

System-Wide Student Handbook

2026/2027



Dyersburg Primary School
Dyersburg Intermediate School
Dyersburg Middle School
Dyersburg High School
College Street Campus

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A. Introduction

Welcome to Trojan Nation!

We're thrilled to have you as part of the Dyersburg City Schools family—where every student matters and every moment counts!

At DCS, we believe in creating opportunities for all students to reach their highest potential. That means opening doors, breaking down barriers, and preparing kids not just for tests, but for *life*. Whether it's solving real-world problems, working as a team, or thinking outside the box, our goal is to equip your child with the tools to thrive in an ever-changing world.

We're proud of our dedicated teachers who set the bar high and believe in every student's ability to succeed. But we also know we can't do it alone. A strong partnership between home and school makes all the difference—and we're thankful to have you walking alongside us.

Many of the exciting things happening across our schools come directly from your feedback, and we can't thank you enough for your support, your ideas, and your trust. Thank you for helping us keep our schools safe and for allowing us the privilege of educating your child.

Let's work together to make this year one to remember!

If I can ever help or answer a question, please don't hesitate to reach out at kworley@dyersburgcityschools.org.

With Trojan Pride,
Kim Worley
Director of Schools

A1 - District Strategic Plan and Goals

The mission of Dyersburg City Schools is to provide a safe, positive environment where all students can reach their full potential. District Plan Goals Dyersburg City Schools will continue to maintain or improve the percentile in terms of the number of students scoring on-track and mastered in ELA and in math. The district will continue to improve the graduation rate and increase the percentage of students scoring at or above all four college readiness benchmark areas.

A2 - Non-Discrimination Statement

It is the policy of the Dyersburg City School 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 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI and IX Coordinator at the Dyersburg City School System's Central Office. If you have questions or problems with providing the above information, please see the school principal. For more information refer to [Policy 5.500 and 6.3041](#)

The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Kim Yeiter
Mailing address: 509 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024
Phone number: 731-286-3600
Email: kyeiter@dyersburgcityschools.org

Josh Rogers
Mailing address: 509 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024
Phone number: 731-286-3600
Email: jrogers@dyersburgcityschools.org

A3 - Future Changes

Although every effort will be made to update the handbook regularly, the Dyersburg City Schools District reserves the right to change this handbook and any content within without notice, except as may be required by state and federal law. As a result, the online version of the handbook shall be the official version.

B1 - Non-Discrimination Statement

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B2 - Student Rights & Responsibilities

Each student has the right to:

1. Have the opportunity for a free education in the most appropriate learning environment;
2. Be secure in his/her person, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizure;
3. Be educated in a safe and secure environment;
4. Have appropriate resources and opportunities for learning;
5. Not be discriminated against on the basis of sex, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, or disabilities; and
6. Be fully informed of school rules and regulations.

Each student has the responsibility to:

1. Know and adhere to reasonable rules and regulations established by the Board and school officials;
2. Respect the human dignity and worth of every other individual;
3. Refrain from libel, slanderous remarks, and obscenity in verbal and written expression;
4. Study and maintain the best possible level of academic achievement;
5. Be punctual and present in the regular school program;
6. Dress and groom in a manner that meets reasonable standards of health, cleanliness, modesty, and safety;
7. Maintain and/or improve the school environment, preserve school and private property, and exercise care while using school facilities;
8. Refrain from behavior that would lead to physical or emotional harm or disrupt the educational process;
9. Respect the authority of school administrators, teachers, and other authorized personnel in maintaining discipline in the school and at school-sponsored activities;
10. Obey the law and school rules as to the possession or the use of alcohol, illegal drugs, and other unauthorized substances or materials; and
11. Possess on school grounds only those materials that are acceptable under the law and accept the consequences for articles stored in one's locker.

B3 - Parent Rights & Responsibilities

Parents/guardians have the right to:

1. Be actively involved in their student's education;
2. Be treated courteously, fairly, and respectfully by school staff; and
3. Receive all relevant information and communication related to their student's education.

Parents/guardians have the responsibility to:

1. Make sure their student attends school regularly and on time, and when a student is absent, send in written excused notes;
2. Be a role model for their student, talking with their student about school and expected behavior, and communicating the value of education through words and action;
3. Be respectful and courteous to staff, other parents/guardians, and students while on school premises and during school activities;
4. Encourage students to participate in extracurricular activities that promote social and emotional growth in the areas of creative arts, music, and athletics and
5. Work with principals and school staff to address any academic or behavioral concerns or complaints students may experience.

C. Annual Notices

C1 - Asbestos Management Plans

On May 9, 1989, the Dyersburg City Board of Education submitted a Management Plan to the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration. The Management Plan indicates the location of the asbestos-containing materials at Dyersburg High School, Dyersburg Intermediate School, and the College Street Campus and how these materials are being handled. The Management Plan will be available to the public for review at the schools' Administration Office. Viewing time will be 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Management Plan will be updated every six months beginning July 9, 1989, with progress reports submitted to the state annually.

For more information see policy 3.208

C2 - Directory Information

Per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the District may disclose appropriately designated directory information without written consent, unless the parent/guardian or eligible student has opted out of the disclosure of directory information. In addition, federal law requires the District to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the names, addresses, and telephone listings of students unless parents/guardians have opted out in writing or during online registration.

The District has designated the following information as directory information: It includes, but is not limited to the student's name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, and the most recent educational agency attended.

Student directory information for 11th and 12th graders shall be made available upon request to persons or groups which make students aware of occupational and educational options, including official recruiting representatives of the military forces of the State and the United States.

For more information, refer to policy 6.601 and the District Website Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

C3 - Education Records

Public Release of Student Directory Information

Under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), an LEA must notify parents of the types of student information 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, Every Student Succeeds Act (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.

FERPA affords parent(s)/guardian(s) and eligible students certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five (45) days after the day the District receives a request for access.
 - a. Parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible students who wish to inspect education records shall submit to the principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect.
 - b. Arrangements for access will be made, and the parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible student will be notified of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.
3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
 - a. Education records may be disclosed without prior written consent if a school official has a legitimate educational interest.
 - b. School officials shall include: district and school administrators, registration clerks, and attendance clerks.
 - c. Legitimate educational interest include, but are not limited to: child abuse reports, school system contract to conduct research, the IRS, student transfer to another school or postsecondary school, financial institutions, health or safety emergency, terrorism, and agencies legally responsible for the care and protection of the student.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

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

For more information refer to policy 6.600

C4 - Surveys, Analyses, and Evaluations of Students

Surveys, analyses, and evaluations for research purposes shall be allowed by the Board when the project is viewed as contributory to a greater understanding of the teaching-learning process, the project does not violate the goals of the Board, and the disruption of the regular school program is minimal.

No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

1. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
2. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
3. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
4. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
5. Legally privileged relationships;
6. Income; or
7. The collection of student biometric data involving the analysis of facial expressions, EEG brain wave patterns, skin conductance, galvanic skin response, heart-rate variability, pulse, blood volume, posture, and eye-tracking without the prior consent of the student (if the student is an adult or emancipated minor), or in the case of an unemancipated minor, without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian.

The collection of the following student data is strictly prohibited:

1. Political affiliation or voting history;
2. Religious practices; and
3. Firearm ownership.

Per state and federal law, prior to the dissemination of a survey, analysis, or evaluation to students, parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be notified of their ability to review the materials. Such notification shall include information indicating the purpose of the survey, analysis, or evaluation as well as who will have access to the results. The survey, analysis, or evaluation shall only be administered to students under the age of eighteen (18) whose parent(s)/guardian(s) provide written, informed, and voluntarily signed consent. A student who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may participate after he/she provides written, informed, and voluntarily signed consent.

For more information refer to [Policy 6.4001](#)

C5 - Unsafe School Choice

Students who attend a school within the District identified by the State of Tennessee as persistently dangerous or students who are victims of a violent crime while in or on school grounds shall be given the opportunity to attend a safe school within the District.

C6 - Meningitis & Flu Awareness

Per state law, the District must provide information to parent(s)/guardian(s) about the following diseases.

- **Meningococcal meningitis**
 - Meningococcal meningitis is inflammation of the tissues and fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. It can be caused by bacteria or viruses. Symptoms can include fever, sudden severe headache, stiff neck, rash, nausea, and vomiting. There is a vaccine that will decrease the risk of some types of meningococcal meningitis, but it does not totally eliminate risk of the disease.
 - Meningitis is spread through exchange of respiratory droplets or saliva with an infected person. Only a small percentage of people who are exposed to the bacteria will develop meningitis. The bacteria that causes meningitis is not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningitis has been.
 - Two doses of the MCV4 vaccine are recommended for adolescents 11 through 18 years of age; the first dose at 11 or 12 years of age, with a booster dose at age 16.
- **Influenza**
 - Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. Symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, feeling tired, and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea.
 - Flu viruses are spread mainly by droplets made when someone with the flu coughs, sneezes, or talks. A person can also get the flu by touching something that has the flu virus on it and then touching his/her mouth, eyes, or nose.
 - A dose of flu vaccine is recommended every flu season. Children 6 months through 8 years of age may need two doses during the same flu season. Everyone else needs only one dose each flu season. There is no live flu virus in flu shots. They cannot cause the flu.

C6.1 - Immunization Requirements

- Immunizations required by grade:

Children enrolling in Kindergarten and New students in grades 1 - 12	Students starting 7th grade
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• Hepatitis B (HBV) • Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP) • Polio (IPV or OPV) - final dose on or after the 4th birthday • Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) - 2 doses of each, usually given together • Varicella - 2 doses or credible history of disease • Hepatitis A - total of 2 doses, spaced at least 6 - 18 months apart ◦ (not required of new students in grades 1 - 12)	• Tdap booster (information below)
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- Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap)
 - TETANUS (T) causes painful stiffening of the muscles. Tetanus can lead to serious health problems, including being unable to open the mouth, having trouble swallowing and breathing, or death.
 - DIPHTHERIA (D) can lead to difficulty breathing, heart failure, paralysis, or death.
 - PERTUSSIS (aP), also known as “whooping cough,” can cause uncontrollable, violent coughing that makes it hard to breathe, eat, or drink. Pertussis can be extremely serious especially in babies and young children, causing pneumonia, convulsions, brain damage, or death. In teens and adults, it can cause weight loss, loss of bladder control, passing out, and rib fractures from severe coughing.
 - The Tdap vaccine is only for children 7 years and older, adolescents, and adults.
 - Adolescents should receive a single dose of Tdap, preferably at age 11 or 12 years.
 - Evidence of one Tdap dose is required before 7th grade entry (administered at or after age 10) is required regardless of Td history

To receive additional information regarding these diseases, including locations to receive the vaccinations contact the Dyer County Health Department or the school nurse.

Dyer County Health Department ([Dyer County Health Department link](#))

1755 Parr Avenue

Dyersburg, TN 38024

Telephone Number:(731) 285-7311

C7 - Parental Notification Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

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 students.

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].

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].

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)].

D. Administration of Schools

D1 - After School Care

Students in Grades K - 5 may enroll in the Extended School Program (ESP) anytime during the school year. Children must be properly registered in the ESP program before they attend. Snacks are provided each afternoon. Meals are provided on abbreviated school days. ESP will operate from 3:05 until 6:00 PM on regular school days. ESP will not operate during inclement weather. Additional information is available in the ESP Handbook. Extended School Program fees per child: Annual registration is \$10. Afterschool childcare is \$15.00 per afternoon of attendance. An additional cost is required for attendance during abbreviated school days.

D2 - Drug-Free Schools

In order to protect the rights of students, to safeguard the learning environment, and to contribute to a "Drug Free" community, the Board's plan for dealing with alcohol and drugs¹ shall include the following:

1. Appropriate ways for handling alcohol/drug-related medical emergencies;
2. Guidelines for reporting alcohol/drug incidents and illegal activities;
3. Guidelines for referral of students who may have an alcohol/drug problem and/or are considered "high risk" to agencies and other sources of appropriate help;
4. Effective working relationships with appropriate community agencies, such as alcohol/drug service providers, law enforcement agencies and judicial officials

Students shall not consume, possess, use, sell, distribute, or be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles or buses, or at any school-sponsored activity, function, or event, whether on or off school grounds. Disciplinary sanctions shall be imposed on students who violate this standard of conduct. Such sanctions shall be consistent with local, state, and federal laws up to and including suspension/expulsion as well as referral for prosecution. Completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program may also be recommended. Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation programs shall be made available through the school counseling office.

For more information refer to Policy 6.307

D3 - Emergency Closings

The Board authorizes the Director of Schools to close schools in the event of hazardous weather, a public health emergency, or any other emergency which presents a threat to the safety of students, staff members, or school property. As soon as the

decision to close schools is made, the Director of Schools will notify the public media and request that an announcement be made. If school is not in session or is dismissed early due to snow or inclement weather, the Director of Schools in consultation with the principal(s) of the impacted school(s) shall determine if all scheduled activities in which students are involved shall be postponed or cancelled. For more information, refer to Policy 1.8011

D4 - Interscholastic Athletics

Interscholastic athletics shall be administered as a part of the regular school program. Prior to participation in interscholastic athletics, every student shall complete an annual physical examination and provide the student's original birth certificate. The parent(s)/guardian(s) of each student shall be responsible for covering the cost of the examination, and these records shall be on file in the principal's office.

Coaches, employees, and volunteers of the school district shall not encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate hazing activities. For more information refer to Policy 4.301

D5 - Parent and Family Engagement

A district receiving Title I funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute a written district-level parent and family engagement policy to parents and family members of participating children. 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; 29
- 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)]

For more information visit the DCS Family Engagement Website

D6 - School Nutrition Program

All students will receive a FREE breakfast and lunch meal for the 2026-2027 school year through the Community Eligibility Program. A la carte purchases such as ice cream, extra entrees, extra juice/milk, and fruit/vegetables are only allowed when students have money in their lunch account. We encourage parents to send money weekly or monthly if they would like their child to be allowed to buy extra items. 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. 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. Menus will be posted on the Dyersburg School website. The cost of visitor meals is \$6.50 per person. For more information visit the DCS School Cafe Website School Cafe'

D7 - Student Enrollment

Any student entering school for the first time must present:

1. A birth certificate or officially acceptable evidence of date of birth at the time of registration;
2. Evidence of a current medical examination. There shall be a complete medical examination of every student entering school for the first time. This applies to kindergarten, first grade and other students for whom there is no health record; and
3. Evidence of state-required immunization.
 - Exceptions will be granted to any student whose parent/guardian files with school authorities a signed, written statement that such measures conflict with the one of the following:
 - a. His/her religious tenets; or

b. Due to medical reasons with a written statement from a doctor excusing him/her from the immunization. The name used on the records of a student entering school must be the same as that shown on the birth certificate unless evidence is presented that such name has been legally changed through a court as prescribed by law. If the parent does not have or cannot obtain a birth certificate, then the name used on the records of such student will be the same as that shown on documents which are acceptable to the school principal as proof of date of birth. A child whose care, custody and support has been assigned to a resident of the district by a power of attorney or order of the court as dictated by law, shall be enrolled in school provided appropriate documentation has been filed with the district office. Initial placement of students who transfer to Dyersburg City Schools will be determined by a previous discipline record. A student may transfer into the school system at any time during the year if his/her parent(s) or legal guardian moves his/her residence into the school system. Students who remain in the Dyersburg City Schools are automatically re-enrolled each year. Parents of students new to the system may enroll children during the summer, on the first day of school, or when they move into the area.

All students entering Dyersburg Primary School in kindergarten and first grade must meet state age requirements as follows:

- Students entering kindergarten for the first time must be five years of age on or before August 15th of the current year.
- Students entering the first grade for the first time must be six years of age on or before August 15th of the current school year.

For more information refer to [Policy 6.203](#)

D7.1 - Transferring enrollment

Students presenting themselves for enrollment in any grade, other than first time enrollees in kindergarten or first grade, must show evidence of having completed the prior grade before a class placement will be made. Students entering school without sufficient testing information will be required to take a battery of achievement and basic skills tests before final placement will be made.

D7.2 - Attendance of Non-Resident Students

Students residing outside the boundaries of the school system may attend schools within the school system under the following conditions:

- They must be approved by the director of schools.
- Tuition for out-of-state non-resident students shall be charged at the same rate as the average cost per student (state and local funds) in the system attended.
- Non-resident students must make application at least two weeks prior to the first day of school.
- Requests from students from adjoining states to attend school shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Students who become residents of the school system shall be refunded any unused portion of the tuition on a pro-rata basis.
- When payment is not made on all or any part of the required tuition for a previous year, the student(s) shall be excluded from future attendance until all prior and current tuition is paid.

For more information refer to [Policy 6.204](#)

D8- Student Fees

School fees are defined as follows:

1. Fees for activities that occur during regular school hours, including field trips;
2. Fees for activities and supplies required to participate in all courses offered for credit or grades;
3. Equipment and supplies required to participate in interscholastic athletics and marching band, if taken for credit;
4. Fees or tuition for courses taken for credit or grade during summer school;
5. Fees required for graduation ceremonies;
6. Fees for a copy of the student's records; and
7. Refundable deposits for locks or other security devices required for protection of school property when used in conjunction with courses taken for credit or a grade.

School fees are not:

1. Fines for overdue library books;
2. Fines for the abuse of school parking privileges and other school rules developed for the safe and efficient operation of the school;
3. Charges for lost, damaged, or destroyed textbooks, library books, workbooks, or other school property;
4. Charges for debts owed the school;
5. Refundable deposits for locks or other security devices required for protection of school property when used in not-for-credit extracurricular activities;
6. Costs to participate in not-for-credit extracurricular activities, including athletics; and
7. Tuition for non-resident students.

No fee will be charged any student as a condition to attending school, but students shall be responsible for normal school supplies, such as pencils, paper, crayons, scissors, gym shoes and clothes, calculators, etc. School fees shall be waived for students who receive free or reduced-price school lunches. The application for determining eligibility for free or reduced-price lunches or a form supplied by the State Department of Education shall be used to verify student eligibility for fee waivers.

At the beginning of the school year, each principal shall be responsible for providing to all students and their parents or guardians written notice of the required student fees and the process for fee waiver for students who receive free or reduced-price lunches. The parent or guardian of an eligible student must sign the appropriate application for free or reduced-price lunches and the waiver of school fees, but may pay for all or a portion of the school fees.

Written notice of approval or denial of request for fee waivers shall be provided to all parents or guardians. Any denial shall contain specific grounds for denial and an opportunity for the parent or guardian to meet with appropriate school personnel.

Persons collecting fees shall be provided a list containing only the names of those students eligible for waivers and for whom they are responsible for collecting fees. Any records related to this program which identify particular students shall be maintained in strictest confidence.

Prior to the beginning of school each year, the Board, upon the recommendation of the principals and director of schools, shall approve school wide activity and workbook fees for the upcoming school year. Additional fees such as field trip fees may be approved during the year by the director of schools or his designee.

The director of schools shall be responsible for maintaining copies of all correspondence relating to this program.

For more information, refer to Policy 6.709.

D9 - Student Fines

Students who destroy, damage, or lose school property, including but not limited to buildings, school buses, books, equipment, and records, will be responsible for the actual cost of replacing or repairing such materials or equipment.

The grades, grade cards, diploma or transcript of a student who is responsible for vandalism or theft or who has otherwise incurred a debt to a school may be held until the student or the student's parent/guardian has paid for the damages. When the student and parent are unable to pay the debt, the district shall provide a program of voluntary work for the minor. Upon completion of the work, the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts shall be released. Such sanctions shall not be imposed if the student is not at fault.

Failure to remit the cost of replacing or repairing such materials or to make satisfactory arrangements with the administration for payment may result in suspension of the student. If payment is not remitted, the matter will be referred to the Board for final disposition.

Textbooks are available free to students as a loan. Parents/guardians will accept full responsibility for the proper care, preservation, return, or replacement of textbooks issued to the student(s). The condition of each book and a book number shall be recorded by the teacher issuing it. The life of the book is considered to be six (6) years. Charges for lost books will be the remaining life of the book. Damage fines will be based on the wear beyond that normally expected for one year. For one year's wear there will be no charge. Fines may be assessed for overdue, damaged, or lost library books. In no event will the fine exceed the current cost of replacing the book.

For more information, refer to Policy 6.709.

D10 - Student Withdrawal

When a student transfers from Dyersburg City Schools to another district, then DCS will provide a copy of the student's records to the new district to which the student transfers within five business days of the date on which the student's records request was received by the district. For more information, refer to TN Public Chapter No. 156

D11 - Tobacco-Free Schools

Students enrolled in Dyersburg City Schools shall not possess, distribute, sell, smoke, use or consume tobacco, tobacco products, puff sticks, vapors, or related 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. All uses of tobacco, electronic/battery-operated devices, vapor products, and all other associated paraphernalia are prohibited in all of the District's buildings and in all vehicles that are owned, leased, or operated by the District. Smoking and vaping are prohibited in any public seating area, including, but not limited to, bleachers used for sporting events or public restrooms. This policy applies to all forms of tobacco and may, with repeated problems, become applicable to paraphernalia for the use of tobacco. Tobacco violations shall

be cumulative while the student is enrolled in any one school. Violations will be carried over from year to year. Since possession of tobacco is unlawful for students by Tennessee law, a citation will be issued and school discipline action will be taken.

For more information, refer to Policy 6.307

D12 - Cameras

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

- Enhance the safety of students and staff;
- Protect school property against theft or vandalism.

D13 - Transportation Services

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 who misbehave are subject to the standard disciplinary 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 expectations is on the Dyersburg City Schools website www.dyersburgcityschools.org.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for their child's care, custody, supervision, and control until the child boards the bus and upon return when the child leaves the bus. Bus students must ride to the same address each day. Any changes must be with the written permission of the school principal/designee.

Cameras or video cameras may be used to monitor student behavior on school buses transporting students to and from school or extracurricular activities. Photographs and video footage shall be used only to promote the order, safety, and security of students, staff, and property. Bus routes are in the school office, and office personnel can answer specific questions. Further questions about bus schedules should be referred to the Dyer County Bus Shop at 731-285-5852.

For more information, refer to Policy 6.308

D14 - Visitors to Schools

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.

Visitors are to use the main front entrance at DPS, DIS and DMS. Visitors are to use the East Entrance at DHS. Except on occasions such as school programs, athletic events, open house, and similar public events, all visitors will report to the school office when entering the school and will sign-in. Authorization to visit elsewhere in the building or on the school campus will be determined by the principal/designee. Guest passes shall be issued for all persons other than students and employees of the school.

Students are not to bring guests with them to school unless the principal has granted prior approval.

For more information, refer to the DCS Code of Conduct

D15 - Visitor Code of Conduct

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.

For more information, refer to the DCS Code of Conduct

E. Student Academic Achievement

E1 - Attendance

Attendance And Truancy Information

Dyersburg City Schools considers it a privilege to partner with parents to educate the children of Dyersburg, Dyer County, and beyond. However, we need all children to be in school whenever possible to properly educate them. Please read the articles below to learn more about the truancy and attendance laws, policies and procedures.

Attendance Definitions

All student absences should be accompanied with a note. Parent notes, doctor's notes, or other documentation should accompany the child when he or she returns to school. Please refer to your child's school handbook for more information.

- **Excused Absence** - Students will be allowed **5 Excused** Absences per year with a parent note, unless the child is classified as excessively absent. The principal/s or their designee has the authority to excuse students when absent under for the following reasons, including but not limited to:
 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. Others at the discretion of the principal

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

- **Explained Absence** - 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.
- **Unexcused Absence** - Other reasons not cited above and not properly documented are classified as unexcused absences. These absences will count toward a student being TRUANT.
- **Excessively Absent** - Dyersburg City Schools considers a child Excessively Absent when he/she misses 15 days of school. This includes all absences (excused and unexcused). At this point, parents must present proper documentation (doctor's note, etc.) for a child to have an excused absence.
- **Truant** - A child is considered truant when he/she reaches 5 unexcused absences. Students that reach 5 unexcused absences will enter a Progressive Truancy Plan. This can become a legal issue if a child continues to accumulate unexcused absences. A parent who does not cooperate with the school system or whose child continues to receive unexcused absences may be cited into court and face fines or even jail time.

Pre-Arranged Absences

When a parent/guardian finds it necessary to remove their child from school for good and valid reasons not cited above, they must advise the school in writing at least 24 hours in advance. The note should give the anticipated days of absence and the purpose. The note should be signed by the principal and presented to each teacher so that work can be arranged in advance of the absence. It is the student's responsibility to provide an admit note upon their return to school and to submit all make-up work in a timely manner. NOTE: Pre-arranged absences count toward the total number of absences and may not be approved if a student has excessive absenteeism.

Excessively Absence 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 absences count toward being Excessively Absent, whether the absences 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 the year if 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 his/her 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 Excessively Absent. Tennessee Law states that any child that misses **5 UNEXCUSED days** of school within a year is considered truant. When a child becomes truant, it triggers a Progressive Truancy Intervention Plan as mandated in Board Policy 6.200.

Progressive Truancy Intervention Procedure

To combat both Excessive Absenteeism and Truancy, each school shall generate a warning letter to parents and students at the third (3rd) absence, regardless of whether it is excused or unexcused. Letters must be generated at least weekly. The Progressive Interventions shall have the following steps:

Tier 1: Tier 1 shall be a schoolwide truancy prevention letter that shall be generated and sent to the parent at the student's third (3rd) unexcused absence. A parent shall attempt to contact the designated truancy staff member by phone.

Tier 2: Tier 2 shall be triggered at a child's fifth (5) unexcused absence. When this threshold is reached, the school shall:
Tier 2A

1. Generate a 5 Day Truancy Letter to be sent to the parent or guardian.
2. Schedule a meeting with the parent/guardian and child
3. Have an Attendance Contract signed by the school and parent.

Tier 2B

4. Schedule a follow up meeting at the 8th Unexcused Day.
5. An individualized assessment of why the student has been absent from school.
6. If necessary, refer the child to counseling by the school's counselor.

Tier 3: Tier 3 shall be triggered at a child's tenth (10) unexcused absence and/or when Tier 2 was not effective. In Tier 3, the school shall:

1. Generate a 10 Day Truancy Letter to be sent to the parent/guardian.
2. The District Truancy Staff shall attempt to contact the parent and child..
3. The parent and child may be summoned to appear before the Dyer County Truancy Board.
 - a. Child and Family Team Meeting (CFT)

Juvenile Court Citation

Students and/or parents shall be cited into Dyer County Juvenile Court when the first 3 tiers have been unsuccessful or when the parent or child refuses to cooperate with the school in the truancy intervention process. At any point in the Progressive Truancy Intervention process, if a parent/guardian or student is unwilling to cooperate with Dyersburg City Schools or to implement the intervention plan, the child and/or parent may be immediately cited into court. The school shall maintain the evidence of the unwillingness of the parent/child to cooperate with the school district regarding truancy issues.

Nurse Excused Absences

Nurses will have the direct authority to excuse an absence for the day the child is sent home AND the next day in Dyersburg City Schools in the following situations. The nurse observes a student that has:

1. a fever of 100.4 or above
2. a child vomiting/diarrhea

For more information, refer to DCS Attendance Information and Policies 6.200 - 6.209

E2 - Grading System

The Director of Schools shall develop an administrative procedure to establish a system of grading and assessment for evaluating and recording student progress and to measure student performance in conjunction with board-adopted content standards for grades K-8. The grading/assessment system shall follow all applicable statutes and rules and regulations of the State Board of Education. The grading/assessment system shall be uniform, district-wide, at comparable grade levels, except that the Director of Schools shall have the authority to establish and operate ungraded and/or unstructured classes in grades K-3 according to state rules and regulations. Students in grades three (3) through twelve (12) shall use the uniform grading system established by the State Board of Education. Subject-area grades shall be expressed by the following letters with their corresponding percentage range:

A = 90-100	B = 80-89	C = 70-79	D = 60-69	F = 0-59
GPA Conversion: A = 4.0	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0	F = 0.0

Grading floors with a minimum above zero are not permitted. This grading system shall be uniform throughout the school district for each grade three through twelve.

E3 - Graduation Requirements

To meet the requirements of graduation, every student shall (1) achieve the specified twenty-two (22) units of credit; (2) take the required end-of-course exams; (3) have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct; (4) take the ACT or SAT prior to graduation; and (5) pass a United States civics test.

The program of studies shall include areas required by the State Board of Education. Before high school graduation, every student shall:

1. Achieve the specified twenty-two (22) units of credit;
2. Take the required end-of-course exams;
3. Have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct;
4. Take the ACT or SAT prior to graduation;2 and
5. Pass a United States civics test.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

Special education students who earn the prescribed twenty-two (22) credit minimum shall be awarded a regular high school diploma. Students who have received the below diplomas shall continue to make progress towards a regular high school diploma until the end of the school year in which they turn twenty-two (22) years old.

Special Education Diploma

A special education diploma shall be awarded to students who have not met the requirements for a regular high school diploma but have:

1. Completed four (4) years of high school;
2. Made satisfactory progress on their IEP; and
3. Maintained satisfactory records of attendance and conduct.

Occupational Diploma

Special education students who do not meet the requirements for a regular high school diploma may be awarded an occupational diploma if the student has:

1. Completed at least four (4) years of high school;
2. Made satisfactory progress on their IEP;
3. Maintained satisfactory records of attendance and conduct;
4. Completed the occupational diploma Skills, Knowledge, and Experience Mastery Assessment (SKEMA); and
5. Has two (2) years of paid or non-paid work experience.

The decision to attain an occupational diploma shall be made at the conclusion of the student's 10th grade year or two (2) academic years prior to the expected graduation date.

Alternate Academic Diploma

Special education students who do not meet the requirements for a regular high school diploma may be awarded an alternate academic diploma if the student has:

1. Completed at least four (4) years of high school;
2. Participated in the high school alternate assessment;
3. Earned the prescribed twenty-two (22) credit minimum;
4. Made satisfactory progress on their IEP;
5. Maintained satisfactory records of attendance and conduct; and
6. Completed a transition assessment that measures postsecondary education and training, employment, independent living, and community involvement.

STUDENT LOAD

All full-time students in grades 9-12 shall be enrolled each semester in subjects that produce a minimum of five (5) units of credit for graduation per year. Students with hardships and gifted students may appeal this requirement to the Director of Schools and then to the Board.

EARLY GRADUATION

High school students shall be permitted to complete an early graduation program. Students intending to graduate early shall inform the school principal of this intent prior to the beginning of 9th grade or as soon thereafter as the intent is known. In order to graduate early, students shall meet the following requirements:

1. Earn the required seventeen credits;
2. Achieve a benchmark score for each required end-of-course exam;
3. Attain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale; 3
4. Meet the minimum ACT or SAT benchmark score;
5. Obtain a qualifying benchmark score on a world language proficiency assessment; and
6. Complete at least two (2) types of the following courses: AP; IB; Dual enrollment; or Dual credit.

The Director of Schools shall develop administrative procedures to ensure that the early graduation program is conducted in accordance with state law.

For more information, refer to [Policy 4.605](#)

E4 - Promotion and Retention

Students who have difficulty in achieving the requirements for promotion may be considered for retention. All promotion and retention decisions shall be made on a case-by-case basis and comply with state and federal law. All decisions shall be made in consultation with a student's IEP and/or 504 team, if applicable. Schools shall identify these students by February 1st.

1. Ability to perform at the current grade level;
2. Results of local assessments, screening, or monitoring tools;
3. State assessments, as applicable;
4. Universal Reading Screener;
5. Overall academic achievement of the student
6. Likelihood of success with more difficult material if promoted to the next grade;
7. Attendance record; and
8. The student's maturity.

Students may be identified for retention after the February 1st deadline if the delay in identifying a student is due to:

1. Date of enrollment
2. Additional information acquired after results of local assessment, screening, or monitoring are released.

For more information, refer to [Policy 4.603](#)

E5 - Reporting Student Progress

Student progress reports shall be provided each grading period during the school year. The reporting procedure shall be in writing and shall be uniform for all reporting periods during each school year. Each report for students in grades K-8 shall be signed by the parents and returned promptly to the school. Student progress reports shall indicate the students' conduct, attendance and academic progress and other information necessary to communicate effectively with the parents.

PARENT CONFERENCES

At least two (2) times during the school year, conferences shall be scheduled in which parents and teachers may discuss any pertinent problems or other matters of concern regarding the development and education of each student. These scheduled conferences shall not use any portion of the 180 days of classroom instruction. The director of schools shall be responsible for scheduling and coordinating systemwide conferences. Conferences shall be physically accessible to all students, parents and/or guardians.

For more information, refer to [Policy 4.601](#)

E6 - Testing and Assessments

Test Name	Grade	Testing Windows (Dates)	Test Purpose	Results Notification
TCAP	2	Writing: April 7-14, 2027 April 19-May 6, 2027	The 2nd-grade assessment is an optional test that districts can choose to administer. This assessment will provide valuable data to 2nd and 3rd-grade teachers, ensuring that our youngest learners are strengthening foundational literacy and math skills early in their academic careers.	Score reports will be provided to districts to distribute to parents, usually in the fall of the next school year.
TCAP	3-5	Writing: April 7-14, 2027 April 19-May 6, 2027	The TCAP tests are designed to assess true student understanding and not just basic memorization and test-taking skills.	Score reports will be provided to districts to distribute to parents, usually in the fall of the next school year.
	6-8 and EOC	Writing: April 7-14, 2027 April 19-May 6, 2027		
TCAP Alternative Assessment	3-8 and EOC	March 15 - April 30, 2027	Alternate assessments are designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The structures of alternate assessments are designed around the students' physical and cognitive disabilities in a way that allows them to answer test questions and	Districts receive individual performance reports, which detail student performance in early summer, and will then share these with parents.

			participate in the test as independently as possible.	
ACT	11 & 12	<u>Fall Senior Retakes</u> 1st Window: 9/29/26-10/9/26 2nd Window: 10/13/26-10/23/26 3rd Window: 10/27/26-11/6/26 <u>Spring Junior Tests</u> 1st Window: 3/9/27-3/19/27 2nd Window: 3/23/27-4/2/27 3rd Window: 4/6/27-4/16/27	Students in Tennessee are required to take a college entrance exam (ACT or SAT) in the eleventh grade. This is a graduation requirement for students seeking a regular or honors diploma. Districts in Tennessee contract with ACT to provide an opportunity to take the ACT at students' schools during the school day at no cost to the student.	Student-level reports are provided by ACT to students approximately 3-8 weeks after the administration of the assessment.
ACT Practice Tests	8-12	Same as ACT dates above	All Dyersburg High School students and Dyersburg Middle School 8th graders have the opportunity to take a practice ACT, which measures college and career readiness, two times during the school year. These dates will align with the Senior ACT Retake and the Junior ACT.	Students will receive a copy of their score reports with individual plans for improvement 4-6 weeks after the test date.
ELPA21	K-12	February 1 - March 26, 2027	English Learners will take the ELPA21 for ELLs to determine language proficiency. ELPA21 assesses students in the four language domains: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.	Districts receive individual performance reports in early summer and will distribute these to parents in the fall of the next school year.
NAEP	4, 8, and/or 11	TBD	The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is conducted periodically in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, US History, and Technology and Engineering Literacy.	The state does not provide district or student-level results.
Aimswest+ Reading and Math	PreK-12	TBD	Given to all students as a Universal Screener in Reading and Math to determine students in need of intervention services and provide progress monitoring for students receiving those services.	Parent Reports will be sent home following each administration
Pathways Benchmark Assessments	2 - 12	Benchmark 1: 9/21/26-10/2/26 Benchmark 2: 11/30/26-12/18/26 Benchmark 3: 2/22/27-3/12/27	Educational Leadership Solutions Assessments are given to all students in grades 2-5 in ELA and Math. All students in grades 6-8 take tests in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies. All EOC students take a subject-specific assessment.	Parent Reports will be sent home following each administration

F. Student Welfare

F1 - Communicable Diseases

No student will be denied an education solely because of a communicable disease, and his/her educational program shall be restricted only to the extent necessary to minimize the risk of transmitting the disease. Parents or guardians of infected students shall inform appropriate school officials of the infection so that proper precautions for the protection of other students, employees, and the infected student shall be taken. No student with a communicable disease which may endanger the health of either himself/herself or other individuals will enter or remain in the regular school setting. If a school principal has reason to believe a student has a communicable disease which may endanger the health of either himself/herself or other individuals in the regular school setting, the principal shall:

1. Assign the student to a setting which will protect other students, employees and the student himself; or
2. Exclude the student from school until certification is obtained from a physician or the County Health Department by either the parent or principal stating that the disease is no longer communicable.

If the principal has reason to believe that the student has a long-term communicable disease, the principal must require confirmation from a physician or the County Health Department as to the student's condition. If the student is confirmed to have a long-term communicable disease the principal shall refer the student for special education services.

The principal may request that further examinations be conducted by a physician or County Health Department and may request periodic re-examinations after the student has been readmitted to the school.

For more information, refer to [6.403](#)

F2 - Immunizations

Students will not be permitted to attend school without proof of immunization as determined by the Commissioner of Health unless circumstances outlined in state or federal law prevent a student from producing such records. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to have their children immunized and to provide such proof to the principal of the school which the student is to attend. Exceptions will be granted to any student whose parent/guardian files with school authorities a signed, written statement that such measures conflict with the one of the following:

1. His/her religious tenets and practices if in the absence of an epidemic or immediate threat of an epidemic, except in the event of a COVID-19 or any variant outbreak; or
2. Due to medical reasons if the student has a written statement from his/her doctor excusing him/her from the immunization.

Required immunizations are diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, D.P.T. series, measles, rubella, polio, and mumps. All foreign-born children entering school for the first time must present evidence of freedom from infectious tuberculosis. Out-of-state students must have their immunization records verified by either the Dyer County Health Department or another health provider. These providers will grant either a permanent or a temporary immunization certificate to the student.

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

F3 - Medicines

If under exceptional circumstances a student is required to take non-prescription or prescription medication during school hours and the parent/guardian cannot be at school to administer the medication, only the principal/designee will assist in self-administration of the medication if the student is competent to self-administer medicine with assistance in compliance with the following guidelines. Written instructions signed by the parent/guardian are required and shall include:

1. Child's name;
2. Name of medication;
3. Name of physician;
4. Time to be self-administered;
5. Dosage and directions for self-administration (non-prescription medicines shall have label directions);
6. Possible side effects, if known; and
7. Termination date for self-administration of the medication.

Students with asthma shall be permitted to self-administer prescribed, metered dosage asthma-reliever inhalers if the additional information is provided by a parent/guardian:

1. Written statement from the prescribing health care practitioner that the student suffers from asthma and has been instructed in self-administration; and
2. Purpose of the medication.

The medication shall be delivered to the principal's office in person by the parent/guardian of the student unless the medication shall be retained by the student for immediate self-administration.

The principal/designee will:

1. Inform appropriate school personnel of the medication to be self-administered;
2. Keep written instructions from the parent/guardian in the student's record;
3. Keep an accurate record of the self-administration of the medication;
4. Keep all medication in a locked cabinet except medication retained by a student per physician's order;
5. Return unused prescription to the parent/guardian only; and
6. Ensure that all guidelines developed by the Department of Health and the Department of Education are followed.

The parent/guardian is responsible for informing the designated official of any change in the student's health or change in medication. A copy of this policy shall be provided to a parent/guardian upon receipt of a request for long-term administration of medication.

For more information about procedures regarding Blood Glucose Self-Checks, Students With Pancreatic Insufficiency or Cystic Fibrosis, or Students with Adrenal Insufficiency, refer to [Policy 6.405](#)

F4 - Physical Examinations

The principal shall ensure that there is a complete physical examination of each student prior to:

1. Entering school for the first time and
2. Participating as a member of any athletic team or in any other strenuous physical activity program.

The cost of the examination shall be covered by the parent/guardian of the student. These records shall be on file in the principal's office.

Screening tests as required by the Tennessee Department of Education and the Department of Health will be conducted. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will receive written notice of any screening result that indicates a condition that might interfere with the student's progress. The school district will not conduct physical examinations of a student without parental consent or by court order, unless the health or safety of the student or others is in question. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may excuse their student from participating in health screenings that are part of a coordinated school health program by submitting a request in writing to the school nurse, instructor, school counselor, or principal.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.402](#)

F5 - Suicide Prevention

Dyersburg City Schools is committed to protecting the health and well-being of all students and understands that physical, behavioral, and emotional health are integral components of student achievement. Faculty and staff are expected to be proactive in maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment and to immediately report to the building principal any indications that a student may be in danger of harming self or others. Students are strongly encouraged to report if they, or another student, are feeling suicidal or in need of help. A summary of available resources shall be annually updated and posted for students.

Suicide Prevention

- All district employees shall attend either the annual in-service training in suicide prevention or participate in other equivalent training approved by the director of schools. The training shall include, but not be limited to, identification of risk factors, warning signs, intervention and response procedures, referrals, and postvention strategies.
- The director of schools shall identify a district suicide prevention coordinator responsible for planning, coordinating, and monitoring the implementation of this policy. Each school principal shall designate a school suicide prevention coordinator to act as a point of contact in each school for issues relating to suicide prevention and policy implementation.

Suicide intervention

- Any employee who has reason to believe that a student is at imminent risk of suicide shall report such belief to the principal or designee. Belief that a student is at imminent risk of suicide shall include, but not be limited to, the student verbalizing the desire to commit suicide, evidence of suicide attempt, an act of self-harm, or a student self-referral.
- Upon notification, the principal or designee shall ensure the student is placed under continuous adult supervision. Emergency medical services shall be contacted immediately if an in-school suicide attempt occurs. The principal or designee shall contact the director of schools or designee as soon as practicable.
- Prior to contacting the student's parent/guardian, the director of schools or designee shall determine if there could be further risk of harm resulting from parent/guardian notification. If parent/guardian notification could result in further risk of harm or endanger the health or well-being of the student, then local law enforcement and the Department of Children's Services shall be contacted.

If appropriate, the director of schools or designee shall contact the student's parent/guardian and provide the following information:

1. Inform the parent/guardian that there is reason to believe the student is at risk of suicide;
2. Inform the parent/guardian if emergency medical services were contacted;
3. Ask the parent/guardian whether he/she wishes to obtain or has obtained mental health counseling for the student;
4. Provide the names of community mental health counseling resources if appropriate.

The director of schools or designee will seek parental permission to communicate with outside mental health care providers regarding a student. If the student is under the age of and the parent/guardian refuses to seek appropriate assistance, the director of schools or designee shall contact the Department of Children's Services.

The director of schools or designee shall document the incident, including contact with the parent/guardian by recording:

1. The time, date and circumstances which resulted in the student coming to the attention of school officials;
2. A timeline of the specific actions taken by school officials;
3. The parent/guardian contacted, including attempts;
4. The parent/guardian's response; and
5. Time and date of release of student to authorized individual.
6. Anticipated follow-up and safety plan.

Prior to a student returning to school, the director of schools or designee and/or principal shall meet with the students and his/her parent/guardian in order to develop a safety plan. The safety plan shall identify actions the student's caregivers and school personnel will take to insure the safety of the student. The principal will identify an employee to periodically meet with the student to monitor his/her safety and address any problems or concerns with re-entry.

★ Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Dial 988

For more information, refer to Policy 6.415.

F6 - Abuse

Physical/Sexual Child Abuse & Neglect

School personnel shall be alert for any evidence of child abuse or neglect. If personnel know or have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect, a report shall be filed immediately with the school/district Child Abuse Coordinator, the Department of Children's Services, and law enforcement. (TCA 37-1-403-411) The report shall include the child's name, parent's name and address, the nature and extent of the abuse or neglect, and any evidence to the cause or other information that may relate to the cause or extent of the abuse or neglect.

G. Student Discipline & Behavior

G1 - Alternative Education

The Board shall operate an alternative school and/or program for students in grades one through twelve (1-12) who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program. Dyersburg City Schools alternative programs shall include, but are not limited to, the following: The College Street Campus (grades 6-12), STOP Class (grades 6-12), Extended Time-out (grades K-2). ISS (grades 3-12), and ABC (grades 1-5).

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.319](#)

G2 - Bus Conduct

In order to maintain conditions and atmosphere suitable for learning, no person shall enter onto a school bus except students assigned to that bus or parent(s)/guardian(s) of students or other persons with lawful and valid business on the bus.

The school bus is an extension of school activity; therefore, students shall conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with the established standards for safety and classroom behavior. T.C.A. 49.6.2008

Students are under the supervision and control of the bus driver while on his/her bus, and all reasonable directions given by him/her shall be followed. A driver may recommend removal of a student in the event that the driver finds it necessary for the safety of the other student passengers or the driver, provided that the driver secures the safety of the ejected student for the uncompleted trip. A student may be denied the privilege of riding the bus if the principal determines that his/her behavior is such as to cause disruption on the bus or if he/she disobeys applicable policies and procedures pertaining to student transportation. For more information, refer to [Policy 6.308](#)

G2.1 - USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO FOOTAGE

Cameras or video cameras may be used to monitor student behavior on school buses transporting students to and from school or extracurricular activities. Photographs and video footage shall be used only to promote the order, safety, and security of students, staff, and property. Students in violation of bus conduct rules shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with established board policy governing student conduct and discipline. These materials shall be maintained for one (1) week. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may submit requests to view photographs and video footage to the Director of School/designee, and a time shall be arranged for viewing. The Director of Schools/designee shall be present when parent(s)/guardian(s) are provided the opportunity to review photographs and video footage.

For more information, refer to [6.308](#).

G3 - Care of School Property

Students shall help maintain the school environment, preserve school property and exercise care while using school facilities. All district employees shall report all damage or loss of school property to the principal or designee immediately after such damage or loss is discovered. The principal or designee shall make a full and complete investigation of any instance of damage or loss of school property. The investigation shall be carried out in cooperation with law enforcement officials when appropriate.

School property is defined as buildings, buses, books, equipment, records, instructional materials, intellectual material (websites, teachers' lessons, etc.), or any other item under the jurisdiction of the district. When the person causing damage or loss has been identified and the costs of repair or replacement have been determined, the director of schools shall take steps to recover these costs. This may include recommending the filing of a civil complaint in court to recover damages. If the responsible person is a minor, recovery will be sought from the minor's parent or guardian.

In addition, the district may withhold the grades, diploma, and/or transcript of the student responsible for vandalism or theft or otherwise incurring any debt to a school until the student or the student's parent/guardian has paid for the damages. When the minor and parent are unable to pay for the damages, the district shall provide a program of voluntary work for the minor. Upon completion of the work, the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts shall be released. Such sanctions shall not be imposed if the student is not at fault.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.311](#)

G4 - Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure in any school. The Director of Schools/designee shall be responsible for developing and implementing in-service training programs for teachers and staff in the use of alternative, positive measures of discipline.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.314](#)

G5 - Detention

Students may be detained before or after the school day as a means of disciplinary action. The following guidelines shall be followed:

1. The student will be given at least one (1) day of notice before detention;
2. Parents will be informed before detention takes place;
3. Students in detention will be under the supervision of staff members;
4. Teachers must have the approval of the principal before detaining a student for an extended period of time.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.315](#)

G6 - Dress Code

Student dress codes vary with grade level and are described in board approved faculty and student handbooks.

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

****See each schools appendix for specific school dress codes.**

For more information, refer to Policy 6.310

G7 - Disciplinary Hearing Authority

A Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA) shall conduct appeals for students who have been suspended for more than ten (10) school days. The Board shall appoint a DHA which shall consist of no more than seven (7) or fewer than three (3) members. The Director of Schools shall recommend members of the DHA to the Board for approval. At least one (1) DHA member shall be a licensed employee of the district. Upon receiving notification of the request to appeal the suspension decision, the DHA shall provide written notification to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student, the student, and any other appropriate person of the time, place, and date of the hearing. The hearing shall be held no later than ten (10) days after the beginning of the suspension.

The DHA may take the following disciplinary actions:

1. Affirm the decision of the principal;
2. Order removal of the suspension unconditionally;
3. Order removal of the suspension upon such terms and conditions as it deems reasonable;
4. Assign the student to an alternative school or program; or
5. Suspend the student for a specified period of time.

Within five (5) days of the DHA rendering a decision, the student, parent/guardian, principal, or assistant principal may appeal the decision of the DHA to the director of schools. The Director of Schools shall review the minutes of the DHA within ten (10) school days of the written receipt for the appeal. The Director of Schools may:

1. Affirm the decision of the hearing authority;
2. Modify the decision in any manner; or
3. Remand the matter to the DHA for further investigation.

Within five (5) days after receiving the decision from the director of schools, either party may request a review by the Board and the Board shall review the record. Following the review, the Board may take the following actions.

If the Board chooses to review the record it shall:

1. Affirm the decision of the hearing authority; or
2. Modify the decision to a lesser penalty*; or
3. Grant a hearing before the Board.

If the Board grants a hearing, it shall provide notice to the student and/or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). The notice of the hearing shall include a statement that, unless the student or the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) requests an open hearing in writing within five (5) days of receipt of the notice, the hearing shall be closed to the public.

If the Board chooses to grant a hearing, it may:

1. Affirm the decision of the hearing authority; or
2. Modify the decision in any manner; or
3. Impose a more severe penalty than that of the DHA/Director of Schools.

* Note: Zero-tolerance offenses as set forth in statute require mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.

For more information, refer to Policy 6.317

G8 - Interrogation and Searches

Interrogations by School Personnel

Students may be questioned by teachers or principals about any matter pertaining to the operations of school and/or the enforcement of its rules. Questioning must be conducted discreetly and under circumstances, which 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 (at Administrator's request)

If the principal has requested assistance by the police department to investigate a crime involving his/her school, the police shall have permission to interrogate a student suspect in school during school hours. The principal shall first attempt to notify the parent(s)/guardians(s) of the student of the intended interrogation unless circumstances require otherwise. The interrogation may proceed without attendance of the parent/guardian. The principal or his designee may be present during the interrogation.

Searches by Trained School Personnel

Any trained principal, or his/her designee, having reasonable suspicion may search any student, place or thing (including phone/media device) on school property (locker, vehicles, etc.) or in the actual or constructive possession of any student during any organized school activity off campus, including buses, vehicles of students or visitors and containers or packages if he/she receives information which would cause a reasonable belief that the search will lead to the discovery of:

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

A student using a locker or cubby that is the property of the school system does not have the right of privacy in that locker/cubby 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. Notice shall be posted in each school that lockers and other storage areas are school property and are subject to 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. All of the following standards of reasonableness shall be met:

1. A particular student has violated policy;
2. The search could be expected to yield evidence of the violation of school policy or disclosure of a dangerous weapon or drug;
3. The search is in pursuit of legitimate interests of the school in maintaining order, discipline, safety, supervision and education of students;
4. The primary purpose of the search is not to collect evidence for a criminal prosecution; and
5. The search shall be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive.

School officials may conduct hand-held or walk-through metal detector checks of a student's person or personal effects.

G8.1 - USE OF ANIMALS

When necessary, dogs or other animals trained to detect drugs or dangerous weapons may be used in conducting searches, but the animals shall be used only to pinpoint areas which need to be searched and shall not be used to search the persons of students or visitors.

G8.2 - 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 students' lockers and desks, or students' or nonstudents' automobiles for drugs, weapons or items of an illegal or prohibited nature.

If the principal has received reliable information which he/she believes to be true that evidence of a crime or of stolen goods, not involving school property of members of the school staff or student body, is located on school property and that any search for such evidence or goods would be unrelated to school discipline or to the health and safety of a student or the student body, he/she shall request police assistance; and procedures to obtain and execute a search warrant shall thereafter be followed.

Anything found in the course of the search conducted in accordance with this policy which is evidence of a violation of the law or a violation of student conduct standards may be:

1. Seized and admitted as evidence in any hearing, trial, suspension or dismissal proceeding. It should be tagged for identification at the time it is seized and kept in a secure place by the principal or the principal's designee until it is presented at the hearing. At the discretion of the principal, the items seized may be returned to the parent or guardian of a student or, if it has no significant value, the item may be destroyed, but only with the express written permission of the director of schools.
2. Any seized item may be turned over to any law enforcement officer. Any dangerous weapon or drug as defined in TCA 49-6-4202 shall be turned over to an appropriate law enforcement official after completion of an administrative proceeding at which its presence is reasonably required.

The principal or his/her designee may request the assistance of a law enforcement officer to:

1. Search any area of the school premises, any student or any motor vehicle on the school premises;
2. Identify or dispose of anything found in the course of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.

The involvement of law enforcement officials is encouraged when there is reasonable cause to suspect that criminal evidence is about to be uncovered.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.303](#)

G9 - Student Code of Conduct

Dyersburg City Schools develops specific codes of conduct which are appropriate for each level of school. Codes of conduct for students in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten shall utilize alternative disciplinary practices. Exclusionary discipline shall only be used as a measure of last resort. The development of each code shall involve principals and staff members of each level and shall be consistent with the relevant policies as adopted by the Board.

The following levels of misbehavior and disciplinary procedures and options are standards designed to protect all members of the educational community in the exercise of their rights and duties and to maintain a safe learning environment where orderly learning is possible and encouraged. These misbehaviors apply to student conduct on school buses, on school property, and while students are on school-sponsored outings. Staff members shall ensure that disciplinary measures are implemented in a manner that:

1. Balances accountability with an understanding of traumatic behavior;
2. Teaches school and classroom rules while reinforcing that violent or abusive behavior is not allowed at school;
3. Minimizes disruptions to education with an emphasis on positive behavioral supports and behavioral intervention plans;
4. Creates consistent rules and consequences; and
5. Models respectful, non-violent relationships.

In order to ensure that these goals are accomplished, the school district shall utilize a variety of trauma-informed discipline practices.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.300](#).

G10 - Student Discrimination/Harassment/Bullying/Intimidation

In order to maintain a safe, civil, and supportive environment in school for students to learn and achieve high academic standards, acts of bullying, cyber-bullying, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, hazing, or any other victimization of students, based on any actual or perceived traits or characteristics, are prohibited.

This policy shall cover employees, employees' behaviors, students, and students' behaviors while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided equipment or transportation, or at any official school bus stop. If the act takes place off of school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity, this policy is in effect if the conduct is directed specifically at a student and has the effect of creating a hostile educational environment or otherwise creating a substantial disruption to the education environment or learning process.

DEFINITIONS

“Bullying/Intimidation/Harassment” is an act that substantially interferes with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, and the act has the effect of:

1. Physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property;
2. Knowingly placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student’s property;
3. Causing emotional distress to a student; or
4. Creating a hostile educational environment.

“Cyber-bullying” is a form of bullying undertaken through the use of electronic devices. Electronic devices include, but are not limited to, telephones, cellular phones or other wireless telecommunication devices, text messaging, emails, social networking sites, instant messaging, videos, web sites, or fake profiles.

“Hazing” is an intentional or reckless act by a student or group of students that is directed against any other student(s) that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of the student(s) or that induces or coerces a student to endanger his/her mental or physical health or safety. Coaches and other employees of the school district shall not encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate hazing activities.

RETALIATION AND FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Retaliation against any person who reports or assists in any investigation of an act alleged in this policy is prohibited. The consequences and appropriate remedial action for a person who engages in retaliation shall be determined by the principal/designee after consideration of the nature, severity, and circumstances of the act.

False accusations accusing another person of having committed an act prohibited under this policy are prohibited. The consequences and appropriate remedial action for a person found to have falsely accused another may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including expulsion.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.304](#)

G11 - Suspensions

A principal may suspend a student from attendance in a specific class or school related activity without suspending the student from attendance at school. Based on the severity of the offense, a principal may suspend a student from attendance at school and all school activities. Except in an emergency, a principal shall not suspend any student until that student has been advised of the nature of his/her misconduct, questioned about it, and allowed to give an explanation. If, as a result of an investigation, a principal/designee finds that a student acted in self-defense under a reasonable belief that the student, or another to whom the student was coming to the defense of, may have been facing the threat of imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, then the student may not face any disciplinary action.

In-School Suspension

In-school suspension shall be offered to students as an alternative program (if applicable) to complete academic assignments and receive credit for work completed. Students given an in-school suspension in excess of one (1) day from classes shall attend special classes attended only by students guilty of misconduct or be placed in an isolated area appropriate for study. Personnel responsible for in-school suspension shall ensure that each student is supervised at all times and has textbooks and classwork assignments from his/her regular teachers.

For additional information, refer to Policy 6.316

G12 - Title IX & Sexual Harassment

In order to maintain a safe, civil, and supportive learning environment, all forms of sexual harassment and discrimination on the basis of sex are prohibited. This shall cover employees, employees' behaviors, students, and students' behaviors while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity, or on school-provided equipment or transportation, or at any official school bus stop in accordance with federal law. The Title IX Coordinator shall respond promptly to all general reports as well as formal complaints of sexual harassment.

For additional information, refer to Policy 6.3041.

G13 - Zero Tolerance

The following are zero-tolerance offenses that will result in a calendar year expulsion:

1. Bringing to school or being in unauthorized possession of a firearm on school property;
2. Possession of drugs, including any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event;
3. Assault that results in bodily injury upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of the school, or school resource officer; and
4. Valid threats of mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity, per the threat assessment team.

The Director of Schools has the authority to modify the punishment for these offenses on a case-by-case basis.

For additional information, refer to Policy 6.309

G14 - Replica Weapons

Any replicas of weapons are strictly prohibited in Dyersburg City Schools' buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or 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.

G15 - Gang Activity

Any form of gang activity will not be tolerated at any Dyersburg City School. This may result in suspension and/or referral to the Discipline Hearing Authority.

1. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to signs, clothing, “colors”, graffiti, vandalism, and writings 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.

G16 - Off Campus Behavior

Certain off-campus behavior may cause a student to be subject to punishment by school officials, up to but not limited to 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 in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) against another student or staff member
3. Vulgar, obscene, or threatening language, in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) directed toward school or district staff
4. Vandalism to the personal property of school or district staff
5. Gang related activity which could carry over onto the school campus
6. Criminal charges resulting from the students behavior in the community

Students who are charged with a felony offense may appear before the School System Discipline Board.

G17 - Due Process

Due process guarantees fair treatment of students by school officials. In case of suspension, parents will be notified in writing of the charge, the evidence, and the penalty. Students will be granted the opportunity to refute the charges and/or explain their version of the incident.

H. Individual Needs of Students

H1 - English Learners

If the inability to speak and understand the English language excludes a student from effective participation in the educational programs offered by the District, the District shall take reasonable actions to provide the student equal access to its programs. Students who are English learners (EL) shall be identified, assessed, and provided appropriate services. No student shall be admitted to or excluded from any program or extracurricular activity based on the student's surname or EL status. The Director of Schools shall evaluate the effectiveness of the District's language assistance programs to ensure EL students will acquire English proficiency and the ability to participate in the standard instructional program within a reasonable period of time. Parents of EL students shall be given notice of, and information regarding, the instructional program within the first thirty (30) days of the school year or within the first two (2) weeks of a student being placed in a language instruction educational program.

For more information, refer to [Policy 4.207](#)

H2 - Homebound Instruction

The homebound instruction program is for students who because of a medical condition are unable to attend the regular instructional program. The homebound instruction program shall consist of three (3) hours of instruction per week while school is in session for a period of time determined, on a case-by-case basis, by the District.

To qualify for this program, a student shall have a medical condition that will require the student to be absent for a minimum of ten (10) consecutive instructional days, or for an aggregate of at least ten (10) instructional days for a student who has a chronic medical condition. The student shall be certified by his/her treating physician as having a medical condition that prevents him/her from attending regular classes. The services provided to the homebound student shall reflect the student's capabilities and be determined by the homebound instructor, after consultation with appropriate professional staff of the student's assigned school. Recertification shall be every 30 school days of homebound instruction if the student's physician certifies, in writing, that the student has a medical condition that prevents him/her from returning to the regular instructional program.

For more information, refer to [Policy 4.207](#)

H3 - Homeless Students

Homeless students shall be immediately enrolled, even if the student is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to submit contact information to the District's homeless coordinator. The Director of Schools shall ensure that each homeless student is provided services comparable to those offered to other students within the District, including transportation, special education services, programs in career and technical education, programs for gifted and talented students, and school nutrition.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.503](#)

H4 - Migrant Students

Dyersburg City Schools will:

1. Identify migratory students and assess the educational and related health and social needs of each student;
2. Provide a full range of services to qualifying migrant students including applicable Title I programs, special education, gifted education, vocational education, language programs, counseling programs, elective classes, fine arts classes, etc.;
3. Provide migratory students with the opportunity to meet the same statewide assessment standards that all students are expected to meet;
4. To the extent feasible, provide advocacy and outreach programs to migratory students and their families and professional development for district staff; and
5. Provide parent(s)/guardian(s) an opportunity to participate in the program.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.504](#).

H5 - Section 504 and ADA Grievance Procedures

Dyersburg City Schools is committed to maintaining equitable employment and educational practices, services, programs, and activities that are accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities. To discuss concerns or seek resolutions related to Section 504 or the ADA, contact:

Joanna Lamb

Title: 504 Coordinator

Mailing address: 307 College Street, Dyersburg, TN 38024

Phone number: 731-286-3610

Email: jlamb1@dyersburgcityschools.org

He/she shall respond to all complaints within twenty (20) days with a written response as well as information on further grievance procedures that may be followed if the complaining party is not satisfied with the coordinator's proposed resolution.

For more information, refer to Policy 1.802.

H6 - Students in Foster Care

Students in foster care, including those awaiting foster care placement, shall be immediately enrolled, even if the student is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment. The District and the child welfare agency shall determine whether placement in a particular school is in a student's best interest. Other parties, including the student, foster parents, and biological parents (if appropriate), shall be consulted. If the child has an IEP or a Section 504 plan, then the relevant school staff members shall participate in the best interest decision process. This determination shall be made as quickly as possible to prevent educational disruption. The District shall collaborate with the local child welfare agency to develop and implement clear and written procedures governing how transportation to a student's school of origin shall be provided, arranged, and funded. This transportation will be provided for the duration of the student's time in foster care.

For more information, refer to Policy 6.505.

H7 - Students from Military Families

A student who does not currently reside within the District shall be allowed to enroll if he/she is a dependent child of a service member who is being relocated to Tennessee on military orders. To be eligible for enrollment, the student will need to provide documentation that he/she will be a resident of the District on relocation. Within 10 days of enrollment, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student shall provide proof of residency within the District. Students with parent(s)/guardian(s) in the military may also be eligible for excused absences related to his/her deployment.

For more information, refer to Policy 6.506.

H8 - Students with Disabilities

The District will provide access to a free appropriate public education to all disabled children ages 3-21, inclusive, residing within the jurisdiction of the school system. The plan for implementation of appropriate instruction and special education services shall be in accordance with the current Rules, Regulations, and Minimum Standards of the State Board of Education, and state and federal law.

The District will develop and periodically update a local plan for providing special education services for students with disabilities. Specifically, the Board assures that:

1. All disabled children residing within the school system have available to them a free, appropriate public education which emphasizes special education and related services to meet their unique needs; and
2. The rights of children with disabilities and their parents are protected.

The plan shall aim toward meeting the following objectives:

1. To carry out a comprehensive screening and assessment plan emphasizing the early identification and evaluation of students with disabilities.
2. To use the Individual Education Program (IEP-Program) for reviewing assessment, formulating programming, and determining placement for every student with disability, including review of proposed suspensions when appropriate, in accordance with the State Board of Education Rules, Regulations, and Minimum Standard
3. To ensure that placements are made which educate children with disabilities with non-disabled to the maximum extent appropriate in the schools these children would normally attend if not disabled and with age-appropriate peers;
4. To provide each child with disabilities with an individual educational program (IEP) specifically designed to meet his unique needs;
5. To provide continuing evaluation of the progress of each child with disabilities, including at least annual review of his IEP and complete re-evaluation at least every three (3) years;
6. To ensure that procedural safeguards required by state and federal laws are adhered to; and
7. To involve parents of children with disabilities in a meaningful dialogue with school personnel which will begin with initial referral and continue throughout the student's educational career.

For more information see Policy 4.202

I. Instructional Materials and Services

II - Use of the Internet

The District supports the right of students to have reasonable access to various information formats and believes that it is incumbent upon students to use this privilege in an appropriate and responsible manner. Students will be given appropriate instruction in internet safety as a part of any instruction utilizing computer resources. Written parental consent shall be

required prior to the student being granted access to electronic media involving District technological resources. The required permission/agreement form, which shall specify acceptable uses, rules of online behavior, access privileges, and penalties for policy/procedural violations, shall be signed by the parent/guardian of minor students and also by the student.

For more information, refer to [Policy 4.406](#)

I2 - Use of Personal Communication Devices

Students may possess personal communication devices and personal electronic devices so long as such devices are turned off and stored in backpacks, purses or personal carry-alls. Such devices include, but are not limited to, wearable technology such as eye glasses, rings, or watches that have the capability to record, live stream, or interact with wireless technology; smart phones; cell phones; laptops; tablets; and mp3 players. The principal or his/her designee may grant a student permission to use such a device at his/her discretion. Unauthorized use or improper storage of a device will result in appropriate discipline as stated in the students' handbook. A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action. Students shall not possess personal communication devices and personal electronic devices while assigned to the College Street Campus.

For more information, refer to [Policy 6.312](#).

I3 - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

All classrooms shall be equipped with the textbooks and instructional materials needed to provide quality learning experiences for students in accordance with state law.¹ The Board shall provide a wide range of textbooks and instructional materials that cover all levels of difficulty, generate critical thinking, and support the educational programs. Textbooks and instructional materials are property of the Dyersburg City Schools and shall be returned at the end of the school year, upon completion of the course, or upon withdrawal from a course or school. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are to sign an agreement stating they shall be responsible for the textbooks and instructional materials received and used by their children. Upon request, parent(s)/guardian(s) shall have the ability to inspect any textbooks and instructional materials including, but not limited to, teaching materials, handouts, and tests that are developed by and graded by their child's teacher.

For more information, refer to [Policy 4.400](#).

I4 - Library Materials

The school librarian shall be responsible for library collection development, and all library materials will be reviewed to ensure the content aligns with state law. The library collection shall adhere to the following criteria:

1. Materials shall be suitable for and consistent with the educational mission of the school;
2. Materials shall be appropriate for the age and maturity levels of the students who may access them. The determining factor will be based on an assessment of any mature themes or content
3. Materials shall contain literary, historical, and/or artistic value and merit; and
4. The collection as a whole shall offer a variety of viewpoints.

Complaints regarding library materials shall be submitted on a Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form and given to a school librarian or administrator.

J. School Calendar

Dyersburg City Schools' District Calendar

July 2026							7/4 – Holiday 7/24 – Deadline to complete 6 classroom hours of In Service 7/27-31 Teacher In Service	AUGUST 2026							8/3 - 1st Day of School and Night Registration (11-6 p.m.) Night-Time Registration 4-6 p.m. 8/4 – 1st Day of School Daytime registration 8-11 a.m. 21 school days	SEPTEMBER 2026							09/7 Labor Day 20 school days 9/11 – Fair Day					
			1	2	3	4							1															
5	6	7	8	9	10	11																						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18																						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25																						
26	27	28	29	30	31																							
OCTOBER 2026							10/2 – End of 1st Quarter Q1 – 43 days Fall Break 10/5-9 10/12 – Stockpile PD day 16 school days	NOVEMBER 2026							11/23-27 Thanksgiving Holidays 16 school days	DECEMBER 2026							12/18- end of 1st Semester/ Abbreviated day Q2 – 44 days S1 – 87 days 12/21 - 01/01- Christmas break 14 School days					
					1	2		3																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31																						
JANUARY 2027							1/1 New Years 1/4 Professional Development Day 1/18- M.L. King Day 1/4- Stockpile PD Day 18 school days	FEBRUARY 2027							02/15- President's Day 19 school days	MARCH 2027							3/12 - End of 3rd quarter- Q3 – 47 days 3/15-19 Spring Break 3/26 – Good Friday 17 school days					
						1		2																				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9																						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16																						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																						
31																												
APRIL 2027							22 school days	MAY 2027							5/14 - Graduation 5/21 – End of Q4 Abbreviated Day 5/24- Professional Dev. Day Q4 – 43 days S2 – 90 days 5/31 Memorial Day 15 school days	JUNE 2027												
					1	2		3																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																						
25	26	27	28	29	30																							

K. School Clubs and Organizations

Student organizations are an extension of the academic curriculum and are intended to complement the basic instructional program. The principal, in cooperation with the faculty and student body representatives, shall approve all clubs and organizations within the school. One or more staff members will serve as sponsors of each activity and will attend all meetings. Each sponsor will evaluate the activity and make recommendations concerning changes, continuance, or deletion from the school's activity program. All students under the age of eighteen (18) shall present a signed and dated statement from their parent/guardian before joining any club or organization or participating in activities of a club or organization. For more information, refer to [Policy 4.300 Policy 6.702](#).

L. School Contact Information

Dyersburg Primary School Grades: PreK - 2 1425 Frank Maynard Drive Dyersburg, TN 38024 731-286-3615	Dyersburg Intermediate School Grades: 3 - 5 725 Tibbs Street Dyersburg, TN 38024 731-286-3620	Dyersburg Middle School Grades 6 - 8 400 Frank Maynard Dr. Dyersburg TN 38024 731-286-3625	Dyersburg High School Grades 9 - 12 125 US-51 Dyersburg, TN 38024 731-286-3630
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M. Safety

M1 - Planning

- The safety, security and well-being of students and staff are one of the top priorities at Dyersburg City Schools. We are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students to succeed. When necessary, notifications and updates will be sent via the Dyersburg City Schools messaging system, social media, email, and other written forms to keep parents apprised of events or issues that occur at or close to their child's school. Students WILL NOT be released during any emergency response until all-clear has been given by law enforcement and safe, orderly dismissal is possible.
- Each school has emergency and safety plans developed in collaboration with our local law enforcement and emergency responders to guide effective and efficient responses. Any threats to DCS are taken seriously and

investigated immediately and thoroughly by local law enforcement, Dyersburg Police Department and DCS administrators.

M2 - Personnel

- School Resource Officers (SROs) in schools are trained for emergencies, and the staff knows to contact law enforcement anytime there is a perceived threat to safety and security.
- Student mental health and support staff are always available, including counselors, psychologists, behavioral specialists and partnerships for school-based mental health services. Parents can contact school staff if they notice disturbing changes in behavior or think their children may need mental/emotional support for any reason.
- If your child is in immediate danger, call 911
- Suicide Hotline: 988
- Crisis: 855-274-7471
- Report Child Abuse: 877-237-0004

M3 - Buildings

- All schools are required to create and update a safety plan to be activated in an emergency. The safety plan is shared with local law enforcement agencies as well as other emergency management agencies. While the staff is trained to implement this plan, specific details in these plans are kept confidential to ensure maximum security effectiveness.
- Lock-down drills are conducted twice annually and evaluated for improvement. Students and staff practice emergency procedures for intruder, fire, tornado, and earthquake throughout the year.
- Campuses at all schools keep exterior access doors locked and schools control admittance to all campuses. Violations should be reported to school staff. Building security features:
 - Secured doors, main entry buzz-in and camera systems at all schools.
 - Security vestibules at the main entry point of entrance for all schools.
 - All campuses are monitored with security cameras.
- Lobby area requires background screening for all visitors, volunteers and guests, alerting staff when persons who should not be on campus.

M4 - Prevention

- Access for students grades 6-12 to the anonymous P3 reporting system, including an app and website, for submitting tips about possible threats to schools or students who may harm themselves.
- SafeTN app for community members to report possible threats of school violence. For more information visit:
- Suicide Prevention Hotline: 988
- Specialized training provided to DCS staff
- Additional protocols and procedures at every school. DCS does not disclose to preserve safety and security.
- Random safety screenings are conducted across K-8, middle and high schools. Screenings are also conducted at random by:
 - Gun detection canine
 - Narcotics detection canine
- Evolv Weapons Detections Systems are actively monitoring entrances at our middle and high schools. Installations are being investigated for PreK-5.
- Investigating 24/7 surveillance integration platform for both interior and exterior of building

M5 - Support

- DCS, law enforcement, community agencies and partners will remain vigilant to keep students and staff safe in every Dyersburg City classroom, building and facility.
- Community conversations in each learning community for feedback on what makes safe schools in our Let's Talk about Safe Schools series twice per year.
- Social Media Awareness training for parents twice per year.

The district's Emergency Operations Plan is regularly reviewed, refined and improve to reflect best practices. Complete Emergency Operations Plans are documented within each building and at the district level. We view a crisis as an incident that directly or indirectly affects a few or all of our students and staff. A crisis can occur before, during or after regular hours. Our plan is designed to be effective in a number of situations. Our district's Emergency Operations Plan includes strategies to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from a crisis in our schools.

M6 - Response

- Extensive plans are in place for evacuations, relocations, lock-downs and many other safety measures
- Immediate contact is made with authorities and first responders in a crisis situation
- Communication tools to notify families about crisis situations

M7 - Recovery

- Work with district counselors/social workers, local mental health workers and local clergy to provide counseling to those affected
- Return to the learning process as soon as possible

M8 - Threat Assessment Team

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.

M9. Resources for Students and Families

For information about students' rights and services, contact the Tennessee Department of Education:

Andrew Johnson Tower
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: (615) 741-5158
<https://www.tn.gov/education>

For information regarding child advocacy, contact the following groups:

Carl Perkins Center for the prevention of child abuse (<https://www.carlperkinscenter.org/who-we-are/child-advocacy-center>)
kidcentraltn.com (<https://www.kidcentraltn.com>)

National Children's Alliance (<https://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org>)

TN Department of Children's Services (<https://www.tn.gov/dcs>)

From Best for All Central

Tennessee is dedicated to engaging and empowering families to participate in their student's education. Best for ALL Central offers numerous resources to assist families that can be used in various ways, including open house events, parent engagement events, and more. Additionally, they are excellent tools for parent-teacher conferences or as additional support for parents of students needing extra help.

Please visit Best for ALL Central or click the links below to access these updated resources!

- Family Reading Resources (Including the Interactive Decodable Book Series) (not active 3/2025)
- Understanding Student Testing: A Toolkit for Families
- Understanding Response to Intervention (RTI2): A Toolkit for Families
- A Guide for Parent-Teacher Conferences and Engaging with Your Child's School: A Toolkit for Families
- Understanding Literacy: A Toolkit for Families
- Understanding a Sounds-First Approach: A Toolkit for Families
- Supporting Literacy at Home: A Toolkit for Families

Additionally, we would love to hear from your educators and families using these resources to better understand which ones are most helpful and identify any additional resources needed to support students. Please share the brief surveys below with your educators and families to provide feedback.

- Interactive Decodable Book Series Feedback Survey
- Families as Partners Toolkits Feedback Survey

Board policies may be modified or added throughout the school year.

For additional information, refer to Policy 4.207

Acknowledgement Forms

During online registration, parents will have the opportunity to acknowledge the following forms:

- Handbook acknowledgement form
- Release of your child's photo for use by the media or for website publication
- Release of your child's name for honor roll, academic, or other school-related functions
- Health screenings
- Access to electronic media
- The Visitor Code of Conduct
- Receiving physical healthcare services
- Receiving counseling services

Dyersburg Primary School

David Ayers, Principal

Leah Schultz, Assistant Principal

Jennifer Jackson, Instructional Supervisor

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Dyersburg Primary School!

We are thrilled to welcome both new and returning students to another exciting year at Dyersburg Primary School! Our dedicated staff is fully committed to providing a safe and exceptional educational experience for every child. With the strong partnership of our parents and the unwavering support of our community, we continue to create an environment where students thrive.

Our educators are hard at work refining their skills to enhance literacy outcomes for all students. As part of our district's mission, we strive to offer a positive, nurturing environment where every child can reach their full potential. This year, we remain focused on early literacy through the implementation of our language arts curriculum while continuing our strong emphasis on math instruction.

We also recognize the many challenges families face and are here to offer support beyond academics. Whether it's social-emotional guidance or mental health resources, we are committed to caring for the whole child—because we believe that students must be well in both body and mind to succeed academically.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support of our families, staff, local businesses, and community members. Your involvement makes our school stronger. I encourage you to stay connected by supporting our PTO, which plays a vital role in enriching the experiences of both students and teachers.

There's so much to look forward to this year— new teachers, new books, new friends, and new skills to discover. Together, we will make it a year full of learning, growth, and achievement.

Thank you for your continued commitment to your child's education. I look forward to working with you and sharing all the exciting moments this school year will bring!

David Ayers
Principal

BELIEFS

1. We believe our family of learners, including students, teachers, staff, families and community members will work together to help all students learn.
2. We believe that instruction should be data driven and research based.
3. We believe differentiated instruction allows all children to learn, despite their individual differences.
4. We believe communication is a key component in supporting a successful family of learners.
5. We believe our school policies and procedures are conducive to student learning and achievement.

MISSION

Everybody learns at DPS. Dyersburg Primary School is a family of learners working together to build proficient reading, writing and math skills.

VISION

We strive to have every student proficient at grade level in reading and math skills and ready to be successful at the next grade.

LITERACY VISION

Dyersburg City Schools will ensure that all students have daily access to high-quality text, engage in meaningful tasks, and grow in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

CURRICULUM

The Dyersburg Primary School curriculum follows the science of reading with explicit instruction in the essential elements of a reading program: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and writing process. Standards are based on TN State Standards.

Early intervention includes high-quality small group instruction for students who need extra help in targeted areas.

Mathematics instruction begins with clear visual representations and concrete experiences, moves to guided practice, and then provides independent practice to develop proficiency. Students develop an understanding of key mathematics concepts and problem-solving strategies using hands-on activities.

1 - ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

1a - SCHOOL TRAFFIC

Kindergarten Entrance (Back of School)

- The kindergarten entrance will be for Pre-K, kindergarten, and older students in the same vehicle.
- Kindergarten and Pre-K students may be dropped off at 7:30 a.m.
- Pre-K will be picked up at 2:00 p.m. and kindergarten at 2:50 p.m.
- Please drive to the top of the hill in Lane 1, where the students will be assisted, in or out of the vehicle by school personnel.
- Lane 2 is for moving traffic only.
- After 8:00 a.m. everyone must enter the building through the center door of the main entrance.
- Visitor parking is NOT allowed at the back of the school.

Main Entrance (Front of School)

- Kindergarten students may choose to be dropped off at the main entrance of the school.
- First and second grade students will be dropped off or picked up at the main entrance of school.
- Kindergarten students arriving before 7:30 a.m. will be dropped off at the main entrance.
- Lanes 1, and 2 may be used, but students may only get in or out of the vehicle in Lane 1. If you are in Lane 2, the traffic guard will direct you into Lane 1.
- Lane 3 will be used for buses only.
- Bus traffic MUST have priority over other traffic.
- Lane 4 is for moving traffic only.
- Parents will be directed by traffic guards to allow us to load and unload as many students as possible at a time.
- Students MAY NOT be dropped off in the parking lot.
- Parents may park in the parking lot if they need to come to the office.
- Everyone must enter the building through the center door of the main entrance.
- ALL STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO EXIT ON THE PASSENGER SIDE OF THE VEHICLE.
- Parents who arrive after 3:15 should park in the parking lot and check out their students in the office.

1b - DISMISSAL

Dismissal of students will follow this schedule:

- 2:50 - Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade Early Bus Riders, Kindergarten Car Riders
- 3:00 - All Other Car Riders, Walkers, 1st & 2nd ESP
- 3:10 - Late Bus Riders Report to Gym

The preferred method of departure is for a student to wait inside the building until the attendant has read the car sign and calls in for the student. At that time, the student will exit the building and go to their car. Anyone picking up a child without a car sign will need to park and go into the main office and sign the child out.

Parents should not enter the building at the end of the day to pick up their children until after 3:00, and will need to park in visitor parking. Parents who arrive after 3:15 will need to check out their students in the office.

1c - LEAVING CAMPUS

Students must be signed out through the main office when leaving school early. Parental permission is required before students will be allowed to leave the campus.

1d - IMMINENT RISK POLICY

Children will not be released to anyone whose behavior, as deemed by a reasonable person, may place the child(ren) in imminent risk. If a person's behavior is deemed possibly dangerous for child(ren), a responsible school staff person will ask the person to come into the school office for clearing by a school administrator. In an incident where a child is involved, a responsible person will call the local law enforcement agency, local judge, having juvenile jurisdiction, and/or Department of Children's Services immediately, prior to the release of the child(ren).

RECESS AND OUTDOOR PLAY

Recess and outdoor play are very important to our students. To ensure the safety of all students, during instances when the temperature reaches a temperature of 95 or above according to the OSHA temperature gauge, students will remain indoors for recess. During cold weather, when the temperature reaches a temperature of 35 or below according to the OSHA temperature gauge, students will remain indoors for recess. Below please find temperature considerations and proper clothing recommendations:

- Below 60 degrees jacket or long sleeves recommended
- Below 50 degrees coat and long pants recommended
- Below 40 degrees gloves, hats, hoods with previously recommended gear necessary
- Below 35 degrees indoor recess or physical activity

If a student's medical condition requires further consideration due to weather conditions, or if you have other questions or concerns about how and when weather conditions affect your students, please contact the school administration.

2 - DPS STUDENT DRESS CODE

EVERY DAY IS SPIRIT DAY IN DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOLS

Students may wear a Dyersburg Spirit T-shirt or sweatshirt with dress code bottoms every day of the week.

- All T-shirts/sweatshirts without a collar must be black, gold, white, or gray and have a Dyersburg or Trojan logo on them.
- Pullovers with a collar must be black, gold, white, or gray or a combination of these colors, excluding patterns (plaid or tie-dye)
- If a shirt is worn underneath, it should be black, gold, white, gray, or spirit wear.
- Logo's must all be white, gold, gray, or black.
- All clothing must be free of rips, cuts, tears, or ties.

3 - GRADING/REPORTING

Student progress reports shall be provided the first four and a half week period of every nine weeks. Report cards will be issued after the ninth week of every nine-week period.

Grading Scale	1 – Not Meeting TN State Standards
	2 – Working Toward TN State Standards
	3 – Meeting TN State Standards
	4 – Exceeding TN State Standards

4 - ACADEMICS

4A - HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework helps develop responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the DPS faculty to assign relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom instruction. Homework should not exceed the following amount:

Kindergarten – 10 minutes

1st Grade – 15 minutes

2nd Grade – 20 minutes

The focus for homework for our students is reading.

4B - AWARDS PROGRAM

Awards programs (K-2) honoring student achievement and celebrating student successes will be held following each reporting period. Invitations will be sent to parents (guardians) of students who are receiving awards. These awards are sponsored by DPS Partners in Education.

4C - SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DPS has special programs to meet the special needs of the school population. Some of these programs are as follows:

- * ELT (Extended Learning Time). Program
- * Remedial Reading
- * Special Education Programs
- * Speech Therapy
- * Special Skills: Physical Education, Art, Music, Computer, Spanish
- * Project B.A.S.I.C. (Better Attitudes & Skills In Children) - Provided by Professional Care Services (PCS)"

5 - Use of Personal Communication Devices

Students may possess personal communication devices and personal electronic devices. All devices must be turned off and stored in student's backpack 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.

6 - Discipline

VIDEOING

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.

PARENT VISITATION POLICY

Parents are always welcome to visit their child's classroom; however, we would ask that the following guidelines be followed:

- Parents please call in advance to make arrangements with the teacher to visit your child's classroom.
- Visitations will be limited to 20 minutes by one parent no more than one time per nine-week grading period.
- If you have questions regarding these procedures please contact the school's principal.

These visitation procedures are put in place to minimize disruption to the instructional program for all of the children in the classroom. We welcome your visits and are looking forward to seeing you!

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Parents are encouraged to join the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), attend the meetings at the school, and participate in the activities that involve the PTO. Notices will be sent home with the students prior to PTO events. Some special events will be listed in the local newspaper.

FIRE, WEATHER, EARTHQUAKE AND INTRUDER DRILLS

Periodic fire, severe weather, earthquake and intruder drills will be held throughout the year. During such drills, teachers will supervise the movement of students to a safe location. Students are expected to follow all directions during these drills.

TOYS AND ELECTRONIC GAMES

Toys, cards, and electronic games have no place at school. If brought, they will be taken up and kept in the office until the parent/guardian picks them up.

PARTIES

Parties are permitted on three occasions throughout the year. The scheduling and procedures for parties will be established at each grade level by the teachers on that grade level. No gifts (such as balloons, flowers, etc.) from parents to their children will be distributed at school. Invitations to private parties are prohibited unless all children in the classroom receive an invitation.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Birthday parties may be held with permission of the classroom teacher, if scheduled in advance. Commercially prepared cupcakes which are sealed by the store or provider will be permitted. Homemade baked goods are not allowed.

PUBLICATIONS

Dyersburg Primary School will produce a school yearbook, monthly menus, and calendars for the families of our students. Communication will be sent home in a weekly Tuesday Folder. There is a charge for each school yearbook.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures are taken during the Fall and Spring of each year. Parents and students will be notified in advance of the date the pictures are to be taken. Purchase of all school pictures is optional.

IMMUNITY & CONFIDENTIALITY

The person reporting shall be immune from liability and his/her identity shall remain confidential except when the juvenile court determines otherwise.

TARDIES

Students who arrive at school after 8:00 a.m. are considered tardy.

THE PARENT MUST ACCOMPANY AND SIGN-IN ANY TARDY STUDENT IN THE OFFICE.

MAKEUP WORK

1. Students with excused absences shall have the opportunity to make up missed work; however, it is the student's responsibility for contacting and arranging for makeup work in each class or subject matter.
2. Students with explained absences shall have the opportunity to make up missed work; however, it is the student's responsibility for contacting and arranging for makeup work in each class or subject matter.
3. The teacher will not be required to give assistance to students with unexcused absences.
4. Credit or grades may or may not be allowed during the period of unexcused absence.

REMEDATION PROCESS

The principal shall develop and implement a plan of remediation for students suspended more than five consecutive days, which shall be made available for review by the Superintendent upon request.

NETWORK PUBLISHING

Administrative rules and regulations regarding access to and utilization of the Internet and Intranet in the Dyersburg City School System have been approved by the Dyersburg Board of Education and are on file in the office of Dyersburg Primary School.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Students are encouraged to clearly mark all belongings.
- Students are discouraged from carrying money at school. Please place any money, which must be sent to school in an envelope, which is clearly marked with the purpose for the money, the child's name, the teacher's name and the amount.
- Pets are not allowed at school or on the campus.
- A lost and found service is operated in the gym and office.
- Backpacks are recommended for all (K-2) students. Backpacks with wheels are not allowed.
- Shoes with in-line skates are not permitted.

LIBRARY BOOKS - Students who damage or misplace library books will incur the fine below:

Hardback Books \$25.00

Paperback Books \$10.00

TIPS/REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

1. Please make sure your contact information (home and cell phone numbers) are up-to-date in SYNERGY. If changes need to be made, contact your child's school office and provide the updated information.
2. Please make sure the emergency contacts on file for your student are up-to-date. We would suggest that those emergency contacts be local so that they can respond and pick up your student if necessary.
3. We will use our automated calling/texting/emailing system and district website to communicate with parents during a crisis. Some updates may also be placed on the district [Facebook](#) page.
4. In some cases, we may need to evacuate the school. Evacuation sites have been established, but we do not publicize those locations prior to an emergency to maintain student safety. We will inform you of the time and place to pick up your child through the district communication channels listed above.
5. During the reunification at the evacuation site, parents will be asked to remain in their cars and proceed through the line. Only parents, or those listed as emergency contacts, will be allowed to pick up a student. All parents and emergency contacts will be required to provide identification in order to pick up a student.
6. In an emergency, we ask that parents do not come to or call the school. It is important to keep the streets, parking area, and phone lines open for emergency responders and communication. We will provide information to parents through the district communication channels (see #3 above).
7. If your child has a medical condition, please make sure to have two sets of necessary items (medication/testers/etc) available (one with you or at home) in case we cannot re-enter the school to retrieve it.
8. During a lockdown at school, no one will be permitted to enter or leave the building with the exception of district personnel, law enforcement, and first responders. Once it has been determined that the threat has passed (all-clear), the school will resume normal procedures. This also applies to weather-related lockdowns.
9. The most important thing we do to keep our people safe is keep the lines of communication open. You can help us with this by letting us know if you hear of anything suspicious or alarming, and encouraging students to do the same.

Dyersburg Intermediate School

Jeremy Hinson, Principal

Catybeth French, Assistant Principal

Chris Haliburton, Instructional Supervisor

Welcome to Dyersburg Intermediate School! We're excited to have you here for an amazing year full of learning, hard-work, and new experiences. Our teachers are ready to help you grow your skills and explore your interests.

This handbook is your guide to everything you need to know about our school — from rules to expectations — so you can have a great year and succeed. Be sure to read it with your family.

We believe every one of you can shine and do great things. Our staff will always treat you with respect, and we ask you to do the same for your teachers and classmates. Together, we'll make this school a place where everyone feels safe, happy, and ready to learn.

Get ready to challenge yourself and do your very best every day you come to school!

Can't wait to see you at school!

Dr. Jeremy Hinson
Principal

Mission Statement

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

Literacy Vision

Dyersburg City Schools will ensure that all students have daily access to high-quality text, engage in meaningful tasks, and grow in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Vision

Dyersburg Intermediate School will provide educational opportunities and experiences to develop productive citizens for a strong community.

Beliefs

We believe the purpose of our school is to provide an excellent teaching and learning environment where achievement is expected, and success is celebrated.

We believe that all children can learn.

We believe an integrated curriculum, using a collaborative process and differentiated instruction, provides each student the opportunity to learn and experience success in a changing world.

We believe educators, administrators, and parents should work together to benefit and enrich children's educational experience.

We believe a safe and successful learning environment cultivates self-esteem, self-discipline, and respect for others and their cultures.

Dyersburg Intermediate School Faculty and Staff 2026-2027

Jeremy Hinson – Principal

Catybeth French - Assistant Principal

Chris Haliburton- Instructional Supervisor

Jamey Attaway - Secretary/Bookkeeper

Alli Treece – Secretary/Attendance Clerk

<u>Third Grade</u> Team 3-1 Pam Holland ELA Mackenzie Wells Math Team 3-2 Kristin Hopper ELA Jansen Capps Math Team 3-3 Mckenzie Snider ELA Amber Tate Math Team 3-4 Morgan Burns ELA Emily Armour Math Team 3-5 Mallory Williams ELA Yolanda Weddle Math	<u>Fourth Grade</u> Team 4-1 Amy Gregson ELA Tia Weeks Math Team 4-2 Kendra Ward ELA Joy Vick Math Team 4-3 Tina Hogue ELA Amber Burton Math Team 4-4 Emily Widner ELA Megan Johnson Math	<u>Fifth Grade</u> Team 5-1 Hilliary Simpson ELA Sara Stephenson Math Amanda Winegarden Science Team 5-2 Kristen Wirges ELA Kim Connell Math Zaylee McLaughlin Science Team 5-3 Whitney Ayers ELA Heather Brooks Math Chasity Dishman Science
<u>Activity</u> Melisha Polk – Art Lance Roy – P. E. Brenda Gibson – S.T.E.M. Presley Dishman – Music Nickie Finch - Humanities Zedna White -Communications Tim Strayhorn- Agriculture Yuketa Hall- Career Exploration Edie Ward- Money Matters	<u>Special Education</u> Amanda Agnew - Lead 3rd Grade Ginny Floyd Alicia Hopgood 4th Grade DeAndre Adams Breanna Rood 5th Grade Kelly Baker Sheree Scates Self Contained Class Meaghan Baker Taylor Harris Kristi Lockett Beth Rhodes	<u>Auxiliary Personnel</u> Amy McLaurin - Guidance/504 Yuketa Hall - Home School Advisor Maria Leforgee - Psychologist Kari Bernier - Librarian Vanessa Ahmad- ISS Michelle Yarbrough - ABC Room Amanda Agnew - BEST Classroom Lindsey Ford - PLUS ONE Melissa Johnson - Interventionist Kristy Klinkhammer – Nurse Brad Smith - Behavior Interventionist Aimee Putman - Interventionist Angela Rood – ESL
<u>Cafeteria Staff</u> Angela Phillips - Manager Tolanda Wallace - Asst. Mang. Cyndi Cobb Rhonda Copeland Briana Nance Sarah Nance Karen Harris	<u>Custodial Staff</u> Darrell Holland - Lead Timothy Dwyer Riva Hill Vicky McKinney- 5th Justin Moore - 3rd	

A1 - ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

A1.1 - Hours

School hours are 8:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. daily. Students are expected to be present from 8:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. daily. The building will open each morning at 7:00 and close each afternoon at 3:45. The school will not be responsible for children left before 7:00 A.M.

A1.2 - Arrival

Students should arrive soon enough each day to be on time for the beginning of school.

- The Tibbs Street entrance opens at 7:00 am

The first bell of the day will ring at 7:45, signaling the time for all students to report to their homeroom. Students arriving prior to 7:45 must report to the gymnasium or cafeteria. Classes begin at 8:00. Students arriving after 8:00 are tardy, and a parent/guardian must sign in to the student in the main office on Tibbs Street.

A1.3 - Tardies

Students arriving at school after 8:00 AM are tardy and must be signed in by a parent/guardian and receive an "admit to class" slip. Excessive tardies will be reported to the Dyersburg City School's truancy officer.

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 referral

Continued 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.

A1.4 - Departure

The school day ends at 3:00 pm. Students departing prior to 3:00 pm must be signed out by an authorized parent/guardian or his/her designee. Adults are required to present a state-issued ID before leaving with a student.

Bells will ring for the dismissal of students on the following schedule:

2:55 1st Run bus riders

3:00 Car-riders, walkers, bike-riders & ESP

3:05 2nd Run bus riders

A1.5 Afternoon pickup for car riders begins at 3:00 p.m.

- 3rd Grade students should report to the Phillips Street side of the building.
- 4th & 5th Grade students should report to the Tibbs Street side of the building.
- If a 4th or 5th-grade student has a sibling in the 3rd grade, both students should be picked up on the Phillips Street side of the building.

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

A1.6 ESP

Students may be enrolled in the Extended School Program (ESP) anytime during the school year. ESP will operate afternoon sessions ONLY. Children must be properly registered in the ESP program before they attend. Snacks are provided in the afternoons. Meals are provided on abbreviated school days. ESP will operate on the following schedule on school days: Afternoon - 3:05 until 6:00 PM. Additional information is available in the ESP Handbook.

Extended School Program fees per child:

Annual registration is \$10. Afternoon only - \$15, Abbreviated School Day - \$30.

A1.7 - Traffic and Parking

The Tibbs Street entrance will be the only entrance into the building from 7:00 am until 7:55 am. Visitor parking is permitted in any empty parking spaces in the Tibbs Street Parking lot. Parking is not permitted in the bus lane at the front of

the school from 7:00 am until 5:00 pm to allow for emergency vehicles, buses that arrive during the day with special needs students, buses for field trips, and buses that arrive late in the day to transport students involved in after-school programs. Students may be dropped off at the Tibbs Street entrance beginning at 7:00 a.m. Tibbs Street is a ONE-WAY street.

Bicycle racks are provided near the Tibbs Street entrance to the building. Riders are responsible for locking their bikes. The school is not responsible for the security of bicycles at school. Skateboards are not allowed.

A2 Student Dress Code

Students shall dress in a clean, neat, and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the school's operation.

Shirts:

- One solid color: black, gold, white, or gray.
- Collared (polo, button-up dress shirt) with appropriate buttons to the top of the garment.
- Shirts must have sleeves.
- Single-color black, gold, white or gray undergarments may be worn.
- No pictures or print on shirts. The material should not be sheer or see-through.
- There should be no gaps between the shirt and pants when sitting.

SPIRIT WEAR SHIRTS- EVERY DAY IS SPIRIT DAY IN DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOLS!

Students may wear a Dyersburg Spirit t-shirt or sweatshirt with dress code bottoms every day of the week.

-All T-shirts/Sweatshirts without a collar must be white, gold, gray, or black and have the Dyersburg or Trojans logo on them. The logos must also be the white, gold, gray, or black

-Pullover with a collar must be white, gold, gray, black, or a combination of these colors, excluding patterns (plaid or tie-dye).

-If a shirt is worn underneath, it should be white, gold, gray, black, or a spirit shirt.

-Pullover without a collar must have a Dyersburg logo and be white, gold, gray, black, or a combination of these colors, excluding patterns.

-If a shirt is worn underneath, it should be white, gold, gray, black, or a spirit shirt. Pullovers with a collar do NOT have to be tucked.

-All clothing must be free of rips, cuts, tears, or ties.

Pants, Shorts, Capris:

- Solid color blue denim jeans or black denim jeans may be worn, with no pictures or print
- Black, khaki, navy, or gray pants may be worn with no pictures or print
- Jeans and pants may not have rips, tears, lace, beads, or other embellishments
- Shorts (same colors as noted above) must be close to the top of the knee when standing
- Tights and leggings may not be worn as pants

Skirts, Dresses:

- Dresses must have collars.
- Dresses and skirts must be the same colors as pants (black, khaki, navy, gray, blue, or black denim) with no pictures or print.
- Hemlines of dresses and skirts must be at the top of the knee when standing.

General:

- Coats, jackets, and headwear worn in cold weather must be removed upon arrival.
- Coats and jackets worn in cold weather are not required to be the same colors as the shirts above. Coats and jackets may not be worn during the school day.
- Light jackets and sweaters worn during the school day must be the same colors as the shirts above, with no pictures or print.
- Plain black, gold, and white sweatshirts or school sweatshirts (pullover or zip-up) may be worn over an approved collared shirt. Sweatshirts should not have an attached hood.
- No headgear with bandana/Paisley print
- (OPTIONAL) Masks are items of personal protective equipment that cover the nose and mouth. It may be a cloth or surgical mask. Any cloth mask must adhere to the school's dress code shirt colors of black, gold, gray, or white and be solid in color, with no designs or wording other than the Trojan D or Trojan mascot. Surgical/medical masks do not have to adhere to these color guidelines but cannot be decorated in any way.

Footwear:

- Students will wear shoes with an attached and stable front and back. No flip-flops, house shoes, or shoe skates.

Earrings, Jewelry:

- Earrings or other piercings are not permitted with the following exception: a student may wear up to two pairs of earrings (in each ear) that are not distracting or present safety issues.

A3 - GRADING

Grading and Reporting

Student progress reports shall be provided every nine weeks during the school year. Report cards will be sent home at the end of each nine weeks grading period. Progress reports will be sent home between report card periods for all students. Report cards and progress reports must be signed by the child's parent or guardian and returned to the school the following day.

Grading Scale

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

A4 - ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

A4.1 - Academic Awards

Golden Honor Roll status is achieved by earning all A's on the report card. Honor Roll status is achieved by earning A's and no more than one B on the report card. Other awards given will include Pepsi, Citizenship, and CTE Excellence. Awards Programs are held at the end of each semester. There will be two Awards Days per school year. Awards for AR are presented at the end of the school year.

Fifth-grade students may earn the **President's Award for Academic Excellence**, which is presented during the Honors Program at the conclusion of the student's fifth-grade year.

To qualify for this distinguished honor, students must meet all of the following criteria:

- Earn **Golden Honor Roll** status during all three years of attendance in grades 3–5.
- Achieve **Advanced** performance levels on the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) in either **English Language Arts (ELA)** or **Mathematics** in both 3rd and 4th grades.
- Maintain **Satisfactory Conduct** with **zero major office referrals** throughout Intermediate School.

A4.2 - CTE and Arts Classes

On a rotation throughout the year, each student receives daily instruction in these classes. These are called Activity Classes

Art	Music	Humanities	Agriculture	STEM
Physical Education				
Career Exploration	Money Matters	Communications		

A4.3 - Before/After-school Tutoring

DIS operates a before and after-school program for all students called Learning Labs. Morning Learning Labs will be Monday- Friday 7:00-7:45 am. Afternoon Learning Labs will meet from 3:15 – 4:15 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The program includes instruction in Reading and Math and enrichment classes. Discipline procedures during this before/after school time follow the regular school day.

A5 - DISCIPLINE

A5.1 - Student Responsibilities

Each student has the responsibility to:

- know and adhere to reasonable rules and regulations established by the Dyersburg Board of Education, the school administrators, and classroom teachers.
- respect the human dignity and worth of every other individual.
- refrain from libel, slanderous remarks, and obscenity in verbal and written expression.
- study diligently and maintain the best possible level of academic achievement.
- dress and groom in a manner that meets reasonable health, cleanliness, modesty, and safety standards. Each school shall enforce its own standards.
- be punctual and present in the regular school program.
- help maintain and improve the school environment, preserve school property, and exercise the utmost care while using school facilities.
- respect school administrators' and teachers' reasonable exercise of authority in maintaining discipline in school-sponsored activities.
- obey the law and rules so as not to be subjected to ill effects or endanger others by possessing or using alcohol, illegal drugs, and other unauthorized substances.
- carry only those materials that are acceptable under the law and accept the consequences for the articles stored in one's locker or vehicle.

A5.2 - MISBEHAVIORS and DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS

Minor Misbehaviors

Behavior on the part of the student that impedes orderly classroom procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the school but which can usually be handled by an individual staff member.

Examples, including but not limited to:

- Inappropriate language
- Student conflict
- Physical contact
- Defiance
- Disruption
- Non-compliance of procedures
- Not having materials
- Incomplete assignments
- Communication devices
- Technology violation
- other

Disciplinary Consequences, including but not limited to:

- Parent contact
- Lunch Detention
- 7:15 - 7:45 Morning Detention
- Conference with student
- Loss of privilege
- Other

Major Misbehaviors

Behavior that tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school. Included in this level are misbehaviors that do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but whose educational consequences are serious enough to require corrective action on the part of administrative personnel.

Examples, including but not limited to:

- Abusive language
- Disrespect
- Theft
- Cell phone/electronic
- Fighting
- Physical altercation
- Disruption
- Cheating
- Alcohol/Drug/Tobacco/Vapes
- Technology violation
- Defiance
- Forgery
- Lying
- Vandalism/Property Damage
- Weapon
- Bullying
- Harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious)
- Threats to others
- Continuation of unmodified minor misbehaviors

Disciplinary Consequences, including but not limited to:

- Parent Contact
- Conference with counselor
- Conference with administrator
- Time in office
- Loss of privilege
- Principal's Detention (Thursdays 3:00-4:00)
- In-School Intervention Services
- Time-out/detention
- Activity Time-out
- Bus suspension
- Restitution from loss, damage, or stolen property
- Transfer to Alternative Placement
- Referral to the district Discipline Hearing Authority
- Schedule/teacher change
- Lunch detention
- Out of School Suspension
- Expulsion
- Referral to the school Discipline Committee
- Other

A5.3 - Disciplinary Actions by the Administration

Our approach is to provide appropriate action, with increasing severity for repeaters or chronic offenders. This gives appropriate time for teachers, counselors, and parents to work with the student to develop attitudes and actions that are supportive of successful educational experiences. Administrative actions may include, but are not limited to: Reprimand, Parent Conference, Restitution, Guidance Referral, Principal's Detention, ISI, OSS, and Referral to Discipline Hearing Authority.

*****Failure to attend Principal's Detention will result in one day of ISS or OSS.**

*****Failure to attend 4 Principal's Detentions, a student will be referred to the Discipline Hearing Authority.**

A5.4 Bus Behavior

For the safety of all students and staff, students are expected to follow all school and/or bus rules and procedures throughout their time on the bus. Bus referrals will be issued to any students that do not comply. Consequences include but are not limited to Principal's Detention, In School Intervention, Bus Suspension, and/or permanent removal from the bus.

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 cellphone violation and they will receive consequences.

A5.5 - In School Intervention

Dyersburg Intermediate School has a room dedicated to In School Intervention. Students may be assigned to ISI for infractions considered serious enough to warrant temporary removal from their regular classroom. Students may also be sent to ISI when they have repeatedly violated school and/or classroom rules, including the rules that apply to bus transportation. Terms of ISI assignment generally are for one to three days, with the length of assignment increasing for repeated offenses. Failure to comply with ISI requirements may result in additional days assigned or out of school suspension.

A student who exhibits extreme behavior problems or commits zero-tolerance offenses such as possessing illegal substances or weapons may be referred to the Dyersburg Intermediate School Discipline Committee or the Dyersburg City Schools Disciplinary Hearing Authority for a determination regarding the student's educational placement.

A5.6 - ANTI-BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAM

The staff at Dyersburg Intermediate School is committed to creating a safe and positive learning environment for all of our students. If you suspect that your child or another student at DIS is being bullied, please contact one of the school administrators or the school counselor at 286-3620 so that the situation can be properly addressed.

A5.7 - What is bullying?

"A person is bullied when he or she is exposed to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons, and he or she has difficulty defending himself or herself" (Olweus, 2007). If bullying behavior is suspected, school administrators will determine if the bullying has occurred on a case-by-case basis. Bullying can occur in many different forms. However, the most commonly identified forms of bullying include:

Verbal bullying (name calling, taunting, teasing)	Physical bullying (harassment by contact, hitting, kicking)
Bullying through lies and/or false rumors	Having money or other property taken and/or damaged
Social exclusion or isolation	Being threatened or forced to do things
Racial bullying (demeaning ethnic or racial comments)	Social exclusion or isolation (intentionally leaving others out)
Sexual bullying (obtaining and sharing inappropriate pictures of others, demeaning gender comments)	Cyber-bullying (using cell phones, the internet, or other technology to harass others)

A5.8 - Does DIS have rules specific to bullying?

In regard to bullying, all DIS students are expected to conduct themselves by the following rules:

- DIS students will not bully others.
- DIS students will try to help students who are being bullied.
- DIS students will try to include students who are left out.
- If DIS students know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.

A5.9 - There are "3 Good Tells, or reasons to report something"

1. To protect yourself
2. To protect someone else
3. To protect someone's property

A6. MAKEUP WORK

1. Students with excused absences shall have the opportunity to make up missed work; however, it is the student's responsibility for contacting and arranging for makeup work in each class or subject matter.
2. Students with explained absences shall have the opportunity to make up missed work; however, it is the student's responsibility for contacting and arranging for makeup work in each class or subject matter.
3. The teacher will not be required to give assistance to students with unexcused absences.
4. Credit or grades may or may not be allowed during the period of unexcused absence.
5. When absences occur near the close of the school year, promotion will be withheld until the teacher and principal have made certain that all classwork and tests have been satisfactorily completed.

A6.1 A-Day - Students with missing or makeup assignments will attend ADay during activity. Students are responsible for having their work when attending ADay and are expected to stay the entire duration of their activity time.

A7 Class Parties/Birthday Parties

School-wide parties are held before the winter break and at the end of the school year. No other holiday parties are held. Birthday parties may be held with the permission of the homeroom teacher if scheduled in advance. Parents may drop off

food items at the front office. Any food brought to the school must be commercially prepared and packaged. Commercially prepared cupcakes which are sealed by the store or provider will be permitted. Homemade baked goods are not allowed.

A8 Library Books - Students who damage or misplace library books will incur the cost to replace the book.

Appendix C

Dyersburg Middle School

Matt Spraker - Principal

Mattie Sellars - Assistant Principal

Connie Thompson - Assistant Principal

Jenny Hatch - Instructional Supervisor

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 academically. We also provide an extensive list of extra-curricular opportunities. We encourage you to get involved and add to our “family” here 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 all students have the opportunity to be successful. Our faculty and staff are committed to working toward that belief. 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 be involved in as many things as possible, and strive for excellence in all they choose to participate in while at Dyersburg Middle School.

Matt Spraker
Principal

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.

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 decisionmaking 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.

Staff

Principal –Matt Spraker
 Assistant Principal – Mattie Sellers
 Assistant Principal – Connie Thompson
 Instructional Supervisor – Jenny Hatch
 Literacy Coach- Mindy Nichols
 Student Advisor- Jenny Smith
 Behavior Specialist- Brian Jordan
 School Nurse - Monica Sharp
 Truancy-Lisa Escue
 Attendance/Reception- Lesa Shults
 Bookkeeper - Sara Jasso
 Librarian – Kristol Sentell
 Technology Lead- Melissa Baker & Kristol Sentell
 ISS – Howard McCadney
 Cafeteria Manager-Terri Cloinger
 Custodian- Danny Holland
 Choir Director –Dustin Walters
 Band Director – Justin Russell
 Reading Interventionist - Betsy Jones
 Plus One- Marikate Estes & Trina Roy
 Math Interventionist- Debbie Frye, Charlotte Haslett,
 Penny Blair, & Laura Henderson

Special Ed Lead Teacher/FLEX –Melissa Baker
 Special Education - Randell Gatlin, Susie Collier, Deanna Howell, & Jamal Ahmad
 Inclusion 6th grade – Crystal Simmons & Alyssa Evans
 Inclusion 7th grade – Shannon Blackwood & Leslie Lay
 Inclusion 8th grade - Qiana Johnson & Matt Morgan
 6A- Mylissa Clark, Misty Odom, & Amanda Kimbrell
 6B -Emily Escue & Whitney Sanders
 6C- Jennifer Douglas, Eric Ellerbrook, & Paige Golson
 7A- Melissa Meeks, Heather Thompson, & Amy White
 7B-Ginny Roper & Kemisha Thompson
 7C- Natalie Farrow & Kaci Lewis
 8A- Lisa Slayback, Alison Schneider, Lauren Mathis, & Thomas Arnold
 8C- Kristen Caldwell, Mandy Moore, Jennifer Wylie, Kristen Roach

Activity Teachers:
 Agriculture–Melissa Lowery
 Character Education - Cal Johnson & Pat Warren
 Digital Arts –Chris Dishman
 STEM/Computer Science –Trina Roy
 PE -John Bolan & Zedna White
 Personal Finance - Al Bolden
 Career Exploration - MariKate Estes

1. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

1a - Arrival and dismissal times 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 areas. 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.

1b - 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.

1c - 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.

2. ATTENDANCE

2a - Attendance Procedure

1. **A student absent from school must bring a note signed by a parent/guardian upon his/her return to school.**
Notes must include the student's full name, date(s) absent, date returning, periods missed, if not all day, and the reason for the absence.
2. Each note will be evaluated for excused or unexcused determination. Notes should explain all days out of school. Unexplained days will be considered skipping and will be dealt with as disciplinary referrals. Students' notes will be kept on file in the attendance office.

2b - Tardiness

Students who report to school late due to illness, injury, or doctor or dental appointments will be excused. Proper documentation will be required.

1. 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.
2. Students will be allowed 5 parent notes for tardiness.
3. 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 referral

 Continued tardiness in excess of **eight (8) offenses** will require that student to attend **Principal's Detention**.

3. 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:

SPIRIT WEAR SHIRTS: EVERY DAY IS SPIRIT DAY IN DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOLS

Students may wear a Dyersburg Spirit T-shirt or sweatshirt with dress code bottoms every day of the week.

- All T-shirts/sweatshirts without a collar must be black, gold, white, or gray and have a Dyersburg or Trojan logo on them. **The logos must also be white, gold, gray or black**
- T-shirts (Short sleeves or Long sleeves) must be tucked in by males.
- Sweatshirts (No hoodies allowed) do not have to be tucked in.
- Pullovers with a collar must be black, gold, white, or gray or a combination of these colors, excluding patterns (plaid or tie-dye). If a shirt is worn underneath, it should be black, gold, white, gray, or spirit wear. Pullovers with a collar do NOT have to be tucked.
- Pullovers without a collar must have a Dyersburg logo and be white, gold, gray, black, or a combination of these colors, excluding patterns. If a shirt is worn underneath, it should be white, gold, gray, black, or a spirit shirt. Pullovers with a collar do NOT have to be tucked.
- All clothing must be free of rips, cuts, tears, or ties.

COLLARED SHIRTS:

- Should be one color (black, white, gold, **gray**), collared (polo, button-up dress shirt), with appropriate buttons to the top of the garment.
- Only top button can be unbuttoned.
- Long or short sleeve are acceptable, and should not have displays other than a school approved emblem or small brand logo.
- No wording or caricatures on the garment, except school spirit words and the Dyersburg logos, will be allowed.
- **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**).

PANTS:

- Pants must fit at the waist and inseam. No sagging.

- Pants should be one solid color (black, khaki, or gray) with no wording other than factory logo.
- No denim.
- Pants cannot be gathered at the bottom (no elastic in waist or legs) or have rips or tears.
- Pants should have no lace, beads or other embellishments.
- All students' pants should have belt loops and/or pockets.

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

SOCKS: Socks are not required.

DRESSES/SHORTS/SKIRTS/CAPRIS/GAUCHOS: Must be fingertip length when standing. Must be black, khaki, or gray. (No gym-type shorts/skirts, leggings, spandex, or athletic skirts). Dresses must have collars that follow the same rule as shirts. Admin will reserve discretion and have final decisions on what is considered appropriate .

FOUNDATION GARMENTS/UNDERSHIRTS: 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: Sweatshirts may be worn over an approved undershirt (white, black, gray, gold). A sweatshirt can be worn without being tucked but cannot have hoods on them. 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. (No bars, No Hoops)

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 the 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 –Principal's Detention
- Fourth Violation – Major Referral for insubordination

4. 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.

- Nine Weeks Tests Nine Weeks Tests count 15% of each semester's final grades. Daily grades count 85% 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.
- Grading Scale: A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 F: 50-below
- 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 an average of 89.5 or higher in all courses.
 - Golden Honor Roll: A student must maintain all A's (90-100) each nine weeks in order to receive Golden Honor Roll.

4a - Tennessee State Assessments - State Assessments will be given to 6th through 8th graders. These assessments will count 15% of the 2nd semester average.

5. ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

5a - 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		

5b - Makeup/Missed Class Assignments

1. Students will have the opportunity to make up missed work; however, it is the student's responsibility to contact teachers and arrange for make-up work in each class..

2. Student absences falling on the day of a test or on the day that an assignment is due shall be treated as follows:

a. Regular Assignments are those normally due the next day or within the next few days. A student shall have additional time, equal to the amount of time he/she was absent, to turn in these assignments. No regular work will be accepted after the last day of the semester except due to severe illness or injury.

b. Test/Quiz/Exam Absences. If a student misses a test/exam, the student may have additional time equal to the time he/she was absent from school to make up the test. If the student feels prepared, they have the option to take the test/exam on the day they return. Semester exams missed will receive a zero. Make-up exams will be allowed for excused absences, which include doctor's notes, death in the family, etc.

5c - 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.

6. 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 the 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, **Meta Smartwear**, 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 the Assistant Principal. Personal air pods/over the head headphones may be allowed in a teacher's classroom for assignments if the teacher allows, but they are NEVER allowed/accepted to be worn in any common area for any reason. These devices should be locked in a locker when not in use. Dyersburg Middle School is not responsible for these items.

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

7. 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.

7a - 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.

7b - 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.

7c - 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.

7d - 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.)

7e - 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.

7f - 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. **There would likely be legal issues with disciplining a student who videos a fight in the same manner as a student who commits assault.**

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.

7h - 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.

7i - 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

7l - 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.

7m - 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.

7n - 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.

7o - 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

8. DISCIPLINE

8a - Examples of 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 academics. Any form of threatful behavior or concerns will be referred to the Threat Assessment Team.

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

8b - 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 | • Office or Guidance counselor visit |
| • Parent contact | • Major Referral |
| • Detention(s) | Parent signature is required on ALL office referrals. |

Examples of Minor Misbehaviors may include:

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

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

8c - 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 | • Dress Code | • Alcohol/drugs/tobacco |
| • Fighting/physical aggression | • Skipping class/truancy | • Vandalism/property damage |
| • Defiance/disrespect/insubordination | • Forgery/theft | • Technology violation |
| • Harassment/bullying/hostile threats/cyber bullying | • Inappropriate display of affection | • Being out of assigned area without permission |
| • Disruption | | |

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

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

8d - 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.

8e - 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.

8f - 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.

9. 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.

10. SUPPLIES

10a - 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 fines 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: \$25.00.

10b - Library Books - Students who damage or misplace DIS library books will incur the fines below:

Hardback Fiction/Chapter book \$25.00
 Hardback Nonfiction books \$20.00
 Paperback \$10.00

10c - 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.



11. 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.

12. ATHLETICS

All athletic events at DMS for this school year will have an admission charge of \$6.00 for students and adults.

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.

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

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.

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.

Dyersburg High School

Kamela Rogers - Principal
 Tina Williams - Assistant Principal
 Marko Jones - Assistant Principal
 Sara Hardee- Instructional Supervisor

Dyersburg High School Alma Mater

Dear old school where we have studied, we will all agree,
 That we'll ne'er forget the training, given us by thee.

Dyersburg High, our Alma Mater, we'll remember thee,
 And we pledge thee our devotion, our fidelity.

~Howard Essary

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Dyersburg High School Calendar 2026-2027

Aug. 3 - First Day of School - 9th-12th Registration Sept. 7 - Labor Day Sept. 10 - Parent Teacher Conference 3:30-7:00p.m. Sept. 11 - Fair Day/Teacher Inservice Sept. 29 - Senior ACT Retake Oct. 2 - End of 1st Nine Weeks Oct. 5-9 - Fall Break Oct. 12 - Teacher Inservice Oct. 20 - PSAT/NMQST Oct. 20 - Q1 Report Cards go home Nov. 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break Dec. 12 - Miss DHS Dec. 16 - Exam Day Dec. 17 - Exam Day Dec. 18 - Exam Day Dec. 18 - Dismiss @ 11:00a.m. Dec. 18 - End of Semester 1 Dec. 21-Jan. 4 - Winter Break	Jan 4- Teacher Inservice Day Jan. 5 - Classes Resume Jan. 12 - S1 Report Cards go home Jan. 18 - MLK Jr. Day Feb. 15 - Presidents Day Feb. 18 - Parent Teacher Conference 3:30-7:00p.m. March 9 - Junior ACT Day March 12 - End of 3rd 9 weeks March 15-19 - Spring Break March 26 - Good Friday March 30 - Q3 Report Cards go home April 19 - May 6 - EOC April 22 - Honors Banquet (11th and 12th grade) April 23 - 9th and 10th Honors Program April 24 - Prom May 6 - Senior Scholarship/Awards Program May 14 - Graduation (7pm) May 19 - Exam Day May 20 - Exam Day May 21 - Exam Day
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DHS Bell Schedules

Regular School Day		Regular School Day - NO BREAK		Advisory Schedule (Tuesday)		Assembly/Pep Rally Schedule	
1st Period	8:00 - 8:52	1st Period	8:00-8:56	1st Period	8:00 - 8:50	1st Period	8:00-8:50
Break	8:52-9:00	2nd Period	9:00-9:52	Advisory	8:54-9:14	2nd Period	8:54-9:41
2nd Period	9:00-9:52	3rd Period	9:56-10:48	2nd Period	9:18-10:06	3rd Period	9:45-10:32
3rd Period	9:56-10:48	4th Period 1st Lunch 2nd Lunch 3rd Lunch	10:52-12:11 10:48-11:13 11:17-11:42 11:46-12:11	3rd Period	10:10-10:58	4th Period 1st Lunch 2nd Lunch 3rd Lunch	10:36-11:55 10:32-10:57 11:01-11:26 11:30-11:55
4th Period 1st Lunch 2nd Lunch 3rd Lunch	10:52-12:11 10:48-11:13 11:17-11:42 11:46-12:11	5th Period	12:15-1:07	4th Period 1st Lunch 2nd Lunch 3rd Lunch	11:02-12:21 10:58-11:23 11:27-11:52 11:56-12:21	5th Period	11:59-12:46
5th Period	12:15-1:07	6th Period	1:11-2:03	5th Period	12:25-1:13	6th Period	12:50-1:37
6th Period	1:11-2:03	7th Period	2:07-3:00	6th Period	1:17-2:05	7th Period	1:41-2:26
7th Period	2:07-3:00			7th Period	2:09-3:00	Assembly/Pep Rally	2:30-3:00

1. DHS ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

1a - Arrival/Departure

Prior to 8am all DHS students should enter the building through the EAST entrance only. All parents must enter the east entrance to check students in or out, meet with any school personnel, or for any other student business. Early supervision will be provided at 7:00 a.m. Prior to 7:30 a.m. students should go to tutoring, after 7:30 a.m. students may remain in the commons. Teachers who want students to report to their room before 7:54 should give students a note the previous day to present to the morning staff. Students will be permitted to go to their classrooms at 7:54.

All students will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. All students not involved with a school-related activity should be out of the building by 3:15 and picked up by 3:30 p.m. All students should be picked up on the East side of the campus (No waiting out front for a ride). Late supervision ends at 3:30 p.m. or on the arrival of a late bus. Students will not be permitted back into the building after this time unless with a coach or sponsor.

1b - Registration - Each student will be required to pay \$10.00 (ten dollars) at the beginning of the school year. This includes t-shirt, student ID, and locker maintenance.

1c - CHECKOUT GUIDELINES FOR EXAM DAYS:

1. The ability to check out of school after an exam is a privilege for students with good attendance and discipline records at DHS. Any student who meets or exceeds the following criteria in any ONE of the categories WILL NOT be allowed to check out of school on exam days.

Semester	Discipline Referral	Total Absences	Tardies	Checkouts	STOP Days	Fees List
S1	10+	5+	3+	5+	1+	Yes
S2	15+	10+	6+	10+	2+	Yes

2. Exempt students may choose to take the exam with the assurance that the exam will not reduce their letter grade but may improve it. Absences for discipline WILL count in the total number of days missed for exemption purposes.
3. YOU MAY NOT APPEAL THE EXAM EXEMPTION POLICY.

1d - Check-in/Check-out Procedure

1. Students entering the building after classes begin must SIGN IN at the East office and receive an admit slip.
2. Students departing the building must SIGN OUT IN THE EAST OFFICE AND SECURE PERMISSION FROM A PARENT/GUARDIAN TO DO SO. Students may be required to get a contact on the phone to confirm check-out notes. Only the contacts listed in the computer may give check-out permission.
3. All students who leave campus during the day (TCAT, Service Learning, Co-op, Work-Based Learning, Etc.). MUST check-in/check-out with the East office. Failure to do so will be dealt with as a disciplinary referral and may result in loss of privileges.

CHECK OUT: Students will receive a checkout form that must be signed by a parent/guardian or doctor and brought back the next day to the **EAST ENTRANCE BEFORE 8:00** to receive excused or unexcused status.

CHECK IN: When a student checks into school late, a note from a parent may be required. Failure to produce a note will result in an unexplained absence and will be dealt with as a disciplinary referral.

1e - Tardiness

A DHS student is tardy to any scheduled class or activity if he/she is **NOT “INSIDE” THE ROOM WHEN THE BELL “BEGINS” TO RING**. All tardy students should be referred to an administrator. That student may or may not return to class that period, depending on determination by an administrator as to the number of tardies and any subsequent penalty administered to the student. This will be determined at the discretion of the admin on a student by student basis. Medical check-ins after class starts are NOT considered tardies. **Students attending less than ½ of class with an approved check-in are considered absent in the grade book for exam-exemption purposes.** **Transportation problems other than the school bus are not reasons for excused tardy.**

2. ATTENDANCE

2a - Compulsory School Attendance Law

A student must attend school until his/her eighteenth birthday unless:

- (1) he/she has graduated, or
- (2) he/she is enrolled in an approved course of instruction leading to the GED, or
- (3) he/she is enrolled in a home school.

2b - Attendance Procedure

1. **A student absent from school must bring a note signed by a parent/guardian upon his/her return to school.** Notes must include the student's full name, date(s) absent, date returning, periods missed, if not all day, and the reason for the absence. Tardies to class due to admit notes are not allowed. All notes must be turned in **before 8:00** in the **EAST ENTRANCE**. Admit slips must be turned in to your first hour teacher. Any student without an admit must be sent to the East Office immediately.
2. Each note will be evaluated for excused or unexcused determination. Notes should explain all days out of school. Unexplained days will be considered skipping and will be dealt with as disciplinary referrals. **Students without notes will be sent to ISS until parents can be contacted.** Students' notes will be kept on file in the attendance office.

2c - Receiving Credit

1. Students with more than nine (9) absences in a class during the semester will not receive credit unless they pass the final examination AND obtain a passing final average in the course.
2. Both excused (pre-approved included) and unexcused absences will count toward the 9 allowable days. Only school-related or school-mandated absences (ISS, Suspension, field trips, etc.) will be waived. Students not receiving a credit due to absences may appeal their status to the principal if the student has had major medical issues. They may appeal in writing, with supporting documentation, to the principal within five school days of the last day of the semester. The principal may then waive the pass the test requirement. The student and parent/guardian will be notified when the student has missed more than the allowable number of days. The teacher will also submit to the counseling office a record of all students failing to meet the attendance requirement.
3. Students will also take any AP test, DUAL enrollment test, or other state mandated exams. All juniors must also take the required ACT in the spring. Seniors will take an ACT test in the fall.

2d - Excessive Absences

1. 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 6.2. In cases where there has been a history of excessive absenteeism, the student may be referred to truancy court with less than 10 unexcused absences.
2. To participate in the graduation ceremony, seniors must attend at least 90% of the days enrolled at DHS, earn at least 6 credits during the senior year, AND meet all graduation requirements.
3. Students who are considered "Excessively Absent" will not be allowed any EXCUSED PARENT notes.
4. Students who are checked out "excessively" for reasons that are NOT consistent with the identified reasons for Excused Absences – may be required to complete ISS or detentions to make up the time.

2e - Driver's License Restrictions - Attendance

1. The Department of Safety will deny a license or permit for the operation of a motor vehicle to any person under eighteen years of age
 - a. who does not at the time of application for a driver's license present a diploma, or
 - b. who does not have satisfactory attendance in a secondary school in Tennessee or in some other state.
2. A student under eighteen years of age who applies for a driver's license must provide proof of satisfactory attendance (10 total unexcused absences in one year) from the East office at Dyersburg High School.
3. If a student is under age eighteen and has a driver's license, he/she must maintain satisfactory attendance. If a student misses ten consecutive unexcused days or a total of fifteen unexcused days in one semester, the State Department of Safety will revoke the student's driver's license. All suspensions and expulsions are counted as unexcused days.

2f - Semester Exams/Exam Exemption

1. In an effort to recognize desired attendance, students who are present during each scheduled class period in a course for the semester will be exempt from that course exam, if they have a C average or better. Students with 3 or fewer absences in each scheduled class AND a 90 average or higher in the course, will also be exempt from the final exam.
2. Exam Exemption Days are Unexcused Absences AND may carry over to the next semester for exemption purposes UNLESS students provide proper documentation. Exam Exemption Days may be used for job shadowing, community service activities, college visits, or work experience activities. Forms are provided and must have an adult signature.
3. EXAM Days are not come and go days. Students that are on campus, must be in their assigned class.
4. Any student that has not been enrolled in a class for the entire semester or on homebound will be required to take the semester exam.

5. Failure to be present in a class period due to disciplinary action will count against a student's exam exemption.

2g - College Days

DHS students are allowed two college visits per year. Documentation from the college must be provided on return. Travel days are not included and will count as an absence.

2h - Make-Up Work

1. Students will have the opportunity to make up missed work; however, it is the *student's responsibility to contact teachers and arrange for make-up work* in each class.
2. Student absences falling on the day of a test or on the day that an assignment is due shall be treated as follows:
 - a. Regular Assignments are those normally due the next day or within the next few days. A student shall have additional time, equal to the amount of time he/she was absent, to turn in these assignments. No regular work will be accepted after the last day of the semester except due to severe illness or injury.
 - b. Advanced Assignments are those that are assigned at least (10) school days in advance. These will be due on the day and time designated, regardless of whether or not the student is present. These assignments may be brought to the school by the parents or delivered by other means. A student's grade may be reduced by a teacher if advanced assignments are not turned in on time.
 - c. Tests and Exam Absences. If a student misses a major test it shall be made up on the day that the student returns to school or if the student chooses, the student may have additional time equal to the time he/she was absent from school to make up the test. **Semester exams missed will receive a zero.** Make-up semester exams will only be allowed for excused absences which include doctor's notes, death in the family, etc. Semester make-up exams are NOT allowed for unexcused absences.

2i - Skipping

Any student who is absent from school without their parent's knowledge or permission will be considered skipping and subject to disciplinary action. This includes students who leave school without signing out, fail to report to class, or fail to provide documentation of absences.

2j - Absences and School Activities

1. Students participating in school-sponsored activities will not be counted absent; however, it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher in order to make up any work missed.
2. Students who miss more than half the day of school are considered absent for that day. This makes them ineligible for any school-sponsored activity on that day. This applies to all activities, athletics included. Coaches or sponsors are responsible for enforcement of this policy. Appeals may be heard by the principal.
3. Students with excessive absenteeism or on homebound may be denied entrance in extracurricular activities, such as school dances, plays, sporting events, etc..
4. **Field Trip Policy-** Students will not be allowed to participate in school-sponsored ACTIVITIES INCLUDING ATHLETIC EVENTS DURING THE INSTRUCTIONAL DAY or field trips if they are failing any course or if the total unexcused absences exceed-
Quarter 1: 3 or more Quarter 2: 5 or more Quarter 3: 8 or more Quarter 4: 10 or more

2k - Transfer Requirements

If you are suspended or expelled from another school system, you cannot enroll at Dyersburg High 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/her designee.

3. 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. Dyersburg City School system's schools must be environments in which work can be accomplished by adults and students. Staff will dress professionally and students' dress will fall within the following guidelines in order to create an orderly setting in which teaching and learning can occur without distraction and to help young people prepare for the world of work.

The school administrator will make the final decision about whether an article or style of dress falls outside these guidelines. **Teachers and school administrators will be held accountable for the enforcement of these guidelines.** These guidelines will be applied consistently to all students. All requirements except for the one for skirts apply equally to boys and girls.

SPIRIT WEAR SHIRTS: EVERY DAY IS SPIRIT DAY IN DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOLS

Students may wear a Dyersburg Spirit T-shirt or sweatshirt with dress code bottoms every day of the week.

- All T-shirts/sweatshirts without a collar must be black, gold, white, or gray and have a Dyersburg or Trojan logo on them.
- T-shirts (Short sleeves or Long sleeves) must be tucked in by males.
- PLAIN SWEATSHIRT: black, gold, white, or gray sweatshirts MUST be worn over a collared shirt. (NO HOODS)

- Pullovers with a collar must be black, gold, white, or gray or a combination of these colors, excluding patterns (plaid or tie-dye). If a shirt is worn underneath, it should be black, gold, white, gray, or spirit wear. Pullovers with a collar do NOT have to be tucked.
- Pullovers without a collar must have a Dyersburg logo and be white, gold, gray, black, or a combination of these colors, excluding patterns. If a shirt is worn underneath, it should be white, gold, gray, black, or a spirit shirt. Pullovers **with** a collar do NOT have to be tucked.
- The logos must also be the colors white, gold, gray, or black.
- All clothing must be free of rips, cuts, tears, or ties.

COLLARED SHIRTS:

- Should be one color (black, white, gold, **gray**), collared (polo, button-up dress shirt), with appropriate buttons to the top of the garment.
- Only the top button can be unbuttoned.
- 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**).

SWEATSHIRT: Plain black, gold, white, or gray sweatshirts must be worn over a collared shirt. (NO HOODS)

PANTS:

- Pants must fit at the waist and inseam. No sagging.
- Pants should be one solid color (black, khaki, or gray) with no wording other than factory logo.
- No denim.
- Pants cannot be gathered at the bottom (no elastic in waist or legs) or have rips or tears.
- Pants should have no lace, beads or other embellishments.
- All students' pants should have belt loops and pockets.

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

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.

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

SOCKS: Socks are not required.

HEADWEAR: Headwear is not permitted in school. Only prescription glasses are permitted. No sunglasses. No bandanas or bandana print.

COATS/JACKETS: Plain black, gold, white or gray may be worn over an approved collared shirt or spiritwear. (NO HOODIES) Aside from a business card-sized logo, no writing or caricatures on the garment are allowed except for the Dyersburg logos. Hooded jackets and headwear worn in winter must be removed upon arrival. Jackets worn in school must be plain black, gold, white, or gray with NO HOODS. Students will not be allowed to bring blankets to school.

EARRINGS/PIERCINGS: Earrings or other piercings are not permitted with the following exception: a student may wear up to two pairs of earrings (in ear) or a small nose stud that are not distracting or present safety issues. (No bars. No hoops.)

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

MASKS -. Masks should be worn appropriately. Masks are items of personal protective equipment that covers the nose and mouth. It may be a cloth or surgical mask. Any cloth mask must adhere to the school's dress code shirt colors of black, gold, gray or white. and be solid in color with no designs or wording other than the Trojan D or Trojan Mascot. Surgical or medical masks do not have to adhere to these color guidelines. but cannot be decorated in any way.

SPECIAL DAYS: These are days set aside by the school administration to allow variation in the dress code, such as spirit day or picture 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 the dress code immediately may submit a request to the school principal upon admission to school for assistance. 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.

4. GRADING POLICY

4a - Grade Reporting:

A report card will be issued at the end of each 9 weeks. Credit will be issued at the end of the semester.

4b - Rigor Points

All Honors Courses: additional 3 points to Daily Grade and Exam Grade each semester

All State Dual Credit, and Industry Certification Courses: additional 4 points to Daily Grade and Exam Grade each semester

All Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement Courses: additional 5 points to Daily Grade and Exam Grade each semester

4c - Organizational Format

School Year	180 days, 36 weeks
Nine Weeks	45 day grading cycles
School Day	7 periods
Student Day/Credits	7 classes per day. Credits issued at the end of the semester
Teacher Day	6 classes per day

4d - Grading Scale

The grading scale is as follows:

A = 90-100

B = 80- 89

C = 70- 79

D = 60- 69

F = Below 60

To convert to 4.0 scale (QPA)

A = 4.0

B = 3.0

C = 2.0

D = 1.0

F = 0.0

4e - SEMESTER GRADE

To determine the grade for the semester, the final comprehensive exam will count as **fifteen percent** of the student's grade.

EXAMS WILL NOT BE GIVEN EARLY. They may be made up however, if there is an excused absence. In courses with end-of-course exams, the EOC/TNReady will count as the second semester exam and will be fifteen percent of the second semester grade. Although EOC exams may be given at an earlier date, teachers will have exams for students on exam day.

The semester grade will be calculated using the following formula:

Semester 1 Grade = (Quarter 1 Grade)(42.5%) + (Quarter 2 Grade)(42.5%) + (Semester 1 Exam Grade)(15%)

Semester 2 Grade = (Quarter 3 Grade)(42.5) + (Quarter 4 Grade)(42.5) + (Semester 2 Exam Grade)(15%)

4f - COURSE REGISTRATION/WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Students register for courses for the next year in the spring and are scheduled by computer. Students are guaranteed placement in required courses for graduation. Students are given the opportunity to request alternative selections. Every attempt is made to schedule students by their requests. **WE DO NOT GUARANTEE ELECTIVE REQUESTS.** Students are not allowed to change their schedules, unless special circumstances exist with parent permission. Students may drop or add courses for the following reasons: to correct deficiencies, to adjust for work study hours, to correct an error in placement, to correct obvious errors in scheduling, to assure credits for graduation, and teacher recommendation. Please see your counselor to discuss a change, and must have administrator approval. Such students have three school days **to request** a change with the counseling office.

4g - Credit Recovery/Summer School

Credit Recovery is available during Summer School to students who previously failed a course with a final grade of 50-59. Students who earned a final grade below a 50 are NOT eligible for Credit Recovery. Students may recover up to 3 credits during Summer School. An online platform is utilized during Summer School for credit recovery. Students may work on assignments independently online at home; however, ALL TESTS must be taken at DHS with a DHS staff member. No transportation will be provided during Summer School.

5. ACADEMIC AWARDS

5a - Honor Roll

All Students are required to obtain a 3.6 GPA **AND**

Freshmen: achieve 0 college readiness benchmark

Sophomores: achieve 1 college readiness benchmark

Juniors: achieve 2 college readiness benchmarks
Seniors: achieve 3 college readiness benchmarks

5b - Golden Honor Roll:

All Students are required to obtain a 4.0 GPA **AND**
Freshmen: achieve 1 college readiness benchmark
Sophomores: achieve 2 college readiness benchmarks
Juniors: achieve 3 college readiness benchmarks
Seniors: achieve 4 college readiness benchmarks

5c - Honors Banquet Attendees

At the end of the third quarter, any Junior or Senior student with a yearly GPA of 3.6 or higher **AND** achieved the college readiness benchmark for their grade level will be eligible to attend the honors banquet. DHS will use the Semester 1 and Quarter 3 grades to calculate eligibility for Honors Banquet.

Elective credit is given for Service Learning, Work-Based Learning, and Peer Tutor and grades are assigned as Pass/Fail. Grades in these classes are NOT used in the calculation for honor roll status, and credits in these courses may NOT be used as an Elective focus.

5d - SPECIAL ACADEMIC AWARDS

Class ranking and awarding the valedictorian will be performed using the Trojan Scholars program. The student accumulating the most points using the Trojan Scholar formula will be the valedictorian. All other students scoring above or beyond 1777 points and achieving all 4 college readiness benchmarks will be considered salutatorians. These students have achieved the highest academic recognition at their school and as such are tops in their class. The highest point total will be asked to speak at graduation on behalf of the graduating class.

Trojan Scholars are students that achieve 1777 or more points (89% of the maximum) in the following calculation. **The maximum number of points attainable is 2000, 1000 from each factor in the formula.**

$$(\text{ACT} \times 27.7777) + (\text{GPA} \times 250) = \text{Trojan Scholar Points}$$

The GPA used will be the cumulative GPA including semester 1 and quarter 3 of senior year .

A student's highest reported ACT composite score that includes English, Reading, Math, and Science will be used for this calculation. The February ACT is the last ACT counted for Trojan Scholar purposes. DHS will not superscore results from various tests. The following table is used to determine eligibility. An ACT score of 28 is the minimum that will qualify a student for this program.

ACT	GPA	POINTS
36	3.1081	1777.0222
35	3.2192	1777.0195
34	3.3303	1777.0168
33	3.4414	1777.0141
32	3.5525	1777.0114
31	3.6636	1777.0087
30	3.7747	1777.0060
29	3.8858	1777.0033
28	3.9969	1777.0006

5.1 GRADUATION

5.1a - GRADUATION HONOR CORDS

- Summa Cum Laude - Gold Graduation Cord: Students must maintain a 4.0 or better cumulative grade point average.
 - Magna Cum Laude - Silver Graduation Cord: Students must maintain a 3.75 – 3.99 cumulative grade point average.
 - Cum Laude - Bronze Graduation Cord: Students must maintain a 3.5 – 3.74 cumulative grade point average.
- Please note, a student's grade point at the end of the third quarter is used to determine what honor cord a student receives.

5.1b - Special Recognitions for Dyersburg High School Graduation

Students may graduate with honors or distinction by meeting the criteria established by the State of Tennessee.

5.1c - Honors: Students who score at or above all of the subject readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on

the SAT will graduate with honors.

English 18

Math 22

Reading 22

Science 23

5.1d - AP Capstone Diploma: Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams.

5.1e - Tri-Star Scholar: Students who earn a composite score of nineteen or higher on the ACT, or an equivalent score on the SAT, and earn a capstone industry certification. A student who fulfills the requirements of the Tennessee Work Ethic Distinction program shall also be recognized as a Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar upon graduation from high school.

5.1f - College and Career Ready Graduate Recognition- Students who meet one of the following College and Career Ready Pathways will have a White Graduation Cord. [Early Post Secondary Opportunities (EPSOs) are any of the following: Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Enrollment (DE), Local Dual Credit (LDC), Statewide Dual Credit (SDC), or Tier 2/Tier 3 Industry Credential (IC)]

- Score of 21 or higher on ACT (or 1060 or higher on the SAT)
- Has a score of 31 or higher on the ASVAB
- Earns a Tier 3 IC;
- Earns a Tier 2 IC AND at least 1 other IC;
- Earns one or more Post Secondary Credits (AP score of 3/4/5, Earns DE credit, Earns LDC credit)

5.1g - CTE Complete Recognition - Students who complete three courses with a CTE pathway will have a black and gold graduation cord.

5.1h - Dual Enrollment Scholar Recognition - Students who earn twelve (12) or more dual enrollment credit hours.

5.1g - Distinction: Students will be recognized as graduating with “distinction” by attaining a **B** or better average and completing at least one of the following:

1. Earn a national and/or state recognized industry certification
2. Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
3. Participate in one of the state’s All State musical organizations
4. Earn statewide recognition or award at a skill or knowledge-based state tournament, convention, or competition hosted by a statewide student organization, and/or qualify for national recognition by a national student organization;
5. Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist
6. Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT or SAT equivalent
7. Attain a score of 3 or higher on at least two Advanced Placement exams
8. Successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program
9. Earn 12 or more semester hours of postsecondary credit

6. Use of Personal Communication Devices at School

Students may possess personal communication devices and personal electronic devices. All devices must be turned off and stored in a backpack, purse, or container 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 students’ handbook. A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action.

1st offense device confiscated, parents must pick up device

2nd offense device confiscated, parents must pick up device, and student will receive disciplinary action

3rd offense same as above, further disciplinary actions

**** All devices must be picked up at the end of the school day.

A. Charging phones or devices is not allowed on campus at any time.

B. Videoing Fights: The act of videoing a fight will NOT be tolerated. A student who even “appears” to be videoing a fight 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. If administration receives evidence that a fight video has been posted on social media OR even forwarded to another individual, the responsible student will receive a cell phone violation and other disciplinary actions.

C. Use of cameras, video and/or audio recording or any other multimedia application on personal communication devices is strictly prohibited on school property and 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.

7. STUDENT CONDUCT/BEHAVIOR

Dyersburg High School is a place to obtain an education. In order for this to happen, everyone has to shoulder his/her responsibilities in the total school program. Students should model appropriate behavior in classrooms and hallways and should be representatives of Dyersburg High School **at school events at home or away.**

7a - Offenses

The following offenses are to be considered inappropriate for a student at Dyersburg High School and will not be tolerated:

- Insubordination toward teachers or administration (not doing what you are told)
- Disruptive behavior in the classroom
- Disrespectfulness to teachers or administrators
- Being out of assigned area
- Arguing or fighting on campus
- Taking money or property from the school or another student
- Use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, fireworks, firearms, knives, or other unlawful arms on school property or at any school event
- Gambling on school property
- Using profane, vulgar or indecent language
- Vandalism to personal or school property
- Possession and/or use as a weapon of any chemical agent spray

7b - Bullying/Hazing/Harassment

An act that substantially interferes with a student's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, and the act has the effect of:

- * Physically harming a student or damaging a student's property;
- * Knowingly placing a student or students in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student's property;
- * Causing emotional distress to a student or students; or
- * Creating a hostile educational environment

Bullying, intimidation, or harassment may also be unwelcome conduct based on a protected class (race, nationality, origin, color, gender, age, disability, religion) that is severe, pervasive, or persistent and creates a hostile environment.

7c - Fighting

Fighting will not be tolerated at Dyersburg High School. Violations are cumulative while a student is at DHS, 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.

7d - 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 student(s) he/she is in conflict with. Simply informing administration and then continuing to pursue the conflict will NOT excuse one from disciplinary action in the event a fight occurs.

7e - Criminal Charges: Administration will 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.)

7f - Expectations for Bystanders: In fight situations, any students instigating, gathering to watch, interfering with staff, videoing, etc. will 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.

7g - Videoing Fights: The act of videoing a fight will NOT be tolerated. A student who even "appears" to be videoing a fight 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. If administration receives evidence that a fight video has been **posted on social media OR even forwarded to another individual**, the responsible student will receive a cell phone violation and other disciplinary actions.

7h - Social Media: Students making comments on social media that encourage or lead to conflicts or fights at school will face disciplinary action.

7i - Gang Activity

Any form of gang activity will not be tolerated at Dyersburg High School. This may result in suspension and/or referral to the Discipline Hearing Authority. 1. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to signs, clothing, “colors”, graffiti, vandalism, and writings 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.

7j - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use or attempt to use any dangerous weapon in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or buses or off the school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function or event.

Dangerous weapons for the purposes of this policy shall include, but are not limited to ... any firearm, explosive, explosive weapon, bowie knife, hawk-bill knife, ice pick, dagger, slingshot, switchblade knife, blackjack, knuckles... Chemical agent sprays are also considered weapons and are strictly prohibited.

Students who are found to have violated this policy shall be subject to suspension for a period of not less than one (1) year. The superintendent shall have the authority to modify this suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis.

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal of the school shall notify the student’s parent or guardian and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.

7k - Replica Weapon Policy

Any replicas of weapons are strictly prohibited in Dyersburg City Schools’ buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or 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, 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.*

7l - Off Campus Behavior

Certain off-campus behavior may cause a student to be subject to punishment by school officials, up to but not limited to suspension from school and/or participation in school activities.

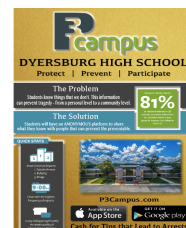
Such behaviors include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Drug transmittal
2. Violence or threatened violence in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) against another student or DHS staff
3. Vulgar, obscene, or threatening language, in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) directed toward DHS staff
4. Vandalism to the personal property of DHS staff
5. Gang related activity which could carry over onto the DHS campus
6. Criminal charges resulting from the students behavior in the community

7m - Students who are charged with a felony offense may appear before the School System Discipline Board.

7n. P3Campus: Dyersburg High School has P3 Campus

P3 Campus is an anonymous tip reporting solution designed specifically for the educational community. P3 Campus is a vital tool in keeping schools and students safe. School community members can report about a wide range of concerns, from mental health issues to threats of violence through our P3 Campus mobile app or through any web browser at P3Campus.com. Students can also access this information and web link in their graduation cohort DHS Google Classroom.



7o. Student Personal Money

In an effort to maintain the security of students' personal financial resources, students should not bring large sums of money to school if it is not for the purpose of submitting for school related obligations.

8. Disciplinary Procedures

8a - Detention

Detention meets from 3:05 to 4:00 or 7:20 to 7:54 or during their lunch shift on day designated by the principal. These classes are under direct supervision of a DHS instructor and meet in the ISS room. Students are required to be on time, stay for the entire time, and work on school related assignments. Students can be picked up at the East Entrance. All rules for regular school will be enforced during the detention. Failure to attend or complete an assigned Detention will result in further disciplinary action.

8b - 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 suspended from school.

8c - STOP Class (Short-Term Opportunity Placement Class)

The STOP Class is a disciplinary placement that removes the student from DHS 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 DHS.
- e. No cell phones allowed. Chromebooks are not allowed.

Students attending the STOP class are not to be on 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.

8d - Discipline Hearing Authority

The administration reserves the right to refer students to the Discipline Hearing Authority (DHA) depending on the severity of the incident(s). The DHA is comprised of a 3-7 member board composed of school personnel and community members.

8e - College Street Campus Placement

Students may be placed in an alternate learning environment by the Discipline Hearing Authority for a period of time not to exceed one calendar year. Students who attend CSC will receive a no trespassing order for all of Dyersburg City School campuses.

8f - Due Process

Due process guarantees fair treatment of students by school officials. In case of suspension, parents will be notified in writing of the charge, the evidence, and the penalty. Students will be granted an opportunity to refute the charges and/or explain their version of the incident.

8g - Interrogations by School Personnel

Students may be questioned by teachers or principals about any matter pertaining to the operations of school and/or the enforcement of its rules. Questioning must be conducted discreetly and under circumstances, which 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.

8h - 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 in school during school hours. The principal shall first attempt to notify the parent(s) of the student of the intended interrogation, 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; 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.

8i - Searches by School Personnel

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

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

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 person, 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 which endangers or has endangered the health or safety of any member of the student body. In regard to stolen personal property, Dyersburg High School personnel reserve the right not to engage in a search for stolen items.

8j - Searches by Police

If public health or safety is involved, upon request of the principal who shall be present, police officers may make a search of student's lockers and desks, or student's or non-student's automobiles 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:

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.

Police officers/SRO's have the authority to search any person upon having probable cause to conduct the search. Also, upon arresting an individual the officer has the authority to search incident to arrest.

9. ALCOHOL/DRUG POLICY

Dyersburg City Schools are committed to preventing alcohol and drug problems with a five-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.
4. Punishment for alcohol/drug related offenses, which includes suspension and/or expulsion.
5. Random drug testing for those students involved in TSSAA activities.

Students for drug violations may be required to submit evidence of satisfactory results of a drug screening examination as a condition for readmittance; furthermore, those students may be required to undergo periodic, unannounced drug screenings as a condition of continued enrollment.

9a - 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. Off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event.
3. On school buses or school property.

Any student who violates this policy shall be suspended from school and will appear before the school system Discipline Hearing Authority.

9b - 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. **No student should be in possession of any type of drug paraphernalia.** Such students shall be suspended to the Discipline Hearing Authority.

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 Disciplinary Hearing Authority.

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.

9c - 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 suspension for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The superintendent 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 controlled substance on school bus, school property, or during any school event or activity.
 - Zero tolerance drug or controlled substance;
 - Verified Product containing marijuana or any derivative form thereof including THC;
 - Any other substance that violates DCS policies, state law or federal law
2. Students who bring a firearm, or a dangerous weapon on school bus, school property, or during any school even or activity.
3. Any student commits aggravated assault upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of an LEA, or a school resource officer.
4. Any student who makes threats of mass violence on school property or at a school related activity

9d - 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.

This policy is applicable to all forms of tobacco and may, with repeated problems, become applicable to paraphernalia for the use of tobacco. Tobacco violations shall be cumulative while the student is enrolled in any one school. Violations will be carried over from year to year. Since possession of tobacco is unlawful for students by Tennessee law, a citation will be issued and school discipline action will be taken.

9e - 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. Vaping will not be tolerated at Dyersburg High School. Violations are cumulative while a student is at DHS, and penalties will increase each incident. Penalties may include but are not limited to suspension up to 10 days and referral to the Discipline Hearing Authority.

10. ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Dyersburg High School focuses on academics. However, to enrich those academics, DHS offers many athletic organizations as well as extracurricular activities to enhance the academic process. This list continues to grow each year, and we encourage all students to find some organization in which to participate. Supervision is only provided for school related activities for the duration of the event. Parents are encouraged to pick up their child at the conclusion of the event.

The purpose of the Dyersburg High athletic department is to provide teams that will represent the school and the city in competitive interscholastic contests with pride. It is a privilege, not a right, to participate in athletics as athletes are held to a higher standard than the regular student body. In order to participate, a student must meet the standards of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association, and must abide by the rules that are established for team conduct. The athletic program strives to teach a winning attitude, sportsmanship, teamwork, leadership, and promote and reward excellence. To be eligible to participate in athletic contests during any school year, a student must earn six credits the preceding school year. All credits must be earned by the first day of the beginning of the school year. Academic eligibility for a student is based on the requirements of the school the student was attending at the conclusion of the previous year. If a student is not eligible the

first semester, they may become eligible the second semester based on passing six credits at the conclusion of the first semester.

There will be a student athletic pass available to all DHS students during registration and the first month of school. This pass will cost \$50 and will gain the student admission to ALL REGULAR DHS HOME sporting events. It will NOT admit students to any jamboree or tournament games.

DHS students are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike fashion at all games. This includes dress and conduct. Students not dressed appropriately may be denied admission or removed from games. Students antagonizing opponents or officials may be asked to leave the game. All students are encouraged to positively cheer for your classmates in their athletic pursuits.

Suspended students and students assigned to the College Street Campus for disciplinary reasons are not permitted at DHS functions, home and away. These students will be considered trespassing and dealt with appropriately.

ATHLETICS

FOOTBALL	COACH: Bart Stowe	BASEBALL	COACH: Zane Mathis
BASKETBALL Boys'	COACH: Blaine Mahaffey	CROSS-COUNTRY	COACH: Marty Newsom
BASKETBALL Girls'	COACH: Tim Strayhorn	MEN'S SOCCER	COACH: Musa Manneh
GOLF	COACH: Kavin Carr	VOLLEYBALL	COACH: Dee Ahmad
TENNIS	COACH: Lance Roy	GIRLS' SOCCER	COACH: Musa Manneh
SOFTBALL	COACH: Erin Worley	CHEERLEADING	COACH: Georganna Stanley
BOYS' TRACK	COACH: Beau Corder	DANCE TEAM	COACH: Cathy Bona
GIRLS' TRACK	COACH: Beau Corder		

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

Model UN	Chess Club	Art Club	Technology Student Association (TSA)
Advanced Choir	Gold Club	Concert Band	Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
Journalism	Mock Trial	Marching Band	Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA)
Yearbook	Key Club	Jazz Band	Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)
Beta Club	STEM Club	Drama Club	Dyersburg Future Farmers of America (FFA)
Student Council	Ducks Unlimited	Esports	Health Occupational Services of America (HOSA)
Advocates Club	Step Team	Culinary Club	Chick-Fil-A Academy

11. PARKING LOT REGULATIONS

Every student vehicle must have a valid parking permit, which can be purchased during the registration of school. Students must park in their assigned space. If your parking spot is occupied, report the license number to the office immediately. Students who park out of their assigned place, drive recklessly, or loiter in the parking lot, are subject to disciplinary action and parking tickets.

1. All students driving to school must purchase a parking sticker for \$10.00 and park in the assigned parking space.
2. Students must present their driver's license and proof of insurance when purchasing a permit.
3. The gates on Stadium Drive will be locked between 8:20 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
4. Any student driving on campus without a permit may be disciplined by the administration. Vehicles without permits may be towed on the second offense at the owner's expense.
5. Once a student is on campus including the parking lot, they cannot leave without a check out slip.
6. All parking fines are \$10.00. Examples: Parking in wrong parking space, parking in grass, failure to display parking permit, etc.
7. Students are not allowed to loiter in or at vehicles before or after school on the parking lot.

12. VISITORS TO CAMPUS

- ALL visitors are required to report to the EAST ENTRANCE and obtain a visitor's pass when entering the building
- If you are visiting a principal, guidance personnel, or teacher, you are required to show a driver license or appropriate photo ID to be scanned by east office personnel. A badge will be given to a visitor that will show that person has gone through the office and has received clearance.
- If you wish to check your child out of school, you will need to come to the East Office and provide a driver license (or other government-issued ID – or ID card provided at a driver's license office). The school will not allow a child to be checked out by anyone not on that child's contact list. Any parent that would like to update their child's contact list can call the East Office at 286-3630 Ext. 31602.

- Except for emergency situations, we discourage removing a child from class. Feel free to leave money or other items for your child in the East Office and your child will be called down between classes to pick them up. Parents or family members WILL NOT be allowed to leave FAST FOOD items for their students.

13. CHEATING

Copying, plagiarizing, or otherwise cheating on class work (projects, papers, etc.) or tests, including exams will not be tolerated. Consequences **will include** a zero on the assignment or test. The administration reserves the right to enforce further disciplinary action.

14. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Miscellaneous for students and school.

- NO student can order outside food and have it delivered to the school. No food from restaurants can be brought for lunch. Also no outside food can be brought for classes such as donuts and cupcakes. No outside food or drink.
- Students are not allowed to sell items at school except as approved by the Principal.
- Students that are on the fees list that owe \$5 or more will lose certain school privileges until paid. These privileges could be use of library, participation in sports, entrance in dances, plays, or assemblies, etc.
- NO doors should be propped open at any time.
- No Flyers may be placed on any walls. All advertisements must be placed in the glass cases in the stairwells and must be approved by administration. For approval, place item in main office mailbox.
- In a continuing effort to keep our school safe, DHS has implemented the P3Campus reporting technology.
- To report unsafe driving of a Dyer County School Bus, please contact Allen Cook, Director of Transportation, at 731-285-5852 or acook@dyerco.net. Please have the following information for the report: bus number, location of the incident, time of the incident, name and contact number of the person making the report.

14a. Hallway Behavior

- * Walk on the right hand side of the hallway and stairwells. Keep moving and do not linger in classroom doorways. Keep noise down and speak using inside voices.
- * NO PDA (Public Display of Affection). No hugging, kissing, or inappropriate touching.
- * No OPENED Food and drink should ever be taken out of the commons, either before school or after lunch or after break.

14b. Helping Students Succeed

DHS provides academic tutoring and testing opportunities each morning, Monday - Friday at 7:00 am, and on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons until 4:15 pm. Discipline procedures during this time follow that of the regular school day.

15. STUDENT SERVICES

Dyersburg High School students are served by three full-time professional school counselors. This team is an integral and vital component in the development of the academic and personal goals of all students. They plan, implement and evaluate a counseling program that includes academic, career, personal and social development for all students. They work with parents, teachers and staff to advocate for high academic achievement and appropriate social development for each student. Additionally, the Counseling Team strives to work with students, parents and other staff to facilitate transitions throughout the high school years. Counselors encourage students to be independent, to effectively communicate their needs, and make decisions that will prepare them to be productive citizens.

Dyersburg High School Student Services Team

Anna Claire Lane, Professional School Counselor abradshaw@dyersburgcityschools.org; 286-3630 ext 31610 • Freshman and Senior Advisor • Contact person for scholarships, Tennessee Promise, and college admissions • Coordinates College and Awards Day • Dyer County Youth Leadership	Teresa Maxwell and Stephen Thomas, Professional School Counselors tmaxwell@dyersburgcityschools.org; 286-3630 ext 31240 stthomas@dyersburgcityschools.org; 286-3630 ext 31611 • Director of Student Services • Liaison for all students attending TCAT, DSCC, & UTM • Dual Enrollment • Junior advisor • Responsible for scheduling
Hillary Jackson, Professional School Counselor hjackson@dyersburgcityschools.org; 286-3630 ext 31612 • 504 Coordinator • Crisis Intervention	Kim Bowlin, Records Clerk kbowlin@dyersburgcityschools.org; 286-3630 ext 31609 • Responsible for all records • Report Cards and grades

• Liaison with College Street Campus • Sophomore Advisor	• Transcript requests
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The DHS Student Services team also utilizes the resources of Lisa Escue, Truancy Prevention Specialist. It is important for students to know their school counselor because counselors are advocates for students. Parents are also encouraged to schedule appointments to meet with their child's counselor. Email is another valuable tool for communication. The email addresses for the Student Services team members are listed in the above table.

16. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Dyersburg City School Board Graduation Requirements

Depending on the year of graduation, a student must earn the following number of credits.

Class of 2025 - 24 credits

Class of 2026 - 24 credits

Class of 2027 - 24 credits

Class of 2028 - 24 credits

Math – 4 credits (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and a higher level)

Science – 3 credits (Biology, Chemistry or Physics, and another lab science)

English – 4 credits

Social Studies – 3 credits (Geography or World History, US History, Economics, Government)

Physical Education – 0.5 credits

Wellness - 1 credit

Personal Finance – 0.5 credits

Computer Science- 1 credit [required for the Class of 2028 and beyond]

Foreign Language – 2 credits

Fine Arts – 1 credit

(The Foreign Language and Fine Arts credit may be waived for students not going to a University to expand and enhance the elective focus. Parent and student signatures are required.)

Elective Focus – 3 credits (Math and Science, Career and Technical, Fine Arts, Humanities, or Advanced Placement)

District Requirement - electives to attain required number of graduation credits

Pass the Civics Test and have an ACT score on file

16a. Industry 4.0 Diploma Distinction

The Industry 4.0 Diploma Distinction is a diploma distinction that allows students to pursue a career in a high-need, high-skill industry while in high school, as outlined in T.C.A. 49-6-420 . The Industry 4.0 Diploma Distinction was developed for high school students who are interested in pursuing a career in a high-need, high-skill industry after graduation. Students who earn the Industry 4.0 Diploma Distinction will complete at least nine dual enrollment or work-based learning (WBL) credits aligned to their career goals. They will receive monthly career coaching and counseling to better prepare them for the transition into the workforce. Additionally, they will have the option to substitute a WBL or dual enrollment credit, as approved by the State Board of Education, for one math credit and one science credit.

- **Grade 10 Student and Parent Requirements:** Students interested in pursuing an Industry 4.0 Diploma Distinction must provide the counselor or school principal with documentation signed by the student's parent or legal guardian indicating that the parent or legal guardian is aware of the requirements for the student to obtain the diploma distinction and consenting to the student's participation. Students must also register with a regional American Job Center (AJC) or other career counseling or community partner, known as a career coach , and enroll in at least one WBL or dual enrollment course for the student's junior year.
- **Career Coach Requirements** A career coach must be one of the following: • An AJC career coach; or • A career coach from a career counseling or community partner program approved by the US Department of Labor's regional office for the State of Tennessee; or • A certified licensed school counselor; or • An educator who holds an active WBL certificate provided by TDOE A career coach must meet no less than once per month during the school year to help the student develop personal attributes required for success in the workforce, assist the student in applying for dual enrollment grants and other available financial aid opportunities, identify the best combination of dual enrollment and WBL courses, and help the student prepare for standardized assessments. A combination of stakeholders who meet the career coach requirements may collaboratively provide these services to students.
- **Grade 11 Student Requirements:** The student must be enrolled in at least one WBL or dual enrollment course and enroll in WBL or dual enrollment courses for the student's senior year. The student must also meet no less than once per month during the school year with a career coach.
- **Grade 12 Student Requirements:** The student must successfully complete all coursework required for graduation for his/her diploma type. Students may earn at least one science credit and at least one math credit

through course substitutions approved by the State Board of Education, including, but not limited to, dual enrollment and WBL courses aligned to a student's chosen career path. These substitutions may only fulfill the student's third credit of science or fourth credit of math. A list of WBL and dual enrollment courses that qualify as science and math substitutions will be published upon State Board of Education approval. By the end of the student's senior year, the student must earn at least nine credits of dual enrollment or WBL, meet no less than once per month during the school year with a career coach, and fulfill all other graduation requirements to earn the Industry 4.0 Diploma Distinction

To participate in the graduation ceremony, seniors must attend at least 90% of the days enrolled at DHS, earn at least 6 credits during the senior year, AND meet all graduation requirements.

Seniors within 2 credits of graduation will be allowed to "participate" in the graduation ceremony but WILL NOT BE RECOGNIZED INDIVIDUALLY AND WILL NOT MARCH ACROSS THE STAGE.

17. TENNESSEE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The TN Department of Education has discontinued the Tennessee Scholars Program.

18. WORK ETHIC CERTIFICATE STANDARDS

- 1. Attendance Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has no more than 5 absences from school during the senior year. (2 pts.) Student has no more than 3 absences from school during the senior year. (3 pts.) Student has no more than 1 absence from school during the senior year.
- 2. Absence Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has no more than one unexcused absence from school during the senior year. (2 pts.) Student has no unexcused absences from school during the senior year.
- 3. Tardiness Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has no more than two unexcused tardies to school during the senior year. (2 pts.) Student has no more than one unexcused tardy to school during the senior year.
- 4. Discipline Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has no more than one discipline referral during the senior year. (2 pts.) Student has no discipline referrals during the senior year.
- 5. Overall Grade Point Average Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has an overall GPA of 2.0 to 2.9
(2 pts.) Student has an overall GPA of 3.0 to 3.4
(3 pts.) Student has an overall GPA of 3.5 or above.
- 6. Drug Free Standard**
(5 pts.) Student voluntarily presents written proof of negative drug test.
- 7. CTE Coursework Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has successfully completed at least one CTE course by the end of the senior year.
(2 pts.) Student has successfully completed at least two CTE courses by the end of the senior year.
(3 pts.) Student has successfully completed at least three CTE courses by the end of the senior year.
- 8. CTE Competition Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has competed in an approved regional level CTE competition by the end of their senior year.
(2 pts.) Student has competed in an approved state level CTE competition by the end of their senior year.
(3 pts.) Student has competed in an approved national level CTE competition by the end of their senior year.
- 9. TN Promise Standard**
(2 pts.) Student is in good standing with TN Promise and has completed the required 8 hours of community service.
- 10. Post-Secondary Standard**
(2 pts.) Student has successfully completed a post-secondary course during or before the senior year
- 11. Industry Certification Standard**
(2 pts.) Student has received a national industry certification during or before the senior year.
- 12. Enrollment in Post-Secondary Standard**
(2 pts.) Student is registered or has applied at a post-secondary institution for the fall of the graduating year.
- 13. Career Readiness Certificate Standard**
(2 pts.) Student has achieved a Bronze Level Career Readiness Certificate.
(4 pts.) Student has achieved a Silver Level Career Readiness Certificate.
(6 pts.) Student has achieved a Gold or Platinum Level Career Readiness Certificate.
- 14. Industry Awareness Standard**
(1 pt.) Student has participated in one industry awareness event during the senior year.
(2 pts.) Student has participated in more than one industry awareness event during the senior year.
(3 pts.) Student has participated in an internship or work based learning activity.

College Street Campus

307 College Street
Dyersburg, TN 38024
(731) 286-3610

DYERSBURG CITY SCHOOLS

Kim Worley, Director of Schools
Joanna Lamb, Director of College Street Campus
JB Wheatley, School Resource Officer

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Chairman, Jim Coy Houston
Whitney Allmon
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Dr. Scott Self
Mike Hickman
Gleyn Twilla

Dyersburg City Schools Mission

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

Mission and Beliefs

The mission of College Street Campus is to provide opportunities for academic learning and behavioral improvement by equipping students with the necessary skills to return to their home schools.

- We believe students are responsible for their behavior and academic success.
- We believe that a safe and structured environment promotes learning.
- We believe that students learn in different styles and will be offered a variety of instructional approaches to their learning.
- We believe that each student is a valued individual.
- We believe that students learn to make wise decisions in a supportive environment.
- We believe that support from every parent/guardian is important to the success of the student.

Principles of College Street Campus

- College Street Campus is a second chance for the student to receive an education.
- Attendance is a privilege and if a student cannot follow the rules, then the student may lose that privilege.
- Staff will enforce the rules in the handbook.
- Daily behavior and attendance will be considered when the team evaluates the student for early release consideration.
- Placement at College Street Campus means that the student has received placement due to defiant behavior, has been disruptive or has a zero-tolerance offense.
- College Street Campus works together with the student and parents/guardians to provide opportunities for the student to achieve success.
- College Street Campus and the Dyersburg City School Board may modify the handbook and point system at any time.

1. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

1a. Arrival

There will be no adult supervision at the building before 7:00 am. Students will enter the building through the Main Entrance of CSC at the beginning of the day. The Main Entrance will open at 7:15 am. After 7:30, students must have a

parent to sign for the student. **All watches, jewelry, anything in pockets, and food (including gum) must be turned in daily to an administrator(s). These items will be returned at dismissal.**

1b. Dismissal

Students will be dismissed beginning at 2:30 pm. There will be no adult supervision in the building after 3:00 pm.

- Middle school students' pick-up from the main parking lot.
- High school students' pick-up from the east parking lot.
- Students should be off school property within 15 minutes after dismissal.

1c. Check-in/Check-out Procedure

- Students entering the building after 7:35 a.m. must be accompanied by a parent/guardian to sign them in to the office to receive an admit slip.
- Students departing the building must secure permission from a parent/guardian and sign out in the school office. Only the contacts listed on the school system's attendance system may give check-out permission.

1d. Student Tardiness

- Students will attend school from 7:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. to receive full-day attendance credit.
- **Students are tardy after 7:35 am.**

2. ATTENDANCE

2a - Compulsory School Attendance Law

A student must attend school until his/her eighteenth birthday unless:

- (1) he/she has graduated, or
- (2) he/she is enrolled in an approved course of instruction leading to the GED, or
- (3) he/she is enrolled in a home school.

2b - Student Absence

- Notify the school office at 731-286-3610 when a student is out of school for any reason.
- **Students must bring a note signed by a parent/guardian upon his/her return to school.** Notes must include the following:
 - student's full name
 - date(s) absent
 - date returning
 - periods missed, if not full day
 - reason for absence
- **Parent notes/doctor's excuse must be submitted to the school within 5 days of the student's return** after an absence.
- The student's home school will determine if a note will be excused or unexcused. Notes should explain all days out of school. Unexplained days will be considered skipping and will be dealt with as unexcused absences.
- Student notes will be copied and sent to the home school and kept on file.

2c - Truancy/Skipping

Any student absent from school without a parent's knowledge or permission will be considered to be skipping. This includes students who leave school without signing out, fail to report to class, or fail to provide documentation of absences.

3. STUDENT 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. Students' clothing will fall within the following guidelines in order to create an orderly setting in which teaching and learning can occur without distraction and to help young people prepare for the world of work.

Shirts

- Polo-style shirt with collar and sleeves in solid black, gold, gray, or white
- Shirts must be tucked in so that the belt can be seen
- Shirts must be sized to fit
- Solid black or white t-shirts and thermals are permitted under polo shirt. (No undergarments of color are permitted.)

- Only solid white or black sweatshirts with round necks (no hoods on jackets) may be worn over polo shirts.

Pants

- All pants must be worn AT THE WAIST with a BELT.
- Permitted: Solid khaki, black, gray trouser style pants with a maximum of four pockets and no elastic in the waistbands or at the hems.
- **Not Permitted: Cargo pants, jeggings, leggings, basketball shorts underneath pants, pajama pants, jogging pants, athletic pants, no rips or tears.**

Shorts

- All shorts must be worn AT THE WAIST with a BELT. (Solid Khaki, Black or Gray)
- Trouser style shorts with a maximum of four pockets and no elastic in the waistbands or at the hems.
- Must reach to the knee when standing.

Belts

- Belts must be solid khaki, brown or black and worn at all times.
- Belt must be through all the loops on pants.

Footwear

- Athletic shoes must be gray, black or white. Shoelaces must be black or white and be laced-up and tied.
- Dress shoes/boots must be brown or black. Shoelaces must be black, brown or white and be laced-up and tied.
- Sandals may be worn but must be black or brown and have a strap attached to the back of the shoe. Crocs must be a solid color of black, brown, white or gray.
- Socks: black, white, gray, brown
- **Not Permitted:** slides, flip-flops, house shoes or shoe skates

Coats/Jackets

- Solid white, black, gold or gray is permitted.
- **Not Permitted:** no coats or jackets with a hood.

Additional Items Not Permitted

Any clothing item deemed inappropriate or distracting to the school routine by school officials will not be permitted. Including but not limited to the following:

- Headwear: hats, bandanas, caps, wraps, scarves, headbands, shower caps
- Jewelry

Students who are not in compliance with the dress code on the first and second offense must call for a change of clothes or wear what is available at school.

STUDENT WELFARE

Emergency Contact Procedure

The College Street Campus is committed to the safety of all students and staff. In the event of an emergency all parents are requested to follow the procedures listed below. We follow the procedures of Dyersburg City Schools and emergency info will be listed on Facebook, the school website, and radio.

1. Appropriate steps will be taken to provide for the safety, and the Crisis Response team will be activated to provide a supportive environment for students and staff.
2. No student will be dismissed from school unless a parent (or his/her designate on the student emergency form) comes for him/her. No student will be allowed to leave without the adult responsible for his/her care providing identification. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to keep all emergency records up-to-date.
3. Students must sign out through the principal's office or designated dismissal site before leaving the school or the evacuation site.
4. Please do NOT call the school. We must have all the telephone lines open for emergency calls. If your child has been injured or needs your assistance, a crisis team member will call you immediately.
5. During or immediately following an emergency, do not drive to the school. The school access route and entrance must remain clear for emergency vehicles.
6. Listen to WASL FM 100.1 or Eagle 97.3 FM radio, website: dyersburgcityschools.org, Facebook for system or schools, or watch Cable Channel 4. Dyersburg City Schools and the Dyersburg City Government will issue information and specific directions that parents are to follow on their public service information.
7. Buses will not make their runs during adverse weather conditions. Students will be supervised at school until safer weather conditions exist.

Cafeteria Lunch Charge Policy

Charges are permitted up to \$6.00 only. No outside lunches are permitted unless approved by administration and must be in a clear gallon-sized zippered bag and labeled with the student's name and the day's date. Students are not allowed to bring drinks to school.

SAFETY

Electronic Visitor Management System

Safety is a high priority for the Dyersburg City School System. The schools take necessary measures to protect students from harm, including contact with unsafe visitors. Dyersburg City Schools utilize a **Visitor Management System** that utilizes ID Scanning for all student check-out and visitor access to the Campus.

This system enables the school to electronically check all visitors against databases that identify individuals who are banned from a school or from picking up a student. All visitors are required to provide a driver's license (or other government-issued ID) to check out your student or visit a CSC staff member. The process takes less than a minute. The school will not allow a student to be checked out by anyone who is not listed on the student's contact list. Any parent who would like to update their child's contact list can call the CSC Office.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

College Street Campus is a place to obtain an education at an alternative placement. In order for this to happen, everyone must share responsibilities in the total school program. Students should model appropriate behavior in the building and complete classwork to receive credit. During an assignment to CSC, students are not allowed on any other Dyersburg City School campus at any time, and will not be allowed to attend or participate in any extracurricular school activities whether on or off campus.

Offenses

The following offenses are to be considered inappropriate for a student at CSC and will not be tolerated:

- Insubordination toward teachers or administration (not doing what you are told)
- Disruptive behavior in the classroom
- Disrespectfulness to teachers or administrators
- Being out of an assigned area
- Arguing or fighting on campus
- Taking money or property from the school or another student
- Use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, fireworks, firearms, knives, or other unlawful arms on school property
- Gambling on school property
- Using profane, vulgar or indecent language
- Vandalism to personal or school property
- Possession and/or use as a weapon of any chemical agent spray

Puff Sticks/Vapors or other related products

Students 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 school disciplinary action and citation will be issued.

Fighting

Fighting will not be tolerated at College Street Campus. The penalty is as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1st offense: | 5 days out of school and 5 days ISS |
| 2nd offense: | 10 days out of school and 10 days ISS |
| 3rd offense: | Referral to the Discipline Hearing Authority (DHA) |

Fighting violations are cumulative while a student is at CSC. Violations will be carried over from year to year. In extreme cases, a student may be charged with assault and cited. Such cases would merit a more severe penalty.

Gang Activity

- Gang activity is any activity that encourages or promotes participation in a gang or facilitates illegal acts of a gang. Any gang related conduct that is disruptive to the educational process or endangers persons or property.
- Any form of gang activity will not be tolerated at College Street Campus. This may result in suspension and/or referral to the Discipline Hearing Authority.
- Prohibited activities include but are not limited to signs, clothing, "colors" (including hair colors) graffiti, vandalism, and writings while on school property.

Disruptive Devices

- Cell phones are not permitted at CSC. Cell phones will be taken up upon arrival at school and given back at the end of the school day.
- 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.

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:

- Drug transmittal
- Violence or threatened violence in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) against another student or staff.
- Vulgar, obscene, or threatening language, in person or via electronic means (text, social networks, etc.) directed toward staff.
- Vandalism to the personal property of staff
- Gang related activity which could carry over onto the campus
- Criminal charges resulting from the student's behavior in the community

Disciplinary Procedures

In-School-Suspension (ISS)

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. Students returning to CSC within the same school year will enter ISS.

The objectives of the ISS program are as follows:

- To help the student learn to manage his own behavior, one that would be acceptable in the "regular" educational setting.
- 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.
- To encourage the student to complete his/her education.
- Any student that is removed from ISS due to behavior will be suspended from school.

Out-of-School Suspension

Some instances may require an administrator to suspend a student from school.

Due Process

Due process guarantees fair treatment of students by school officials. In case of suspension, parents will be notified in writing of the charge, the evidence, and the penalty. Students will be granted an opportunity to refute the charges and/or explain their version of the incident.

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 suspension for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The superintendent shall have the authority to modify this suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis.

The following are zero-tolerance offenses that will result in a calendar year expulsion:

1. Bringing to school or being in unauthorized possession of a firearm on school property;
2. Possession of drugs, including any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event;
3. Assault that results in bodily injury upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of the school, or school resource officer; and
4. Valid threats of mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity, per the threat assessment team.

The Director of Schools has the authority to modify the punishment for these offenses on a case-by-case basis.

For additional information, refer to [Policy 6.309](#)

Alcohol/Drug Policy

Punishment for alcohol/drug related offenses, which includes suspension and/or expulsion. Students suspended for drug violations may be required to submit evidence of satisfactory results of a drug screening examination as a condition for re

admittance; 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.

Drugs

While on school property or at any school-related or school-controlled event or function, or while a passenger on school vehicles or buses, no student shall possess, transmit, consume, use, sell, offer for sale, ingest, distribute or be under the influence of any controlled substance or any derivative product manufactured from or containing the by-products of a controlled substance.

For the purposes of this policy and/or rule, “controlled substance” or “derivative product” shall be defined as any:

- Zero Tolerance drug or controlled substance;
- Verified Product containing marijuana or any derivative form thereof including THC;
- Any other substance that violates DCS policies, state law or federal law.

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:

- On school grounds AT ANY TIME
- Off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event
- On school buses or school property

Any student who violates this policy shall be suspended from school and subject to appearing before the school system Discipline Hearing Authority.

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 student shall be suspended by the principal pending a hearing.

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 Disciplinary Hearing Authority.

The student shall be subject to expulsion 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.

Assault

Any student who commits aggravated assault⁴ or any student who commits assault that results in bodily injury⁵ upon any teacher, principal, administrator, or any other employee of the school, or school resource officer shall be in violation of this policy.

Committing any of these offenses shall result in a student being expelled from the regular school program for at least one (1) calendar year unless modified by the Director of Schools. Modification of the length of time shall be granted on a case-by-case basis. Students that commit zero tolerance offenses may be assigned to an alternative school or program at the discretion of the Director of Schools.⁶

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal shall notify the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.⁷ A Disciplinary Hearing Authority meeting will be held.