitted Beverage**

- **Water is the only beverage allowed** outside of the cafeteria. This includes all classrooms, hallways, and common areas.

3. **Use Around Technology**

- Students should exercise **extreme care when drinking water near computers, Chromebooks, and other electronic devices** to prevent damage and maintain functionality.

By adhering to these guidelines, students help promote a healthy school culture while preserving our resources and learning environment.

With Viking pride,

Harriett S. Davis, Ed. S
Principal

ACADEMICS

ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY

Lawful and Unlawful Absences

School districts must adopt policies to define and list lawful and unlawful absences.

1. Lawful absences include but are not limited to:
 - a. Absences caused by a student's own illness and whose attendance in school
 - b. would endanger his or her own health or the health of others,
 - c. Absences due to an illness or death in the student's immediate family,
 - d. Absences due to a recognized religious holiday of the student's faith, and
 - e. Absences due to activities that are approved in advanced by the principal.
2. Unlawful absences include but are not limited to:
 - a. Absences of a student without the knowledge of his or her parents, or
 - b. Absences of a student without acceptable cause with knowledge of his or her parents.
3. Suspension is not to be counted as an unlawful absence for truancy purposes.

Truancy

The State Board of Education recognizes that truancy is primarily an educational issue and that all reasonable, educationally sound, corrective actions should be undertaken by the school district prior to resorting to the juvenile justice system.

Truant

A child ages 6 to 17 meets the definition of a truant when the child has three consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five unlawful absences.

Habitual Truant

A "habitual" truant is a child, ages 12 to 17 years, who fails to comply with the intervention plan developed by the school, the child, and the parent(s) or guardian(s) and who accumulates two or more additional unlawful absences. This child may need court intervention and an initial truancy petition may be filed. The written intervention plan, and documentation of non-compliance, must be attached to the truancy petition asking for court intervention.

Chronic Truant

A "chronic" truant is a child 12 to 17 years who has been through the school intervention process, has reached the level of a "habitual" truant, has been referred to Family Court and placed on an order to attend school, and continues to accumulate unlawful absences. Should other community alternatives and referral fail to remedy the attendance problem, the "chronic" truant may be referred to the Family Court for violation of a previous court order.

All school intervention plans existing to this point for this child and family must accompany the Contempt of Court petition as well as a written recommendation from the school to the court on action the court should take.

Intervention Plans

Each district must develop a policy relating to requirements for intervention. The district plan for improving students' attendance must be in accordance with any applicable statutes. Individual school intervention plans may vary.

180 Day School Year

The school year consists of 180 days. To receive credit, students must attend 170 days of a 180-day course as well as meet all minimum requirements for each course. The board or its designee will approve any absence in excess of ten days, whether lawful or unlawful. Failure to meet the 170-day attendance requirement may result in summer school placement or retention.

S.C. Code Ann. Sections: 59-5-65 (1990 and Supp. 2002): State Board of Regulation: Powers and responsibilities of State Board of Education

59-65-90 (1990): Rules and Regulations

20 U.S.C. & 7112 (2002): No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency 42 U.S.C. & 5601 et seq. (2002)

Prevention Act of 1974 - Descriptor Code: JBD, JBA, JBE 43-274. Student Attendance

Make-up work

A student will be allowed to make-up work missed during an absence from school as long as he/she makes appropriate arrangements with the teacher(s) **WITHIN TWO DAYS AFTER RETURNING TO SCHOOL**. The teacher(s) will notify the student of a reasonable time in which the work must be completed. **It is the student's responsibility to request missed assignments.**

INTERVENTION PLANS AND REFERRALS

In order to encourage and assist students in attending school regularly, the administration shall adhere to the following intervention procedures;

1. After three (3) consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five (5) unlawful absences occur, the attendance officer shall attempt to identify the reasons for the student's continued absence and develop a plan in conjunction with the student and parent/guardian to improve future attendance.
2. The plan for improving student attendance shall include but not be limited to:
 - (a) Reasons for the unlawful absences;
 - (b) Methods to resolve the cause of unlawful absences;
 - (c) Actions to be taken in the event unlawful absences continue; and
 - (d) The signature of parent/guardian or evidence that an attempt has been

made to involve parent/guardian.

3. The student and parent/guardian shall be notified when a student reaches a total of two or three absences, whether lawful, unlawful or a combination thereof.
4. If the attendance plan is not successful and further inquiry by school officials fails to cause student or parent/guardian to comply with the plan, or the student or parent/guardian refuses to participate in intervention planning, the attendance officer may refer the student to a truancy prevention program or the Family Court.

HOMEBOUND EDUCATION

Homebound instruction is provided for students who because of illness, accident, pregnancy, or congenital defect, cannot (even with the aid of transportation) attend school. The principal or designee will be responsible for implementing the Homebound Program for students experiencing a prolonged illness or injury requiring school absence.

Criteria: Participation in the program requires all of the following criteria to be met:

- Physician certification that the student is unable to attend school.
- Principal certification that the student is unable to attend school.
- If the physician's diagnosis indicates the student is handicapped, a copy of the placement form is required to certify that the student is given appropriate placement.

Procedure: The following procedure will be observed:

- Obtain a form from the school counselor if the student is **expected** to miss more than five days of school.
- Obtain physician's signature on the form and return it to the principal. A certified teacher will be assigned and will provide a minimum of five hours of instruction per week. Scheduling is left up to each individual teacher and student.

ARRIVAL, DISMISSAL, AND TARDY

Early Arrival: Supervision of students at DOMS begins each morning at **7:20a.m.**

Early Dismissals: Once a student reports to school, he/she is expected to stay for the entire day. Parents should only request an early dismissal for reasons similar to lawful absences (student illness, illness or death of immediate family member, etc.). **When possible, appointments should be scheduled after school or on school holidays.** A good education demands that a student be in every class every day possible. For parents requesting the early dismissal of a student the procedure

is as follows:

1. Parents send written permission stating the time, reason, date, and telephone number.
2. The student will give the note to his/her teacher and to the office secretary.
3. During the Advisor Period (homeroom) the student will notify any teachers whose class period will be missed, hand in assignments, and collect work.
4. The parent must sign the student out in the office.
 - Students returning must sign in and pick up a class pass.
 - Anyone who picks up a student from school must be on the parent approval list. ID will be required.

Tardy to school: Students arriving after 7:50 a.m. **must** come to the front office **with a parent** or bring a written excuse. Students late to school three times will be subjected to the following consequences:

1 st tardy	Verbal warning
2 nd tardy	Written warning and parent call
3 rd tardy	Phone call to parent
4 th tardy	Parent conference required
5 th -7 th tardy	ISS (1 Day) for each day
8 th tardy	OSS (1 Day)

Chronic tardiness will be reported to the attendance officer.

Late bus students are required to come by the office and get a permission slip before going to the classroom. Late bus students will receive an excused tardy.

Chronic Tardiness: Once a student receives 3 tardies to school an administrative call will be held. On the 4th tardy to school a parent conference will be required. Further tardiness to school may result in further disciplinary action.

Withdrawals: The school should be notified at least two days in advance of a student's impending withdrawal. All textbooks, library books, fees, and other fines must be cleared.

Tardy to Class: Students who arrive late to class are considered to be tardy. Successive tardiness will result in disciplinary measures according to the teacher's behavior management plan.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION POLICY

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the promotion, retention, and acceleration of students. The district affirms academic excellence for all students. The promotion and retention policy describes the standards students must meet in order to maintain academic excellence and to be considered for promotion from one grade to the next. This policy is applicable to all students who are in the regular school program. Students in special education programs will be governed by their Individual Education Plan (IEP). These students' instructional program will be the state standards curriculum and they will participate in state testing unless alternative curriculum and testing accommodations are provided for in the IEP. The district will administer the policy fairly, equitably, and consistently in the schools.

Uniform Grading Policy for SC Schools:

90-100.....	A
80-89.....	B
70-79.....	C
60-69.....	D
59 or below.....	F

Policy IKE PROMOTION, RETENTION, AND ACCELERATION OF STUDENTS Issued 1/23

The district affirms academic excellence for students. This promotion and retention policy describes the standards our students must meet in order to maintain academic excellence and to be considered for promotion from one grade to the next. This policy will be applicable to all students who are in the regular school program. Students functioning in special education programs will be governed by their Individualized Educational Programs (IEPs). The district will administer this policy fairly, equitably, and consistently in schools.

Promotion criteria for grades six and seven

Students must maintain a 60 average in English/language arts and math in order to progress to the next grade. Students must also maintain a 60 average in science or social studies. If a student is not performing at grade level, or not meeting the terms of the academic plan, the district will retain the student in the present grade or may require the student to attend summer school. Failure to meet the promotion criteria in the summer program may result in retention or promotion on academic probation with a requirement to attend after school programs. Promotion or retention in certain circumstances may be based on teacher and principal's judgement. A student may be retained if he/she fails to meet the attendance requirements as stated in the district and state attendance laws.

Promotion criteria for grade eight

Students must maintain a 60 average in at least four core subjects (English, reading/journalism, algebra/pre-algebra, science, and social studies). If a student is not performing at grade level or not meeting the terms of the academic plan, the district will retain the student in the present grade or may require the student to attend summer school. Failure to meet promotion criteria in the summer program may result in retention or promotion on academic probation with a requirement to attend afterschool programs. Promotion or retention in certain circumstances may be based on teacher and principal's judgement. A student may be retained if he/she fails to meet the attendance requirements as stated in the district and state attendance laws.

Appeals:

Parents may appeal a decision to retain a student, place a student on probation, or require summer school attendance for promotion consideration to the district review panel within ten days of the affecting decision. The appeal must specify the parent's reason for disagreement and should be addressed to District Superintendent, Bamberg School District Two, 62 Holly Avenue, Denmark, SC 29042. The district panel will render and mail a decision on the written appeal within ten working days of receipt. A copy will be sent to the principal.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS AND RECOGNITION

Homework: Homework is assigned most days. The reasons are:

- To provide practice on learned skills and the opportunity to learn good study habits
- To provide opportunity for growth in responsibility
- To provide the parent with an opportunity to see what the student is studying and how well he or she is doing

Learning is important and should continue after school hours. Homework should not be viewed as punishment, but as a way to extend learning. Homework policies vary. Please contact individual teachers for clarification.

Report Cards: Report Cards will be issued every nine weeks.

Interim Reports: Interims are issued each grading period (around week 4 ½ of each quarter).

Academic Recognition: At the end of each nine weeks grading period, grades are reviewed to determine qualification for the **Honor Roll**. Students who have earned a grade of A in every subject will qualify for the A Honor Roll. Students who earn all A's and B's in every subject will qualify for the A-B Honor Roll. Students who have earned a grade of B in every subject will qualify for the B Honor Roll.

Child Find Requirement: If you feel your child has some type of disability and is in need of special education, related services, or accommodations, please

contact the school administration as soon as possible so that the school district can provide appropriate educational opportunities for your child.

GIFTED AND TALENTED

Gifted & Talented Program Parent Notification:

Gifted and talented students are those who are identified in grades three through twelve as demonstrating high performance ability or potential in academic areas and, therefore, require an educational program beyond that normally provided by the general school program in order to achieve their potential. The purpose of the gifted and talented program is to provide curriculum, instruction, and assessment that maximize the potential of identified students.

Program models and services consist of resource room or pull-out programs that meet away from the regular classroom to provide services, and self-contained gifted and talented classes organized around one or more disciplines.

Identification is a multi-step process that consists of screening and referral, assessment of eligibility, and placement. Criteria for identification is organized by the following three dimensions:

- **Dimension A Reasoning Abilities/Aptitude:** Demonstrate high aptitude (93rd national age percentile or above) in one or more of these areas: verbal, non-verbal, quantitative and/or a composite of the three on a nationally normed test of academic aptitude.
- **Dimension B High Achievement:** Outstanding performance in reading and/or math as evidenced by a qualified score in Exemplary on the Assessment of State Standards or scoring at or above the 94th national percentile on a nationally normed test of academic achievement in the areas of reading comprehension or math concepts/problem solving.
- **Intellectual/Academic Performance:** Students in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 must have an acceptable score measured by specific performance tasks developed through Project Star, administered in March. Students served in grades seven through twelve must earn a grade point average of at least 3.75 on a 4.0 scale.

Students who meet two of the three above dimensions are eligible for placement, as are students who score at or above the 96th national percentile composite on a nationally normed test of academic aptitude.

Any student can be referred for screening assessment. Referrals from teachers, administrators, parents, and students will be accepted. Referrals can be made by contacting the school guidance counselor and requesting Permission to Evaluate Form. No child will be screened without a signed and dated Permission to Evaluate Form. All students referred for screening, who have returned this form, will be tested with a nationally normed test of academic aptitude. Achievement results from the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test will be used in the

achievement dimension.

If you have any questions regarding identification procedures and program services, contact your child's school counselor or the Gifted and Talented Coordinator. Bamberg School District Two does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in admission to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities.

2025-2026

**Bamberg County School District
Student Code of Conduct**



Administrative Discipline Guide

Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to display self-respect, respect for others, and respect for our school. A safe, secure, and well-organized learning environment is the right of every DOMS student. All faculty and staff members must be treated with respect by every DOMS student. Failure to adhere to these expectations will result in consequences. The purpose of the DOMS Code of Conduct is to inform students and parents about various behaviors and potential consequences. While it is not possible to list every specific prohibited conduct, the principal and school district hold the authority to determine appropriate consequences for misconduct. Consequences for students with disabilities will align with state and federal laws.

Administrative Lunch Detention

- Assigned in lieu of ISS
- Utilized at administrator's discretion

In School Suspension (ISS)

- Students assigned to ISS are separated from the regular student population and will have different lunch and break times
- Students are required to complete assigned work
- Refusal to do work will cause additional time assigned to ISS or OSS
- 10 days are the maximum days allowed in ISS for the school year after which OSS will be assigned.
- Parent notification

Out of School Suspension (OSS)

- Students are not allowed to attend school and are not allowed on ANY BSD campus for any activities.
- 10 days' maximum allowed OSS days after which student may be assigned to Alternative School or recommended for expulsion
- **OSS will begin at 3:00 p.m. (at the end of the school day) on the date that the referral is issued by administrators. The suspension will stay in effect until the student is allowed to return to school.**

Alternative Program

- Student may be assigned to the Second Chances Academy after accumulating 10 OSS days
- Minimum assignment determined by the Second Chances Academy policy
- Assignment may be for the remainder of the school year
- All assigned work must be completed to the satisfaction of the Alternative School Administration
- Refusal to do assigned work or other behavior problems may result in a recommendation for expulsion

Expulsion

- Students may not return to school for the remainder of the year and are required to attend a hearing at the District Office to be re-admitted.

LEVEL I OFFENSES

Smoking/Possession of Vaping/Tobacco Products

- 1st referral – 1 day OSS
- 2nd referral – 2 days OSS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 3 days OSS

Cutting Class

- 1st referral – 1 day ISS
- 2nd referral – 1 day OSS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 2 days OSS

Disturbing Class

- 1st referral – Administrative Conference
- 2nd referral – 1 day ISS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 1 day OSS

Dress Code Violation

All referrals – Student will not be allowed to go to class. Student must go home to change clothes, have appropriate attire brought to school or report to ISS.

Failure to Follow Instructions

- 1st referral – 1 day ISS
- 2nd referral – 2 days ISS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 1 day OSS

Gambling

- 1st referral – 1 day ISS
- 2nd referral – 1 days OSS
- 3rd referral – 2 days OSS

In Unauthorized Area

- 1st referral – 1 day ISS
- 2nd referral – 2 days ISS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 1 day OSS

Inappropriate Affection/Behavior

- 1st referral – 1 day ISS
- 2nd referral – 2 days ISS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 1 day OSS

Profanity to Student/ Obscene Gestures

- 1st referral – 1 day ISS
- 2nd referral – 1 day OSS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 2 days OSS

Leaving Class without Permission

- 1st referral – 1 day ISS
- 2nd referral – 2 days ISS
- 3rd and subsequent referrals – 1 day OSS

Sleeping in Class

1st referral – ISS remainder of the period/block

2nd and subsequent referrals - 1 day ISS

Eating/Possession of Food Outside of the Cafeteria/ Designated Area

All referrals – Administrative Detention

Excessive Talking

1st referral – Administrative Conference

2nd and subsequent referrals – 1 day ISS

LEVEL II OFFENSES**Possession of Cell Phone/Electronic Device**

All referrals – Cells phones are confiscated and will be released to parent(s) or legal Guardian

Cheating

1st referral – Zero on assessment & Administrative conference

2nd referral – 1 day OSS and a zero on assessment

3rd and subsequent referrals – 2 days OSS and a zero on assessment

Near Fight/Causing a Fight/Spreading Information Contributing to a Fight

1st referral – 1 day OSS

2nd referral – 2 days OSS

3rd and subsequent referrals – 3 days OSS

Fighting

1st referral – 5 days OSS

2nd referral – 5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion

Minor Vandalism (less than \$25.00)

1st referral – 2 days ISS or 1 day OSS (full restitution)

2nd referral – 2 days OSS (full restitution)

3rd referral – 3 days OSS (full restitution)

Cutting School/Leaving School without Permission

1st referral – 1 day OSS

2nd and subsequent referrals – 3 days OSS

Disrespect to Staff/ Insolent Behavior

1st referral – 1 day OSS

2nd referral – 2 days OSS

3rd and subsequent referrals – 3 days OSS

Disturbing School

1st referral – 1 day OSS

2nd referral – 2 days OSS

3rd and subsequent referrals – 3 days OSS

Profanity to Staff

1st referral – 3 days OSS

2nd referral – 5 days OSS

3rd referral – 5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion

Direct Disobedience/Refusal to Obey Staff

1st referral – 1 day OSS

2nd and subsequent referrals – 3 days OSS

Threats to Students/Bullying

1st referral – 1 day OSS

2nd referral – 3 days OSS

3rd referral – 5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion

Theft/Selling /Possession of stolen property (> \$25.00)

1st referral – 3 days OSS (restitution) notification of law enforcement

2nd referral – 5 days OSS (restitution) notification of law enforcement

3rd referral – 5 days OSS (restitution) notification of law enforcement with recommendation for expulsion

Unauthorized Note/Forgery (Parent/Teacher Note)

All referrals – 1 day OSS

Misbehavior during Assembly Programs

All referrals – 1 day OSS

Computer Misuse

1st referral – 1 day ISS

2nd referral – 2 days ISS and restriction of use

3rd and subsequent referrals – 1 day OSS

Possession of Obscene Materials (including Internet searches)

1st referral – 1 day OSS

2nd referral – 3 days OSS

3rd referral – 5 days OSS with recommendation for Alternative School or expulsion

Possession of a Weapon-Like Object/Contraband

1st referral – 3 days OSS and confiscate object (notification of law enforcement)

2nd and subsequent referrals – 5 days OSS (notification of law enforcement) with recommendation for expulsion

LEVEL III OFFENSES**Assault and Battery**

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Arson

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Bomb Threat

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Extortion

1st referral – 5 days OSS (notification of law enforcement)

2nd referral – 5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Explosive Devices

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

False Fire Alarm

1st referral – 5 days OSS (notification of law enforcement)

2nd referral – 5 days OSS and recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Use and/or Possession of Intoxicant/Alcohol

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Possession /Selling/Use of Illegal Substance

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Possession of Weapon

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Vandalism (major) over \$100.00

5 days OSS with restitution and possible recommendation of expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Threatening Staff (Explicit)

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Indecent Exposure

1st referral – 5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

Sexual Misconduct

5 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion (notification of law enforcement)

ALL LEVEL III OFFENSES REQUIRE REFERRAL TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

School Administrators will follow all applicable laws, regulations, and district policies applicable to the disciplining of students identified as disabled pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act.

2025-2026
Bamberg County School District

Bus Transportation Discipline Code



BUS TRANSPORTATION DISCIPLINE CODE

Level I - Behavioral Misconduct

Behavioral misconduct is defined as those activities which tend to impede the orderly operation of a school vehicle. Repeated violations may lead to more serious disciplinary actions including suspension from the bus for an extended period of time including the remainder of the school year. Discipline records of violations are cumulative. Acts of behavioral misconduct with enforcement procedures or sanctions to be applied shall include but are not limited to the following violations – **depending upon severity. All final disciplinary actions are left to the discretion of the administration.**

Violations

- Behavioral misconduct on the bus
- Getting on or off the bus at other than the designated stop
- Eating and/or drinking on the bus
- Littering on the bus
- Minor violation of any safety procedures (standing, sitting improperly, etc.)
- Making loud noises (yelling, etc.)
- Pushing, tripping, or general horseplay
- Encouraging misbehavior
- Use of electronic devices (example: listening to electronic devices without earbuds/headphones, etc.).

• Improper use of cell phones. Example: videoing other students. Phone will be confiscated and a charge of \$25 will be required before it will be returned.

Consequences

- 1st referral – warning and contact parents
- 2nd referral – suspended from the bus up to three days and contact parents
- 3rd referral – suspended from the bus up to five days and contact parents
- 4th referral – suspended from the bus up to ten days and contact parents
- 5th referral or more – suspended from the bus for ten or more days

Level II - Disruptive Conduct

Disruptive conduct is defined as those activities directed against persons or property, which tend to endanger the health or safety of oneself or others on a school vehicle. Disruptive records of violations are cumulative. Acts of disruptive conduct with enforcement procedures or sanctions to be applied shall include but are not limited to the following violations. All final disciplinary actions are left to the discretion of the administration.

Violations

- Possession and/or using any tobacco products (electronic cigarettes, vapors, etc.) on the bus
- Throwing objects on or out of the bus
- Refusing to sit in an assigned seat
- Using profanity, abusive language or obscene gestures

- Severe violation of safety procedures (having head, arms, hands, extended from the bus etc.)
- Defacing property (writing or marking on seats, etc.)
- Disrespect/refusal to obey the bus driver (depending on severity)
- Harassing, threatening, intimidating, or physically abusing another person on the bus
- Pushing, tripping, or general horseplay (depending on severity)
- Spraying/use of scented products

Consequences

- 1st referral – suspended from the bus up to three days and contact parents
- 2nd referral – suspended from the bus for up to five days and contact parents
- 3rd referral – suspended from the bus for up to ten days and contact parents
- 4th referral – suspended from the bus for up to thirty days and parent conference
- 5th referral – suspended from the bus for the remainder of the school year and parent conference

- * Transportation Supervisor must be involved in conference for bus suspensions of 30 days or longer
- * Level II violations may also result in out-of-school suspensions and/or restitution of property

Level III - Criminal Conduct

Criminal Conduct is defined as those activities that result in violence to oneself, another person, or destruction of property. These actions pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of oneself or others on a school vehicle. Criminal conduct usually requires administrative actions, which could result in the immediate removal of the student from school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the Board of Trustees. Level III violations may lead to a student's immediate removal from the bus at the school or bus transportation office. Acts of criminal conduct may include, but are not limited to the following violations.

Violations

- Fighting on the bus
- Physically abusing or hitting another passenger
- Possessing, using, or distributing explosives and/or fireworks
- Carrying a weapon or any object that might be used as a weapon
- Persistent uncontrollable conduct
- Possessing, using, or distributing alcohol, drugs, paraphernalia and/or look-alike drugs on the bus
- Pushing or tripping that leads to injury
- Harassing, threatening, intimidating, physically abusing persons on the bus (depending on severity)
- Vandalism – destruction of any part of the bus (seats, interior and/or exterior)
- Sexual misconduct

Consequences

Any Referral that results in a suspension from the bus for the remainder of the school year must include a conference with parents.

***Transportation Supervisor must be involved in the conference for bus suspensions of 30 days or longer.**

***Level III violations may also result in out-of-school suspension, recommendation of expulsion from school for the remainder of the school year, notification of law enforcement authorities, and/or restitution of property. RESTITUTION FOR SEVERE VANDALISM WILL BE A CONSIDERATION AND REQUIREMENT PRIOR TO ENDING A SUSPENSION OR RE-ENROLLING IN SCHOOL.**

If a student is removed from the bus for the remainder of the school year for a combination of Level I and/or Level II offenses, the student must remain off the bus for at least 45 school days. If parents wish to appeal the removal after 45 school days have been served, the parents should contact the principal to request reinstatement of bus privileges. The principal will contact the transportation director and the bus supervisor regarding reinstatement and inform the parents of the decision. If a student does have bus privileges reinstated, any further referral of any nature will result in removal from the bus for the remainder of the year with no further appeal under this code. If a student is removed from the bus for the remainder of the school year for a Level III offense, the student must remain off of the bus with no appeal under this code.

****Students in grades kindergarten – second grade must have an adult at the bus stop to receive the student. If no one is present, the child will be returned to school and parents will be responsible for picking the student up. Multiple cases can result in further disciplinary action by the administration. If this behavior occurs three (3) times, the student will be removed from the bus for the remainder of the quarter/semester***

SECTION 21-816

A pupil may be suspended from riding the bus for one week for the first offense, two weeks for the second offense, three weeks for the third offense. If, after a third offense, a pupil persists in uncontrollable conduct while riding a school bus, he/she shall be suspended from riding said bus for the remainder of the school session then in progress.

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) maintains the following position regarding transporting band instruments and other carry-on items on school buses:

The primary purpose of the school bus is to provide safe transportation for students to and from school and school-related activities. The safety of students and other passengers is paramount when transporting band instruments and other large items. Any item carried on a school bus must be of such size that it can be transported in the student's lap. Any home project, musical instrument, or other items which would create a hazard or block the aisle or vision of the driver is prohibited. This is necessary to ensure that all items are kept under the control of the student at all times in case of an accident or an emergency and that those items do not prevent or hinder the evacuation of the bus in the event of an emergency.

The United States Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Standard 17, Pupil Transportation Safety, reads in part:

...baggage and other items transported in the passenger compartment should be stored so that the aisles are kept clear and the doors and emergency exits of school vehicles remain unobstructed at all times.

Compliance with this standard is mandatory. Carry-on items cannot be placed at any door or emergency exit, and these items must be properly secured to prevent them from becoming flying objects in the event of an accident. Loose items on the seats or floor, or anything which obstructs the aisle, endanger all passengers on the bus.

School district transportation personnel should use prudent judgment when deciding which band instruments will be allowed on buses. The size of the instrument as well as the physical characteristics of the student may factor into determining if the instrument can be safely transported on a school bus.

Allowed Instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone, Trumpet, Violin, Viola.

Instruments Not Allowed: Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Cello, Double Bass, Drums, Drum Kit, Guitars

DOMS DRESS CODE

The purpose of the DOMS Dress Code is to create an atmosphere that will allow us to provide the best education possible for your children and our students.

The Board reserves the right to bar from school those students whose personal appearance is disruptive to the educational process and orderly operation of the school. As long as the clothes do not deviate from the accepted norm and as long as the clothes are not a deterrent to the educational process as judged by the administrative team of a school, the attire will be acceptable. The State Board of Health requires that every student wear shoes to school.

In compliance with the above, the following guidelines will be used:

- 1) Clothing that is deemed distracting, revealing, overly suggestive or otherwise disruptive will not be permitted. This includes (but is not limited to) bare midriffs, halter/tank tops, spaghetti straps and see-through shirts, tops or blouses.
- 2) The district will not permit clothing that displays vulgar, obscene or otherwise inappropriate symbols, language or wording.
- 3) The district will not permit clothing or accessories (i.e., book bags, jewelry, hats, etc.) that display or make reference to alcohol, tobacco or illegal substances.
- 4) Students may not wear or display gang attire, colors or symbols on clothing or accessories.
- 5) Students may not wear bandanas, hats, head stockings or kerchiefs while on campus or attending school-sponsored events/ activities. Some classes require that students wear safety hats, shoes and clothing. Religious headgear is allowed.
- 6) Students must wear proper shoes at all times. No slides/slippers allowed.

- 7) Students may wear special dress or costumes for specific events or special occasions, when approved by the principal.
- 8) During the regular school day, students' athletic attire, such as tennis, track, cheerleading outfits, etc., must conform to all other regulations of the dress code.
- 9) Students may not wear accessories/clothing that could pose a safety threat including heavy chains, fishhooks, multi-finger rings, studded bracelets or collars, nose- or lip-to-ear chains, etc.
- 10) The district does not allow unusual body piercings that disrupt the order of school or that disturb the learning environment.
- 11) Students may not wear overly tight pants or shorter than four inches above the knee cap for shorts, skirts, skorts or dresses. **AN ACCEPTED GUIDELINE IS NOT MORE THAN FOUR INCHES ABOVE THE KNEE CAP.**
- 12) Bike shorts are not allowed unless worn under another pair of shorts.
- 13) Students must wear pants at the natural waistline. Undergarments should not show and should not be worn outside of clothing. It is highly recommended that belts are worn to secure pants.
- 14) Pants with holes or tears more than 4 inches above the knee are prohibited.
- 15) In an effort to maintain the professional appearance of the educational environment, bedroom items (i.e. blankets) and bedroom attire (i.e. pajamas) are prohibited.

The school's administrators make the final judgment on appropriateness of any student's dress and reserve the right to prohibit any clothing/ accessory disruptive to the school.

ANY STUDENT WHO DOES NOT MEET THE DRESS CODE POLICY WILL BE SENT HOME AND ALL ABSENCES WILL BE COUNTED AS UNEXCUSED. ALL TEACHERS WILL CHECK AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD FOR DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS AND SEND THEM IMMEDIATELY TO THE MAIN OFFICE.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phones (telecommunications devices that emit an audible signal, vibrate, display and message, or otherwise summon or deliver a communication to the possessor) have proliferated in recent years. To prevent disruption of the learning environment and to prevent using the messaging functions to cheat during exams or violate the privacy rights of students who are minors, **STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE CELL PHONES IN THEIR POSSESSION OR ON THEIR PERSON. THIS POLICY INCLUDES THE PROHIBITION OF SMART WATCHES.**

Prior to a student entering the building, his or her cell phone must be turned off and secured. If a student is found in possession of a cell phone between the 7:15 and 3:00 p.m., the phone will be confiscated and the student will be disciplined according to the school policy listed in the student handbook. While on school buses, cell phones are to be turned off and stored out of sight, in pockets, bags, backpacks, etc.

ALL CELL PHONES WILL BE CONFISCATED INCLUDING PHONES DISCOVERED DURING SEARCHES OF REASONABLE SUSPICION. Cheating is one of many problems caused by cell phones. Texting during class interrupts instruction. Taking photos of others without permission in places such as restrooms and showers can be a serious problem.

News reports have shown that cell phones with built-in cameras as well as other electronic devices with photographic capabilities are being used for unethical and illegal purposes. These devices can also be used to reproduce copyrighted materials, which violate federal copyright laws.

To address cell phone concerns, in addition to existing policies regarding the possession and use of electronic devices on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities, the following rules apply to the possession and use of cell phones.

- Students are to go to the school office to make emergency phone calls to home.
- In case of emergency, parents are asked to call the school office. The school office staff will relay messages to students at the appropriate time.
- Students who fail to submit their phones immediately upon request will be written up for **“DIRECT DISOBEDIENCE” AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO OSS.**

Refer to the Pupil Discipline Policy listed in this handbook that states violation of the cell phone policy is a Level II violation.

PROHIBITED ELECTRONIC DEVICES

CD players, electronic games, beepers, earphones, laser lights, cameras, cell phones, MP3 players, iPods, portable speakers, etc., are not allowed in the building from 7:15 am – 3:00 pm. If you bring these items to school, they will be confiscated.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION HAS THE RIGHT TO SEARCH A STUDENT'S PERSON AND PROPERTY IF THERE IS REASONABLE SUSPICION TO BELIEVE THAT DRUGS, WEAPONS, DANGEROUS, ILLEGAL OR PROHIBITED MATTER OR STOLEN GOODS ARE LIKELY TO BE FOUND.

It is the school's duty to enforce school discipline policies and to protect the health and safety of individual students and the student body. The school recognizes that students have the right of privacy of person as well as the freedom from unreasonable search and seizure but recognizes that this right is balanced by the school's responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of all its students, buildings, equipment and grounds. The school will make every effort to respect the rights and personal property of students.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY

Students enrolled in the schools of the Bamberg County School District Two shall not be under the influence of, use, consume, possess or distribute alcoholic beverages or drugs in any quantity. Any student violating this regulation shall be expelled from attending school for the remainder of the school year with the following exception; a student with a minor first-time violation shall be suspended for five days and granted the alternative of attending the Alcohol Drug Intervention Program sponsored by William J. McCord with his/her parents. All fees and expenses incurred shall be borne by the student's parent(s) or guardian. A student enrolled in this program will be

allowed to remain in school but will continue on probation for the remainder of the school year. If the student discontinues the program or is dismissed from the program, expulsion proceedings shall be initiated by the appropriate principal.

Students will be allowed to select the Alcohol and Drug alternative only once during their school career. Any abuse occurring after this first violation will be treated as a second violation and expulsion will result. (Explanation: If a student is guilty of alcohol or drug abuse in one grade and selects the intervention program and in a later grade is found guilty again, he/she will not be eligible for the program and will be expelled).

A student enrolled in the Intervention Program which extends beyond the end of the regular school year must complete the Intervention Program prior to receiving academic credits for that year. Seniors shall not be eligible to receive their diploma and/or transcripts until the Intervention Program is completed.

A student committing a major violation, such as drug selling or distribution, shall be expelled from attending school, and the appropriate law enforcement officials shall be notified in each case.

A student violating the Alcohol and Drug Abuse regulations on more than one occasion within a school year shall be expelled from attending school for the remainder of the school years. However, the Board reserves the right to expel students permanently depending on the severity of the case.

The regulation concerning alcohol and drug abuse shall be applicable to students in these situations:

1. When the violation occurs at school during school hours or when participating in a school sponsored activity.
2. When the violation occurs off campus and the student comes or is brought to school during the school day or participates in a school sponsored activity after consuming any alcohol or drugs.
3. When the student is found to be guilty of being an accessory to an alcohol or drug distribution operation on school grounds or adjacent areas to the school.

When the violation occurs, the District Two procedure regarding suspension and expulsion shall be followed by the principal. Students will be suspended from school for five days allowing for time to enter the Intervention Program or for an administrative hearing by the District Hearing Authority. The Hearing Authority is a delegated authority to exercise judgment and allow the student to return to school under extenuating circumstances.

A copy of this Board Policy and a copy of the rules and regulations pertaining to the Alcohol and Drug Intervention Program shall be published in the student handbook of each school in the Bamberg County School District Two. Each student shall be required to return to his/her school signed evidence that his/her parent/parents have read and understand the District Two Board Policy on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Every effort is to be extended to make each student fully aware of the consequences of Alcohol and Drug Abuse as described in this policy.

WEAPONS - LIKE POLICY

South Carolina State Law 16-23-430 (Carrying Weapons on School Property) states:

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person, except state, county or municipal law-enforcement officers or personnel authorized by school officials, to carry on his person, while on any elementary or secondary school property, a knife, with a blade over two (2) inches

- long, a blackjack, a metal pipe or pole, firearms or any other type of weapon, device or object which may be used to inflict bodily injury or death.
- (2) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars or imprisoned for a term not to exceed thirty days. Any weapon or object used in violation of this section may be confiscated by the law-enforcement division making the arrest.

The law is very clear on what constitutes a weapon and intent is not addressed. It is strongly requested that you check your child's pockets, pocketbooks, and book bags to make sure that an ornament of any type or pocketknife, etc. that would meet the definition of a weapon is not in his/her possession. If we confiscate an ornament or pocketknife with a blade less than two inches in length, we will make you aware and insist on a conference and/or disciplinary action. However, any object used in a threatening manner constitutes a weapon.

If an object that meets the state's definition of weapon is found in your child's possession, the police department will be notified and in accordance with board policy (JCDA), the student will be recommended for expulsion.

Note: ALL Knives are prohibited (regardless of the size).

EXPULSION OF STUDENTS/GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT

The board of trustees will expel any student who brings a weapon to school (includes any school-sponsored activities). For purposes of this policy, a weapon is defined as a firearm. The term firearm is defined extensively by federal law, but generally means an operable weapon (gun) or destructive device (explosive, incendiary).

The period of expulsion will last no less than one calendar year. The board directs the superintendent to bring recommendations for expulsion consistent with this policy except that the superintendent, on a case-by-case basis, may modify this expulsion requirement. In considering whether to modify the one-year expulsion requirement, the superintendent may consider, among other things, the student's age, discipline record and the specific facts and circumstances of the incident.

The district may provide educational services in an alternative setting to students expelled under this policy, pursuant to the circumstances of each individual case.

The district will refer each expelled student to the local county office of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

ANTI-BULLYING AND HARRASSMENT POLICY

1. Prohibition against Bullying and Harassment

Bullying and harassment are prohibited in Denmark-Olar Middle School

2. Definition of Bullying

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

- **An Imbalance of Power:** Kids who bully use their power—such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity—to control or harm

others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.

- **Repetition:** Bullying behaviors happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

3. Definition of Harassment

Harassment means written, verbal or physical conduct that adversely affects the ability of one or more students to participate in or benefit from the school's educational programs or activities because the conduct is so severe, persistent or pervasive.

4. Scope

This policy covers conduct that takes place in the school, on school property, at school-sponsored functions and activities, on school buses or vehicles, and at bus stops. This policy also pertains to usage of electronic technology and electronic communication that occurs in the school, on school property, at school-sponsored functions and activities, on school buses or vehicles, at bus stops, and on school computers, networks, forums, and mailing lists. This policy applies to the entire school community, including educators, school and District staff, students, parents and volunteers.

5. Reporting Bullying and Harassment

All allegations of bullying or harassment shall be reported to the principal or a designated staff member.

6. Anonymous Reports

Reports may be filed anonymously. However, disciplinary action cannot be taken solely based on an anonymous report. Anonymous reports will be investigated with the same procedure, timeliness and vigor as other reports and disciplinary action can occur based on the results of the investigation.

7. False Reports

Students who file false reports of bullying or harassment will be subject to disciplinary action.

8. Parental Reports

Reports alleging bullying or harassment may be filed with the principal or the designated staff member by parents and school volunteers.

9. Responsibility of Students

Any student who observes an act of bullying or harassment should report the bullying or harassment to the principal or the designated staff member.

10. Responsibility of Staff

All staff members will take reasonable measures to prevent bullying and harassment and are obligated to report any such acts that come to their attention.

11. Retaliation

Retaliation or threats of retaliation meant to intimidate the victim of bullying or harassment or toward those investigating the incident will not be tolerated.

12. Discipline and Remediation

Disciplinary actions for bullying and harassment may include, but are not limited to: warnings; counseling; loss of opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities, school social events or graduation exercises; loss of school bus transportation; in-school

suspension; or out-of-school suspension. If necessary, counseling will be provided for the target and/or the student perpetrating the bullying or harassment.

TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES

COMPUTER USE / INTERNET ACCESS

All students have access to networked programs and the Internet. When using school computers, all students are expected to abide by the district's Acceptable Use Policy. General school and district rules for behavior and communication apply. The Director of Technology along with school administration may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should have no expectations of privacy in their electronic files stored on Bamberg County School District servers.

Students are expected to use the district Internet system for educational purposes. The district has the right to place reasonable restrictions on the materials that student's access or post through the system. Students are expected to follow the rules set forth in the district's Acceptable Use Policy, the student discipline code and the law in their use of the district Internet system and district-owned equipment.

All students will receive a copy of the Bamberg County School District Policy for Computer Use/Internet Access. The form is to be signed by both parent(s) and students and returned to the school. Failure to return the form does not release students from the rules and regulations of the Computer Use/Internet Access Policy.

Each student is assigned an individual user account. The security of this account is the responsibility of the student. It should be safeguarded at all times.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY: PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Federal laws prohibit discrimination under programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. The statutes listed below are applicable to Denmark-Olar Middle School and are provided for you in part:

TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT OF 1972

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States shall...solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law that makes available a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and

ensures special education and related services to those children.

The IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education, and related services to more than 6.5 million eligible infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities. Infants and toddlers, birth through age two, with disabilities and their families receive early intervention services under IDEA Part C. Children and youth ages three through 21 receive special education and related services under IDEA Part B.

Denmark-Olar Middle School conducts its programs and activities involving admission and treatment of students, employment, teaching, research, and public service in a non-discriminatory manner as prescribed by federal law and regulation.

Bamberg County School District offers all programs and educational activities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or handicap.

**Inquiries concerning the above may be addressed to:
Bamberg County School District
District Superintendent
62 Holly Avenue
Denmark, South Carolina 29042**

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):
 - School officials with legitimate educational interest;

- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
- Accrediting organizations;
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

TEAM SPORTS

Same as above plus team name, weight and height of player, and awards.

When an authorized release of information is presented, it will be honored.

For additional information, you may call 1-800-USA-LEARN (1-800-872-5327) (voice).

Individuals who use TDD may use the Federal Relay Service.

Or you may contact us at the following address: Family Policy Compliance Office

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202-8520

**BAMBERG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE
JANUARY 2025 – DECEMBER 2025**

January 6	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
February 3	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
March 3	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
April 7	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
May 5	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
June 2	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
July 7	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
August 4	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
*September 8	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
October 6	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
November 3	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office
December 1	6:00 p. m. - Bamberg County School District Office

*Off Schedule



July 2024							August 2024							September 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

October 2024							November 2024							December 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

January 2025							February 2025							March 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4							1							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30	31					

April 2025							May 2025							June 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

School Closures/Fall/Winter Break
First Day/End of Quarter/ Semester
Intercession
School Days
Professional Development
Teacher Prep/PD
Early Dismissal

Date	Event
July 4th	Independence Day
July 29-30	Teacher Prep/PD
July 31	Professional Development
Aug 1-2	Professional Development
August 5	First Day for Students
August 27	Early Release
Sept 2	Labor Day Holiday
Sept 24	Early Release
Oct 7	End of 1st Quarter
Oct 9	Professional Development
Oct 10-11	Inclement Weather Make-Up Days
Oct 22	Early Release
Nov 5	Election Day
Nov 25-29	Thanksgiving Holidays
Dec 20	End of First Semester
	Early Dismissal
Dec 23- Jan 3	Winter Holidays
Jan 6	Professional Development
Jan 7	Students Return
Jan 20	MLK Day
Feb 17-18	Presidents Day/Winter Break
Feb 19-21	Inclement Weather Make-Up Days
March 17	Professional Development
March 19	End of Third Quarter
March 25	Early Release
April 18	Inclement Weather Make Up Day
Apr 21-25	Spring Break
May 26	Memorial Day Holiday
May 30	End of Second Semester
	Early Dismissal
May 30	BEHS/DOHS Graduation
June 2	Professional Development
June 3	Professional Development
June 19	Juneteenth