

2021-22

**Bowdon Middle
School**

Student/Parent Handbook



Scott Estes, Principal

Stephanie Godfrey, Assistant Principal

Table of Contents

NOTE - THIS HANDBOOK IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS

Page#	Item for Bowdon Middle School
4	Welcome Message
5	School Vision, Mission, Beliefs
6	Arrival and Departure
6	Attendance
7	Bell Schedule and School Hours
7	Cell Phones and Electronic Devices
7	Check-in/Check-out Procedures
7	Clubs
8	Counseling
8	Communication
9	Discipline and Code of Conduct
10	Deliveries to School
10	Dress Code
11	Extracurricular & Athletics
11	Field Trips
11	Lockers
12	Media Center
12	Nutrition Program
13	Nurse and Medication Policies
13	Outside Food and Drink
13	School Advisory Council
13	Student Advisement

13	Student Instructional Opportunities
14	Student Services Office
14	Title I Services
14	Transportation Information and Bus Conduct
15	Visitors
15	Yearbooks

Table of Contents

Page #	Item for Carroll County School District
D1	Cover Page
D2	2021-22 Instructional Calendar
D3-D5	Foreword
	Accident Insurance
	Accreditation statement
	Attendance Protocol
D6	Bus Rules
	Closing of School
D7	Clubs & Organizations
	Drug Testing of Students
	Equal Opportunity Statement
D8	Extracurricular and Athletic Participation

D8	Federal Title II Equity Guidelines
	Graduation Participation
	Hospital Homebound
D9	Medication Guidelines - Admin. Rule JGCD-R
D10	Navigator
D11	Notification of FERPA Rights
	Notification of Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)
D12-D13	Nutrition Program/Wellness policy
D14	Parent Portal
	Parent Right to Know statement
	Reporting Instances of Alleged Inappropriate behavior
D15	Student Code of Conduct (Dress Code D24)
D26	Technology - Acceptable Use by Students
D29	Visitors to School
D30	Parent/Guardian Signature Page

Dear BMS Students and Parents,

Welcome back! We are very excited about the possibilities of this school year. There are many opportunities for success for all of our students at Bowdon Middle School. We encourage you to give your best efforts in the classroom and to participate in the many school activities available to you.

The Student Handbook is designed to be in harmony with board policy and the CCS Student Code of Conduct. We encourage parents to review the entire handbook with their children and keep it as a reference during this school year. Once you have read this handbook, **please sign and return the assurance sheets provided to your child to verify you read and understand the policies by the end of the first full week of school.** If you or your child has questions about any of the material in this handbook, please contact a teacher, the counselor, or the principal.

Every effort will be made to provide students and parents with accurate, up-to-date information. Additional information regarding this handbook will be provided via written communication and updated information will also be available on the school's website. The REMIND app will be used for each grade level to communicate with their students and I will also push out schoolwide reminders from time to time.

It is our sincere hope that this school year at Bowdon Middle School will be a great one.

Sincerely,

Scott Estes
Principal

Vision

The vision of Bowdon Middle School is to be valued as a premier learning environment preparing ALL students to be college and career ready.

Mission

Bowdon Middle School's mission is to provide a premier learning environment to inspire and empower all students to reach their personal best.

Beliefs

All students can learn, progress and improve.

Students perform best in a safe, nurturing, caring environment created by mutual respect between students, parents and co-workers. BMS will promote lifelong learning.

BMS will foster a partnership between students, teachers, and the community.

Arrival and Departure

The front doors open at 7:40 a.m. for students. At this time, students will be allowed to purchase breakfast. Students will remain in the commons area until they are dismissed to their grade-level hallways. Students are not allowed on the halls prior to the 8:05 a.m. bell unless they have made prior arrangement with a teacher to get academic support before 8:05 a.m. If so, they must have a note from that teacher. Once on the hallway, students will go to their lockers, leave their book bags/drawstring bags/purses/technology in their lockers, get necessary school/instructional materials and go to their homerooms. The Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence, and morning announcements will begin at approximately 8:30 a.m.; all students should be in their homerooms before this time. The tardy bell rings at 8:30 a.m. All students arriving after this time will be considered tardy and must come to the office to sign in. Car riders must arrive before 8:25 a.m. if they choose to eat breakfast at school.

Dismissal time is 3:45 p.m. Parents should pick up students in the designated parent pick-up area no later than 4:00 p.m. All students should be picked up within 15 minutes after classes are dismissed. If there is an emergency that causes a parent to be late to pick up students, please notify the school at 770-258-1778.

Attendance

The Carroll County Board of Education (CCBOE) acknowledges the importance of regular attendance in an effective instructional program. The CCBOE will observe and enforce the laws requiring attendance of all school age children. Refer O.C.G.A. §20-2-690.2 for CCBOE policy on attendance.

Attendance is required of all students enrolled at Bowdon Middle School during the days and hours that school is in session. Family trips or other unauthorized leaves from the scheduled school calendar are not acceptable reasons for absences from school. Personal illness of a student should be accompanied by a parent note or medical excuse (excessive or extended absences require an excuse from a medical doctor); *no more than 5 parent notes are allowed per school year*. Within three school days of the student's return to school, students must make-up missed assignments and a written explanation from the parent/doctor must be presented to the homeroom teacher or front office. Students must be in attendance more than half the school day (11:30) to be permitted to engage in school related activities before or after school on the day of the absence.

Excessive tardies/absences will require a parent conference with the social worker. **After three tardies in a nine weeks, a student will receive a written warning. After the fourth, the student may be sent to ISS for excessive tardiness.**

PLEASE SEE DISTRICT ATTENDANCE POLICY ON PAGE D4 FOR COVID-19 SPECIFIC ATTENDANCE PROTOCOLS.

Bell Schedule and School Hours

HOMEROOM	BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3/LUNCH	BLOCK 4	BLOCK 5
8:05 – 8:35	8:35-9:55	9:55-11:15	11:15-1:05	1:05-2:25	2:25-3:45

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Student technology at Bowdon Middle School is to be kept in the student's locker at all times. If a teacher/staff member takes up a phone from a student due to not following school policy, the following occurs:

1. The first time a cell phone violation occurs a warning will be given, and the student will be instructed to put the phone in his/her locker.
2. The second time a cell phone violation occurs, a discipline memo will be issued to the student, and their phone will be turned in to the office. The student can retrieve the phone at the end of the day. The teacher will make contact with the parent or guardian to remind him/her of the policy.
3. The third time a cell phone violation occurs, a discipline referral to an administrator will be issued to the student, and their phone will be turned in to the office. A parent/guardian will have to come to the school to pick up the phone.
4. Any further violations will result in administrative action, and the student will not be allowed to have personal technology on campus for the remainder of the school year.

Check-in/Check-out Procedures

All check-ins and check-outs are handled through student services office. Students checking in after the morning tardy bell rings must come into the office to check in on our CheckMate system. Checking out early requires a parent/guardian to sign out and show appropriate identification. The person signing a student out must be listed on the students Infinite Campus contact information. Checking out will result in being counted absent for classes missed.

Clubs

Students will be offered the opportunity to join a club at the beginning of the school year. A list of clubs will be sent home for review. Parents will have the option to specify which clubs the student is allowed to attend. Note: Clubs meet during the school day and some clubs may require permission forms to be signed, as well as fees.

Counseling

Guidance and School Counseling—Bowdon Middle School's counselor is Caroline Albertson. The counseling program is designed to assist your child to make the most of his or her educational experience. It is our goal to help students develop emotionally, academically, personally, and socially. Students may have the opportunity to participate in individual counseling, group counseling, career exploration, and classroom guidance. Periodic classroom guidance lessons will be related to positive personal growth and development. Students are required to complete at least one career inventory through GAcollge411 every school year. Parents or guardians are welcome to contact the counselor by e-mail at caroline.albertson@carrollcountyschools.com or by calling the school office at 770-258-1778 if there are any questions or concerns during the school year.

Communication

Parents are a vital part of the support system for middle school students. We encourage parents to communicate regularly with teachers or administrators about their student's progress or any other concerns. It is only by working as a team that we can provide a positive educational experience for all students during these middle school years.

There are many lines of communication available between parents and the school. Of course, we encourage parents to call us or email teachers. The traditional email address for BMS teachers is firstname.lastname@carrollcountyschools.com. In addition, parents have the following FORMS OF COMMUNICATION available to them:

ACADEMIC CALENDAR - The academic calendar for the 2021-22 school year is located in the Carroll County Schools section of the handbook. Grade report dates are included so that you can expect midterm progress reports and report cards. All holidays are also included.

REPORT CARD - Report cards are distributed every 9 weeks.

STAR READING AND MATH - STAR Reading and Math assessments are administered a minimum of four times each school year

REMIND - For school information text the message @k4eh9 to 81010 or 678-321-4895.

TELEVISION AND RADIO/SCHOOL CLOSINGS - Schools may close at times during the year due to inclement weather. Families should listen to the local radio and television stations for information concerning school closings. The Carroll County School System will also use the School Messenger system to attempt contact with all students and their families. It is imperative that parents provide current phone numbers to schools for the district calling system.

WEBSITE - Visit the school's website <http://bms.carrollcountyschools.com> for information.

SCHOOL MESSENGER - The Carroll County School System has an automated phone system used to send messages to parents. It is very important that parents send current phone numbers to the school so that they will receive important phone messages.

INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT PORTAL - Infinite Campus is a computer student information system provided by Carroll County Schools as a service to parents who want to maintain constant, updated information about their student's grades and attendance. If you have Internet capabilities at home and wish to have access to the parent portal, please come by the school and meet with Mrs. McEntyre in the Student Services office. She will give you

the necessary information, but you must be prepared to show the proper picture identification. Information on the parent portal is confidential and for parents and their students only.

EMAIL NEWSLETTERS - The school will send an electronic newsletter through e-mail to highlight events during the school year. It is important that parents update their email address in the Student Services office or through parent portal in order to receive these newsletters.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES - We encourage parents to be a part of the educational success of their students; we want parents to feel free to contact teachers and/or administrators whenever they have concerns or questions. Parent-teacher conferences may be scheduled by leaving a message with the Student Services office for the teacher or by contacting the teacher through the school website/email.

Discipline and Code of Conduct

Bowdon Middle School students are expected to represent our school well. They are expected to respect themselves and everyone they encounter in the school. Students are expected to be calm, polite, and show good manners. They are expected to act with the integrity demanded of all Bowdon Red Devils. Disrespect, verbal threats, meanness, and physical violence are never acceptable responses and will not be tolerated. We will work with students to teach them appropriate responses to situations that upset them.

Our school strives to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all students. All **LEVEL ONE** offenses will follow this procedure. Level Two and Three offenses will be directly sent to the office. The discipline process is as follows:

- **First Offense-** A discipline memo is sent home with the student. The form must be returned with parent signature.**
- **Second Offense-** A discipline memo is sent home with the student, AND teacher will call or email to notify the parent.
- **Third Offense-** A discipline memo is sent home with the student, AND a behavior meeting will be established, including the grade level team, parent/guardian, and student. If the parent does not attend, the meeting will still take place.
- **Fourth Offense-** The student is referred to an administrator and may result in ISS, OSS, or corporal punishment.

**Discipline forms are expected to be returned to school with a parent signature within the next day of being issued. Forms not returned will result in proceeding to the next level.

Students should be aware that when they attend a school-sponsored event before, during, or after school hours, they represent Bowdon Middle School and the same code of conduct will be followed. Any violation may result in the student being removed from the team, club, or organization. This also applies to students who attend field trips. If a student is a discipline problem at school or while on a field trip, he/she may not be permitted to attend field trips. Our expectations are that all students conduct themselves appropriately at any and all school functions.

Deliveries to School

There are times when students will forget their things at home. Parents who bring those items to school during the instructional day should leave them in the Student Services office. Parents dropping items off need to document the item on the provided clipboard and leave it under the table. While not guaranteed, the office staff will make every effort to call the student to the office between classes as not to interrupt academic instruction. In our continued effort to protect instructional time, Parents will not be allowed to call students out of class to have items delivered for any reason. Deliveries for special occasions such as birthdays, etc. will be delivered to students at the end of the school day. As a reminder, students who are bus riders will not be allowed to board the bus with balloons, glass objects, and large toys/stuffed animals.

Dress Code

Acceptable Clothing Standards

The following acceptable clothing standards shall apply:

1. Pants, trousers, jeans, capris, shorts, skirts, etc., are permitted. Shorts, skirts, and dresses shall measure **no shorter than three (3) inches** from mid- kneecap in front and back, regardless of what is worn underneath (tights, leggings, etc.).
2. For clarification, leggings may be worn only under dresses/skirts/shorts that meet the 3” rule. **Dress/skirt/shorts length must comply with the Dress Code with or without leggings.**
3. All pants, trousers, jeans, capris, shorts, etc., must be worn above the buttocks and at the waist.
4. Belts shall be worn securely above the buttocks and at the waist.
5. Shirts **shall have sleeves** and fit properly (no midriffs, no low-cut, etc.).

Prohibited Clothing Items:

1. No garments that expose the midriff and/or cleavage, see-through or mesh clothing, sleeveless shirts/tops.
2. No shorts, dresses, skirts, shorter than 3” from mid-kneecap in the front and back (regardless of what is worn underneath), biking shorts, leggings, or pajamas.
3. No garments that expose any underclothing* in areas protected by the dress code (upper thigh, torso, etc.), impede walking, or are excessively tight/baggy.
4. No garments with holes above the knee (jeans, pants, or shorts, **regardless of what is worn underneath**). No holes in tops, **regardless of what is worn underneath**. For clarification, you may not have any holes above the knee, even if you wear leggings, tights, or shorts underneath.
5. No hats, visors, hoods, bandanas, or other head cover, including non-prescription sunglasses. Hats may be worn with permission on special occasions or fund raiser days.
6. No cleats, heelies, skates, bedroom slippers, or novelty footwear.
7. No garments which display emblems relating to abusive substances, tobacco products, alcohol, sex, violence, obscenities, representation of a gang symbol/gang affiliation, including bandanas of any color.
8. No garments that might be considered socially unacceptable or inflammatory.

** Underclothing is defined as ANY garment worn under the outer layer of clothing. This includes tights, leggings, shorts, gym shorts, and underwear. These cannot be exposed if worn under other clothing.*

The principal has the authority to determine appropriate dress.

Extracurricular & Athletics

Extracurricular and athletic events are held after school hours. Students are encouraged to participate in and attend school functions. School dances are open to Bowdon Middle School students only.

Students must be picked up promptly after school events. Students should be picked up from the gym for all extracurricular athletic activities. Students need to be picked up within 15 minutes after the end of an event. If late pick-up becomes a problem, the student will not be allowed to attend after-school events.

Students are encouraged to participate in our athletic program. **All students must have a physical form on file before they are allowed to step onto an athletic field.** Physical packets may be obtained from Coach Johnson, the Student Services Office, or may be printed directly from our school website, bms.carrollcountyschools.com.

BMS offers the following athletic programs:

- Fall—football, girls softball, cheerleading, cross country
- Winter—boys/girls basketball, wrestling, cheerleading
- Spring—baseball, tennis, track, soccer

Eligibility in middle schools will follow the semester grading period. Students participating in extracurricular activities must pass a minimum of 70% of their academic classes per semester; connections (exploratory) classes are averaged separately (students must pass 3 of their 4 academic classes to be eligible for sports and other extracurricular activities)

Field Trips

It shall be the policy of the school that every student going on a school-sponsored trip of any nature provides his/her teacher or person in charge of the trip, with a form signed by his/her parent/guardian granting permission for the student to participate in the trip. No student is to be allowed on any trip without such a permission form, and no teacher is to take any student who has not provided such a form. Such permission forms will be provided to each student prior to going on a school-sponsored trip.

Lockers

All student lockers are the property of Bowdon Middle School. Locker rental fee is \$15.00 for the year. Students are not allowed to share lockers. Students are required to put their book bags in their lockers at the beginning of each school day. In addition, purses and drawstring bags must be secured in lockers as well. Students will have the opportunity to go to their lockers at designated locker breaks. Book bags with wheels are prohibited as they create a safety hazard in crowded hallways and leave marks on the floors. Stickers and mirrors are not permitted in or on lockers. Students may not trade lockers or share lockers. Do not give locker combinations to other students. Students are responsible for the contents of their lockers, especially school-issued property such as textbooks. The school is not responsible for personal property; so do not bring valuables to school. Locker damage/vandalism, trading of lockers, and breaking into a locker may result in loss of locker use and/or disciplinary issues. Lockers that are damaged by overstuffing so that doors are warped will result in damage fees. Overstuffing also results in jammed lockers. All student lockers are the property of Bowdon Middle School and are subject to search by school authorities at any time.

Media Center

The Bowdon Middle School Media Center Staff is always ready to assist and instruct students in the use of the Media Center and available resources.

Behavior:

One of the Media Center's purposes is to provide a place that is conducive to reading, studying and research. Students' behavior in the Media Center should be considerate. Students are expected to respect the rights of others, and the property of others and the school. Students not following these guidelines will be instructed to return to class. If necessary, the student will be referred to an administrator.

Passes:

Students gain admittance to the Media Center, during classroom instruction hours, with a signed pass.

Overdues:

Students may check out one book at a time, and it can be kept for two weeks. Students will receive a notice when their book is overdue. There is a fine of 10 cents per day for overdue books with a cap of \$3.00. There is a one week grace period after the due date before the fine begins. Students are not allowed to check out if they owe a fine or if they have an overdue book. Failure to respond to multiple notices will result in fines and possible disciplinary actions.

Charges:

Notices on lost or damaged books are distributed weekly to the student's reading teacher. Students must pay for lost/damaged books in the Media Center.

Students must pay for lost or damaged books.

- Lost library books/hardbound books-\$15.00 or replacement cost
- Hardbound paper books - \$12.50 or replacement cost.
- Paperback books-\$7.50 or replacement cost
- Reference materials-replacement cost
- Magazines-replacement cost

Nutrition Program

Students will be allowed to purchase additional food items at breakfast and lunch for an additional cost; however, if a student has any unpaid charges, he/she will not be allowed to purchase extra food. Application forms for free and reduced meals are available. Parents should complete the form and return it to school as soon as possible. After a student has \$5.00 in unpaid charges, he/she will receive an alternative lunch. The lunchroom manager will send home a letter notifying the parent/guardian and a phone call to the parent/guardian will be made if a student owes money.

Students cannot bring carbonated drinks to school for breakfast, lunch or snack time. Furthermore, students cannot bring food from outside establishments into the cafeteria. Menus can be found on the district website at www.carrollcountyschools.com.

Nurse and Medication Policy

Angie Gibbs, school nurse, is stationed on our campus part-time. Our school will work to keep your child well. Students with temp >100.4 , must go home and will be separated from other students until picked up. Students should not return to school until they are fever free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. If on antibiotics, they should have 24 hours worth of medication before returning to school. Students vomiting will also be sent home. Faculty/staff have been trained on the need to use good hand washing with soap and water as much as possible for themselves as well as their students. Hand sanitizer is available if soap and water are not an alternative. In addition, flyers, such as “Cover Your Cough” and “Infection Control Measures” will be posted for public view. All medicines to be administered to, or taken by students, prescription, or non-prescription, are to be locked in the school clinic and will be administered during school hours by school personnel. The student’s parent/guardian must come into the school office to bring medicines and complete a request for administration of medication form.

Outside Food and Drink

Food from outside establishments is PROHIBITED as it conflicts with participation in our school nutrition program. Students will be allowed to carry a water bottle throughout the school day.

School Advisory Council

School Council’s purpose is to help the local board of education develop and nurture participation, to bring parents and the community together with teachers and school administrators to create a better understanding of the mutual respect for each other’s concerns, and to share ideas for school improvement.

Student Advisement

Students will participate in several advisement sessions throughout the school year. The purpose of advisement is to build positive connections between teachers and students. Student advisement lessons are geared toward our student’s academic and social growth resulting in overall improved student performance.

Student Instruction

Homework

Homework is an integral part of the instructional program. Homework might consist of such activities as make-up work, collecting material for classroom projects, or completing work begun in the classroom. Homework is designed to extend or practice the skills that are learned in the classroom.

Purposes of homework are:

- A. To stimulate independent study habits and develop responsibility and self-direction
- B. To reinforce school learning by providing necessary practice for developing skill and proficiency
- C. To develop and strengthen research skills

Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

The MTSS team is designed to offer students and parents additional support when the student is experiencing instructional difficulty or is in need of acceleration. The MTSS team is also designed to monitor behavior and attendance issues that may surface during the school year. The team meets and offers suggestions as well as possible interventions to help make the student more successful at school. Students and parents are provided with a variety of services to help with educational needs.

Exceptional Children's Services—Bowdon Middle School offers a comprehensive program for students with disabilities. For more information contact the Assistant Principal.

Gifted Services—The Carroll County School System offers gifted instruction for students in grades K-12. These services are provided through direct instruction, resource, cluster group, or other service models. Students must qualify by meeting the criteria outlined in the Gifted Administration Plan. For more information, contact the Counselor's office or Jennifer Bearden, Gifted Facilitator at Bowdon Middle at Jennifer.bearden@carrollcountyschools.com

Student Services Office

Mrs. McEntyre is our Student Services Secretary/Registrar, and she is the contact person for the following information:

- Any change in transportation must be done through student services before 3:00 pm.
- All medications and medication forms should be turned in to the Student Services Office. All medications must be administered through the clinic. Middle school students are not allowed to keep medications prescription/non-prescription with them at school.
- Students are not allowed to call home during instructional time for forgotten items. If parents bring items to school, they will sign in and leave the item(s) for students to pick up after instructional time.
- Attendance calls will be made if students are absent.
- Upon return, students turn in excuse notes before or during homeroom.
- Any changes in contact information/addresses should be given to Mrs. McEntyre in order to update Infinite Campus.

Title I Services

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Area

This area is located in the BMS conference room and is available during school hours. There are several brochures and publications available, as well as our Title I Schoolwide notebook. Please feel free to stop by and visit this area.

The Title I Family Engagement Coordinator is Tammie McEntyre. If you have any questions, please feel to contact her at (770) 258-1778 or by email at tammie.mcentyre@carrollcountyschools.com.

Transportation Information and Bus Conduct

Buses:

All students have assigned buses; **students are not permitted to ride a different bus except in emergency situations, which will be determined and approved by Carroll County Transportation.**

Cars:

Parents must provide a note if someone other than the parent or guardian is picking up their child. This note must include with whom they are riding and a parent phone number for verification. The note must be turned in to the Student Services office before or during homeroom.

We discourage parents from making transportation changes during the school day; only in EMERGENCY situations should transportation changes be made. If such changes have to be made, **please do so before 3:00 p.m.**

Visitors

Bowdon Middle School welcomes visitors and desires for parents/guardians to be an integral part of their child's education. All visitors, including parents, should report to the Student Services Office to sign-in and receive permission to be recognized as a welcomed visitor on our campus. Please reference page D28 for more information to help guide in your visit.

Yearbooks

BMS students have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook at the beginning of the school year. Parents can pay a deposit of half the yearbook cost when ordering and pay the balance at a later date. The cost of yearbooks rises as deadlines pass, so it is important to purchase your yearbook early. Yearbooks may be ordered online at www.yearbookforever.com. Cost and deadlines are: \$55.00 each until December 2021 and \$70.00 each after this date. Name stamping is an additional \$7.00 per line and Icons are an additional \$5.00. Names and Icons cannot be ordered after January 2022. Please contact Mrs. Jill Adams for additional information. Yearbook forms may also be picked up from Mrs. McEntyre in Student Services.

Carroll County Schools



Middle School/High School

Student Handbook

2021 - 2022

Carroll County Schools

**164 Independence Drive
Carrollton, GA 30116**

770.832.3568

carrollcountyschools.com

Carroll County Schools 2021 - 22 Calendar
Approved February 13, 2020

July 28 -30	Preplanning/Professional Learning for Staff
August 2	Preplanning/Professional Learning for Staff
August 3	First Day of School
September 6	Labor Day Holiday
September 8	Mid-Term Reports for First Nine Weeks Go Home
October 7	End First Nine Weeks Grading Period
October 8	Professional Learning Day
October 11 - 15	Fall Holiday
October 19	Report Cards for First Nine Weeks Go Home
November 12	Mid-Term Reports for Second Nine Weeks Go Home
November 22 - 26	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 17	End Second Nine Weeks Grading Period/End of Semester
December 20–31	Christmas Holiday
January 3	Teacher Work Day
January 4	First Day of Second Semester
January 6	Report Cards for First Semester Go Home
January 17	Martin Luther King Holiday
February 3	Mid-Term Reports for Third Nine Weeks Go Home
February 14 - 18	Winter Break (Possible Inclement Weather Day)
March 10	End Third Nine Weeks Grading Period
March 11	Professional Learning Day (Possible Inclement Weather Day)
March 16	Report Cards for Third Nine Weeks Go Home
April 4 - 8	Spring Break
April 20	Mid-Terms Reports for Fourth Nine Weeks Go Home
May 27	Last Day of School - End Fourth Nine Weeks Period/End of Semester
May 30	Memorial Day Holiday
May 31 – June 1	Post planning
June 2 - 3	Possible Staff Inclement Weather Make-up Days

FOREWORD

The purpose of the Carroll County School System is to provide a premier education in a safe and secure environment. To ensure the welfare and safety of all students who attend the schools within the district and to help create a premier learning experience, the school system offers students and parents the policies, regulations and guidelines contained in this handbook. Students are expected at all times to conduct themselves in a manner that facilitates an optimum learning environment for themselves and others.

We expect students to:

- Respect each other
- Respect school district employees
- Obey Student Code of Conduct set forward in this handbook
- Obey rules established by individual schools

Parents/guardians are encouraged to become familiar with the guidelines contained in this handbook and to be supportive of it in their daily communication with their children and others in the community. We ask your cooperation in sharing the responsibility for maintaining a proper learning environment.

Students are expected to participate fully in the learning process. Students need to report to school and class on time, attend all regularly scheduled classes, remain in class until excused or dismissed, pay attention to instruction, complete assignments to the best of their ability, and ask for help when needed. Students should avoid behavior that impairs their own or other students' educational achievement. Students should take care of books, instructional materials, technology and cooperate with others.

Students should show respect for the knowledge and authority of teachers, administrators, and other school employees. Students must obey reasonable directions, use acceptable and courteous language, and follow school rules and procedures.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Accident insurance can be purchased for students. Coverage is the option of the parent or guardian and all claims are filed directly with the insurance company. Information about purchasing student accident insurance can be obtained directly from the school.

In the event of an accident or illness, the student will receive emergency treatment deemed necessary and the parent or guardian will be responsible for any costs incurred.

URL: <http://www.kandkinsurance.com/sites/K12Voluntary/Pages/Home.aspx>

ACCREDITATION

The Carroll County School System is accredited by Cognia and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI).

ATTENDANCE PROTOCOL (O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.2)

(REF: BOARD POLICY: JB, BOARD REGULATION: JB-R(1))

Research shows that attendance is an important factor in the academic success of students. To promote attendance the Carroll County School System has partnered with Carrollton City Schools and other local support agencies to establish a Student Attendance Protocol for our community. The purpose of the Attendance Protocol is to improve student attendance through the utilization of targeted strategies and interventions. The Attendance Protocol works in conjunction with the Compulsory Education Law

(O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.1) which requires that every parent/guardian or other person who has control of any child between the ages of 6 and 16 shall enroll and send such child to school. All children enrolled for 20 calendar days or more in the public schools of this state prior to their seventh birthday shall become subject to the provisions of the compulsory school attendance law. The school year is defined by the Carroll County Schools Instructional Calendar.

Each student and parent is required to sign-off that they understand the requirements of the full Student Protocol and Compulsory Attendance document which is displayed on each school's web-site. If you are unable to access the protocol on the web-site, the school will provide a hard copy of the protocol for your convenience. Any questions regarding student attendance, tardies and early check outs should be directed to school administration.

Full Day Attendance

Students are expected to be in attendance for the full school day. Students who check-in late or check-out early should submit a written note from their parent/guardian explaining their absence. Disciplinary action may be taken against students not in attendance for the full school day for reasons that cannot be excused.

Student Absences

Whenever students are absent, for any reason, their parent/guardian must send a signed and dated written explanation of the absence to their child's school no later than the **third day** following the student's return to school after their absence. After (5) personal notes written by the parent/guardian for excused absences, the school administration may request appropriate medical documentation upon return to school for the purpose of validating the absences.

Carroll County Schools will implement a common sense approach to make in-person and on-campus instruction as safe as possible for everyone. All students will be randomly screened for illness and any student having COVID-19 symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 and above will be isolated immediately and sent home.

Students are not expected to attend school if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been recently diagnosed with COVID-19. Students are expected to return to school in accordance with their healthcare provider's instructions or when they are symptom-free for three days. If a student tests positive for COVID-19 but has no symptoms, he/she can return to school 10 days after a positive test.

Excused Absences

As permitted under the state law and State Board of Education policies, students may be excused lawfully for the following reasons:

- personal illness,
- death in immediate family,
- recognized religious holiday,
- instances in which attendance could be hazardous as determined by Carroll County School System,
- a court order,
- absence to vote in an election,
- conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety,
- up to five (5) days excused absences per year to students where parents are in the military and are being deployed or are on leave,
- and any other absence not explicitly defined here but deemed by the local school board of education to have merit based on circumstances. **Local boards of education shall count students present when they are serving as pages of the Georgia General Assembly as set forth in O.C.G.A 20-2-692.

Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absences will be subject to attendance investigation and can result in penalty as imposed by the Compulsory Education Law (O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.1) and Student Attendance Protocol Committee Law (O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.2);

1. Schools will notify by first class mail the parents/guardians of students ages 6-16 who have accumulated five (5) unexcused absences per semester and will include a copy of the summary of consequences.
2. Upon a student's accumulation of eight (8) unexcused absences in the school year, a referral will be made to the school's Attendance Team Committee to set up an attendance meeting at the local school. The committee will be comprised of the school social worker, teachers, administrators and parents.
3. School Operations will notify by letter the parents/guardians of students ages 6-16 who have accumulated ten (10) unexcused absences per semester and will report violations to the Student Attendance Protocol Committee to determine if court action will be pursued for formal intervention.
4. State law requires an unemancipated minor over sixteen (16) years of age must have written permission from his or her parent/guardian prior to withdrawing from school.

Pre-arranged absence - A written request made by the parents to the principal requesting permission for their child to be absent from school in order to take an educational related trip. A Pre-arranged Absence Form must be completed and approved three (3) days prior to being absent. Approval does not make the absence excused.

Reporting Students with Unexcused Absences (O.C.G.A. 20-2-701) Consequences for Unexcused Absences

1. Any parent/guardian, or other person who has control of any child who on the tenth unexcused day of absence per semester, and after the child's school system has notified the parent/guardian, or other person who has control of any child, of each day's absence from school, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and court action may be pursued for formal intervention.
2. **Penalties:**
 - a. **Fine** - not less than \$25 and not greater than \$100.00
 - b. **Imprisonment** - not to exceed 30 days
 - c. **Community Service** or any combination of such penalties, at the discretion of the court.

Tardiness - Students are expected to arrive at school on time. Students who are tardy for school must go to the school office to sign-in before going to class. Schools will notify by the letter parents/guardians of students ages 6-16 who have accumulated five (5) unexcused tardies per semester.

Teenage & Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA) - Schools will certify that a student is enrolled in and not under expulsion from a public or private school to be eligible for a driver's license or learner's permit. Schools will use a new Certificate of School Enrollment form to certify that a student is eligible for a driver's license or learner's permit. A student who intends to get their learner's permit or driver's license over the summer months must request a Certificate of School Enrollment from their school administration prior to the end of May. An administrative charge for notarizing this certificate may be charged by the school.

BUS RULES

The School Bus is an extension of the school and classroom. The bus driver is in charge of safety and student behavior. All students must comply with the bus driver, as well as the following rules to help make every student's bus ride safe and orderly. All school and district policies apply in addition to the rules listed below:

1. No adults or students are permitted to board the bus without prior authorization from the school system. This is a crime and can lead to legal charges.
2. Students must be respectful to the bus drivers/monitors at all times.
3. Students shall be at their assigned bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives, waiting in the assigned place, clear of traffic and at least 12 feet from the roadway.
4. Students will go directly to an assigned seat when entering the bus. Keep the aisles and exits clear.
5. When loading, students will cross the roadway in front of the bus after:
 - 1) The bus has stopped,
 - 2) The student has looked at the bus driver for a "proceed with caution" hand signal,
 - 3) The student has looked in both directions for traffic; left, right, left.
6. When getting off the bus:
 - 1) Students shall stay seated until the door opens,
 - 2) Students shall stop on the bottom step of the bus to look left & right before proceeding,
 - 3) Wait for driver to give a "proceed with caution" signal,
 - 4) Maintain eye contact with the bus driver while crossing the road in full view of the driver, and
 - 5) Stop at the centerline of the road to look left & right before continuing to cross.
 - 6) Students must refrain from retrieving items from their mailbox until the bus leaves.
7. Students will be silent at railroad crossings until the bus crosses the tracks completely.
8. The bus driver has the authority to assign seats at his or her discretion. Students must remain seated (back-to-back, bottom-to-bottom) unless otherwise instructed by the bus driver. Talk quietly; unnecessary noise is prohibited.
9. Use of an electronic device is prohibited while loading or unloading the bus. When the bus is moving, headphones must be used with any electronic device.
10. Emergency doors, windows, & hatches may be opened only at the direction of the bus driver. Students must keep all body parts inside the bus. Mirrors, lasers, flashing lights, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective surfaces that might interfere with the operation of the bus are prohibited. Students must refrain from throwing objects on, in, out of, or at the bus.
11. Objectionable and/or dangerous items are prohibited. This includes but is not limited to glass items or anything that cannot fit on a student's lap. (e.g. sporting equipment, band instruments, etc.)
12. Students will be permitted to board /exit the bus only at their assigned stop. Only in the event of an emergency, as determined by the principal or his/her designee, will a student be allowed to ride a different bus. Students may not be dropped off or picked up at a place of business.
13. Students may not eat, drink, or chew gum on the bus. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case as determined by the bus driver or school administration.
14. Students in grades PreK - 3 must be received at the bus stop by a designated person documented in Infinite Campus.

* Parents are asked to sign up for NOTIFY ME on the county website under the Transportation tab for possible updates on bus routes. www.carrollcountyschools.com

CLOSING OF SCHOOL

When it is necessary to close schools because of weather or other reasons the Carroll County School System will notify students and parents by automated call outs, social media posts and by notifying media outlets as early as possible. The numbers used for the automated calls are pulled from the district's student information system, Infinite Campus. It is the parent's responsibility to keep the most current information in Infinite Campus. Parents may edit their contact information using the Parent Portal. The Carroll County School System may activate the school closure distance learning plan.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

All student clubs and organizations must follow guidelines and procedures governing the creation and operation of such clubs, organizations, and groups in accordance with the policies of the Carroll County Board of Education. State law requires that parent/guardians receive information regarding school clubs and organizations, such information must include the name of the club or organization, mission or purpose, name of the club's faculty advisor, and a description of past or planned activities. Your child's school will provide this information through the school's website. On the parent/guardian signature page, the parent/guardian will have an opportunity to decline permission for his or her student to participate in a club or organization designated by him or her.

DRUG TESTING OF STUDENTS

([Board Policy: JCABB](#); [Board Regulation: JCABB-R\(1\)](#))

The Carroll County School System has adopted a Random Drug Testing Policy (JCABB) for students grades 9 through 12 who participate in the following:

1. All extracurricular activities/programs and clubs that compete in competitions.
2. All students who apply for driving/parking permit pursuant to rule and regulations as set forth in the Student Handbook.

The company will randomly draw students each month to be tested. These students will be called to the front office and tested immediately.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Carroll County School System does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, color, national origin, disability or gender in its educational programs, activities or employment practices.

Nondiscrimination Notice Regarding Sports

State law prohibits discrimination based on gender in athletic programs of local school systems (Equity in Sports Act, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-315). Students are hereby notified that the Carroll County School System does not discriminate on the basis of gender in its athletic programs.

Reporting of Discrimination or Harassment

Any student, employee, applicant for employment, parent or other individual who believes he or she has been subjected to harassment or discrimination by any student or employee of the school district based upon any of the factors previously listed should promptly report the same to the principal of the school or the appropriate coordinator as listed below. The principal or appropriate coordinator will implement the board's discriminatory complaints or harassment procedures. Students may also report harassment or discrimination to their school counselor. Students and employees will not be subjected to retaliation for reporting such harassment or discrimination.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Student Services

- Section 504 and ADA (employees)

Assistant Superintendent of School Performance

- Section 504 (students)

Assistant Superintendent of Administrative and Support Services

- Gender Equity in Sports
- Title I Civil Rights
- Title I Gender Equity

EXTRACURRICULAR AND ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

The privilege of participating on an interscholastic extracurricular program is a vital part of the total education program and a means of developing wholesome attitudes and good human relations, as well as knowledge and skills. The Carroll County School System encourages participation in a variety of extracurricular activities.

Extracurricular participants are expected to show sportsmanship at all times. Sportsmanship revolves around the word RESPECT. Respect for ourselves, our school, and guest to our schools helps build a positive image not only with the community, but also with all those who participate in competitive activities in our schools. Responsibilities for participants and parents/guardians:

- Use appropriate language
- Treat opponents with respect due them as guests or hosts
- Exercise self-control at all times
- Respect the official's judgment and interpretation of the rules
- Respect the coach's judgment and authority
- Accept the responsibility of representing your school in a positive manner
- Act in a manner that will create a positive attitude in the audience

FEDERAL TITLE II EQUITY GUIDELINES

Federal Title II Equity Guidelines have challenged school districts to review their practices of student placement in order that ALL students will have equitable access to highly qualified, experienced, effective teachers. As a result Carroll County Schools will not be accepting parent verbal or written requests of a particular teacher for the placement of their child. Every effort will be made to provide all children with an equitable opportunity to highly qualified, experienced, effective teachers and instruction.

GRADUATION PARTICIPATION

Participation in the graduation ceremonies is a privilege. The student must have completed all state and local requirements for a diploma to be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies. In addition, the student must maintain good conduct and be in good standing with the school by not having any outstanding obligations. Students who have obligations, are suspended or expelled and/or fail to comply with school rules may not be allowed to participate in graduation or graduation activities.

HOSPITAL HOMEBOUND

Hospital/Homebound (HHB) services are designed to provide continuity of educational services between the classroom and home or health care facility for students in Carroll County Schools whose medical needs, either physical or psychiatric, do not allow school attendance for a limited period of time. HHB instruction may be used to supplement the classroom program for students with health impairments whose conditions may interfere with regular school attendance (e.g., students receiving dialysis or radiation/chemotherapy; or students with other serious health conditions). HHB services are not intended to supplant regular school services and are by design temporary. The student must anticipate being absent from school for a minimum of ten consecutive or intermittent school days due to a medical or psychiatric condition, which must be certified by the licensed physician who is currently treating the student for the diagnosis presented. **For additional information and/or to request services, contact the student's school.**

MEDICATION GUIDELINES GRADES PK-12

(ref. [BOARD POLICY: JGCD](#); [BOARD RULE: JGCD-R](#))

There are times when students will need to receive medication during school hours. In order for schools to administer medication, the following guidelines should be followed:

1. Schools do not keep a stock of non-prescription drugs (pain relievers or other medication). By Board Policy, the school may only administer medications parents send to school when parents adhere to these medication guidelines.
2. All drugs to be administered to students, prescription or non-prescription, are to be locked in a designated place by the principal.
3. All prescription drugs administered during school hours by school personnel should be signed out on a daily log in compliance with Board Policy JGCD.
4. In the event that medication administration requires an apparatus, it is the parent's responsibility to provide the apparatus and demonstrate its use to school personnel. The school will not administer any medication requiring an apparatus unless the parent specifically demonstrates how to use the apparatus and leaves written instructions at the school.
5. In the event that prescription medication must be given on a field trip, the parent/guardian must provide the school with an empty prescription bottle prior to the day of the trip, properly labeled for the specific medication to be given.

Prescription Drugs

1. All prescription drugs to be administered at school must have the following:
 - a. Written instructions, signed by the parent or legal guardian, which includes:
 - Name of child;
 - Address;
 - Name of physician;
 - Name of medication;
 - Dosage to be given; and
 - Date and time to be given.
 - b. Medication contained in a prescription bottle, properly labeled by the pharmacist.
 - c. For children on long-term prescription drugs (to be administered for more than 30 days), the parent or legal guardian will be required to meet with the principal/designee. The principal and parent or legal guardian will determine specific procedures for administration of the drug (time, method, staff, storage, delivery of refills to school, etc.), and an authorization form (contract) will be signed by both parties.
 - d. For long-term prescription drugs a completed drug administration form that is kept on file in the school office is required. Each authorization form shall be effective for no longer than one (1) school year, and/or each time the drug or dosage is changed, whichever occurs first. This form must include:
 - The information set forth in (a) above;
 - The signature of the child's physician;
 - Any other information deemed necessary by the principal.
2. In the event that medications arrive at the school without proper labeling or instructions a school staff member will contact the parent to verify the medication instructions, and to notify them of the proper procedure. If the parent cannot be contacted, the medication will not be administered.

3. A student who has asthma, life threatening allergies, or diabetes may possess and use medications as prescribed:

- While in school
- At a school sponsored activity,
- While under the supervision of school personnel;
- While in before school or after school care on school property.

In order for the student to carry and self-administer asthma, auto-injectable epinephrine (epipens), or diabetes medication, the parent must provide the following:

- A written statement from a licensed physician confirming that the student is able to self-administer the medication, if applicable.
 - Written parent permission for the nurse or designated employee to consult with the doctor regarding any questions that may arise concerning the medication.
4. The principal or designated staff member has the authority to ask a student to account for, explain and show any medications the student takes while on school property.

Non-Prescription Drugs

1. All non-prescription drugs to be administered at school must have the following:
 - a. Written instructions, signed by the parent or legal guardian, which includes:
 - Name of child;
 - Address;
 - Name of medication;
 - Dosage to be given and
 - Date and time to be given
 - b. Medication in a container labeled by the parent with the above information.

Students in Grades 9 - 12 will be responsible for keeping and administering their own non-prescription medications.

Misuse of any medications, whether authorized or unauthorized, will not be tolerated. Any K12 student in possession of unauthorized medications or misuse of authorized medication is subject to disciplinary consequences found in Board Policy JCDA: Student Code of Conduct.

Parents are responsible for picking up unused medications from their student's school at the end of the school year. Any unclaimed medications will be discarded by the end of post planning following the last day of school.

NAVIGATOR

The Navigator is a handbook designed to assist students and parents in making the decisions to design a personalized high school experience. Information in the Navigator outlines graduation requirements, diploma options, required testing, and paths toward graduation. The Navigator is an online resource that can be found on the Carroll County Schools website parent resource page using this link:

www.carrollcountyschools.com/resources/curriculum

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. A complete description of those rights can be found at: <http://www.carrollcountyschools.com/parents/general-info>

NOTICE OF FEDERAL PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

1. Parents/guardians and eligible students (18 or older or emancipated minors) shall be notified at the beginning of the school year of the approximate dates during the school year when the activities listed below are expected to be scheduled. The Board of Education has developed and adopted policies, in conjunction with parents, regarding the activities described in paragraph (1). In accordance with Board policies, prior written consent must be obtained from parents before students are required to submit to any survey that contains questions about one or more of the areas listed in subparagraphs (1)(A). You have the right to inspect any survey or instrument used in the collection of information under subparagraphs (1)(A) and (1)(B) before the instrument is administered or distributed to a student and to opt your student out of participation in any activities described in paragraph (1) in accordance with regulations developed by the Superintendent.
 - (A) The administration of any survey containing one or more of the following items:
 - Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
 - Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
 - Sex behavior or attitudes;
 - Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 - Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 - Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
 - Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent/guardian; or
 - Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program of for receiving financial assistance under such program).
 - (B) Activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing or for selling that information (or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose).
 - (C) Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students, but not including hearing, vision or scoliosis screening.
2. You may, upon request, inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for your student.
3. The school system is required by federal law to give this notice to parents. However, the school system may not have scheduled any such activities as are described in paragraph(1).
 - a. You will be notified if any such activities are initiate during the school year and will be afforded all the rights as described herein.

NUTRITION SERVICES

Research suggests a hungry child cannot learn and Carroll County School Nutrition Services welcomes the opportunity to provide your student with nutritious, appetizing meals at school. We offer a variety of choices at each school to appeal to children's needs and appetites. Each school meal meets 1/3 of the daily nutritional requirements and complies with the USDA's guidelines for 9 different nutrients.

Meal Prices:

The School Nutrition Program will return to normal meal service this school year and will again provide meals at no charge to students 18 years old and under. We encourage families to take advantage of this opportunity and to also complete a Free and Reduced meal application.

Students may purchase items ala carte. Parents can place funds in a student account through the MySchoolBucks.com web site. With the exception of milk to accompany meals brought from home, ala carte items cannot be charged.

Extra Milk \$0.50

Adult Breakfast \$1.75 Adult Lunch \$3.75

Free and Reduced Application

Although we are not charging for meals this school year, we encourage completing a Free and Reduced application as our schools benefit in many ways to include:

1. Increased funding to support student education
2. Additional funding for technology and internet access
3. Discounts for fees associated with college application processes
4. Discounted fees for SAT, ACT, AP TESTS, Scholarship Opportunities
5. Free or Reduced prices for healthy nutritious student meals

A family application for free and reduced meals is provided to every student at the beginning of school. **We ask that you submit only one application per family.** List all your children and household members on **one** family application and return it to school promptly. **Applications are now available online! We highly encourage you to use the online application. It is easy and fast!!**

Go to the www.carrollcountyschools.com and look under the Parents then Food and Nutrition tabs to find the link to the application. For assistance call the Janet Smith, Free & Reduced Specialist in the SN office at 770-832-3568.

Payment on Accounts

You may place money for school meals in a student account at www.myschoolbucks.com using a debit or credit card. Please note there is a \$2 transaction fee for this service.

You may also send funds to school in an envelope with your child's name, amount sent and their student ID number. Please put your child's name in the memo field if sending a check or money order.

Meal Charges

It is extremely important that parents stay abreast of their student's balances through the free e-mail alert service offered through MySchoolBucks. Withdrawing students should request a refund of their MySchoolBucks balance or pay a balance owed on the day they're withdrawn from the Carroll County School System. This request must be completed within 45 days of withdrawing from CCSS.

Adults are not permitted to charge meals. We ask that staff place funds into their accounts at the first of every month to cover meals. Federal regulations state adults are not allowed to charge meals purchased through the School Nutrition Program.

Wellness and Nutrition Standards

All foods and beverages made available on campus during the school day shall be consistent with the requirements of federal and state law. Guidelines shall not be less restrictive than regulations issued by the U.S. Secretary pursuant to the Child Nutrition Act and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as those regulations and guidance apply to schools. The Board of Education recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' well-being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes and protects student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. Please refer to [BOE Policy EEE](#) and BOE [Rule EEE-R](#) for more details.

Highlights of Changes to the Wellness Program Include:

- It is recommended all foods sent/brought to school for classroom celebrations be commercially made and provided in originally sealed packages with ingredient labels. Snacks cannot be served before lunch period has ended.
- Low fat ice cream, yogurt, or real fruit juice Popsicles may be sold at the end of the lunch period at the elementary and middle schools after all lunch periods have ended.
- Middle school and High school vending machines will only offer snack foods that are in alignment with initiatives specified in the 2010 Healthy Hunger Free Kid's Act produced by USDA.

PARENT PORTAL

All parent and/or guardians may access their child's grades and schedule through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal on the Internet. Please visit www.carrollcountyschools.com, click on the "Parents" tab and then the "Resources" tab for instructions on setting up an Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

PARENT RIGHT TO KNOW

In compliance with the requirement of the Every Student Succeeds Act, parents may request information about the professional qualifications of their student's teachers(s) and / or paraprofessionals. The following information may be requested:

- Whether the student's teacher:
 - has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction
 - is a teacher under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived; and
 - is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and if so, their qualifications.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teacher and/or paraprofessional's qualifications, contact the principal of your child's school or the Carroll County Human Resources Department.

REPORTING INSTANCES OF ALLEGED INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR BY TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS OR OTHER SCHOOL EMPLOYEES TOWARDS STUDENTS

Students wishing to report instances of alleged inappropriate behavior by teachers, administrators or other school employees towards a student shall do so utilizing the process established by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, as cited below. This shall not prohibit students from reporting the incident to law enforcement authorities.

Student Reporting of Acts of Sexual Abuse or Sexual Misconduct

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

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

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

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

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT (ref. [Board Policy JCDA](#) and [Board Regulation: JCDA-R](#))

The School is a community, and the rules and regulations of a school are the laws of that community. All of those enjoying the right of citizenship in the school community must also accept the responsibilities of citizenship. A basic responsibility of every citizen is to respect the laws of the community.

The following rules are the general rules for Carroll County Schools. These rules apply to all students and will be fairly administered and consistently enforced. All of these rules are designed to protect the student's right to receive an education, the teacher's right to teach, and the property of individuals and the school system.

Note: The punishments for breaking rules may range from warnings to suspension from school. In extreme cases, long-term suspension and expulsion may be used. Also, note that the rules of this school system cover certain acts, which are punishable under local, state, and federal laws. Students who violate the law will be punished by the school system and referred to the proper law enforcement agencies. Parents and guardians are encouraged to inform their children about the consequences, including potential criminal penalties, of underage sexual conduct and crimes for which a minor can be tried as an adult.

Statements of Administrative Procedures

Progressive Discipline: When it is necessary to impose discipline, school administrators and teachers will follow an age appropriate progressive discipline approach. The degree of discipline to be imposed will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior and may take into account but not be limited to the following: the student's age; academic and attendance performance; prior discipline history; provisions of IDEA and ADA; the impact on the safety and well-being of other students and the level of disruption of the school day.

Student's Rights and Responsibilities: A student has full rights and citizenship as defined by the Constitution of the United States and assumes the responsibility to take actions relative to this Constitution, the laws of the State of Georgia, and the policies, rules and regulations of the Carroll County Board of Education. Students are required to report any misconduct of any nature to a teacher or administrator.

Educators Authority: Students should be aware that any adult employee of the Carroll County Board of Education has the authority to ask for a student's identity or to see other appropriate information. Board of Education employees have the authority to give a student reasonable instructions and to expect that those instructions be carried out. Refusal to identify oneself or to carry out reasonable instructions will result in serious disciplinary action.

Due Process: Due process will include appropriate hearings and reviews, and in all cases, the right of individuals will be ensured and protected. A hearing for a long-term suspension and/or expulsion will be formally conducted following the procedures mandated by the Carroll County Board of Education. Disabled students will be disciplined by local policies and in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Appeal Process: If a parent is not satisfied with the consequences given to their child as a result of a discipline infraction, the parent should try to resolve the issue by contacting the following school system personnel in the order listed until satisfied: First, the school administrator who disciplined the student; second, the principal of the school; third, the Office of the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services; and last, the Office of the Superintendent.

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

Searches: School administrators and/or their designated representatives possess the authority to conduct a reasonable search of students, their possessions, their lockers, or their automobiles when on school property. The administrator is required to have reasonable suspicion to conduct such searches.

Statement on Nondiscrimination: It is the policy of the Carroll County Board of Education not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, disability, religion, or national origin in its education programs, activities, or employment policies.

Information about the Code of Conduct

- The principal is the leader of the school and, in concert with the staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. Principals are granted authority to enforce this Code of Conduct; and in cases of disruptive, disorderly or dangerous conduct or any unforeseen behavior not covered in this Code, the principal is authorized to undertake corrective measures which he or she believes to be in the best interest of the students and the school, provided such action does not violate law, or a school board policy or procedure.
- Each teacher is authorized by law to remove from his or her class a student who repeatedly or substantially interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in the class or with the ability of other students to learn, provided the student's behavior is in violation of the student code of conduct and the teacher has previously filed a report with the principal or if the teacher determines that such behavior poses an immediate threat to the safety of the student or to another person. The superintendent and principal fully support the authority of every teacher to remove a student from the classroom under the conditions and procedures outlined in Georgia law (O.C.G.A. 2-738).

- This Code of Conduct is based on the expectation that parents, guardians, teachers and school administrators will work together to improve and enhance student behavior and academic performance and will communicate freely their concerns about, and actions in response to, student behavior that detracts from the learning environment. School administrators recognize that two-way communication through personal contact is extremely valuable. Therefore, each school's administrative staff will provide information to parents and guardians about ongoing opportunities to communicate with school personnel.
- Educators, parents, guardians and students are invited to participate in the Code of Conduct revision process by making suggestions for improving the Code through the school principal.
- Students under suspension or expulsion are not allowed on any Carroll County School campus (except for GOAL Program) or at any Carroll County School function.
- Students are to notify an administrator or staff member when illegal or dangerous items are found in the school building or on the school campus. Students are advised not to pick up or handle illegal or dangerous items.

The Code of Conduct is enforceable during the following times and places:

- On the way to school and on the way home from school, including at bus stops and on school buses or other vehicles provided for student transportation by the school system.
- At school or on school property at any time.
- Off school grounds at any school or school-related activity, function or event and while traveling to and from such events.

A student may be disciplined for any off-campus behavior which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process.

School administrators possess the authority to enact a behavioral contract, initiate SST, peer mediation, counseling, or other behavioral plans with students at any time deemed necessary for enhancing desired behavior.

All employees must report violations of the code of conduct to the principal or assistant principal of the school. If the principal has reasonable cause to believe that a report is valid, he/she must immediately make an oral report to the Superintendent and to the appropriate law enforcement authority and district attorney. Appropriate compensation shall be paid to the school system or individuals to replace losses resulting from commission of any offense.

Students must complete all state and local requirements in order to receive a diploma or to be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies. In addition, the student must maintain good conduct and be in good standing with the school. Students suspended or expelled through the second semester of their senior year may not be allowed to participate in graduation activities.

Offenses and Consequences

OFFENSES	CONSEQUENCES
<p>1. Absences and/or truancy – unexcused - Students are expected to attend school per the Carroll Student Attendance Protocol.</p>	<p>Elementary 1. Penalty may range from parent conference to referral to Department of Family and Children (DFACS).</p> <p>Middle School/High School 1. Penalty may range from parent conference to referral to Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS).</p>
<p>2. Academic dishonesty</p>	<p>Elementary 2. Students found guilty may receive a zero in academic assignment. Additional penalty may range from in-house suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 2. Students found guilty may receive a zero in the academic assignment and possible loss of course credit. Additional penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>3. Alcohol possession, use and/ or under the influence of - No person under 21 years of age shall purchase, attempt to purchase, or knowingly possess or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage.</p>	<p>Elementary 3. Penalty may range from ISS to a possible recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 3. Penalty will include short-term suspension with a mandatory recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>4. Bullying An act, that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so; b. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or c. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1; or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23-.1; (2) Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education; (3) Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or (4) Has the effect of substantially disrupting the order operation of the school. d. The term applies to acts which occur on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities or by the use of data or software that is accused through a computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system. e. The term also applies to acts of cyberbullying which occur through the use of electronic communication, whether or not such electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) is directed specifically at students or school personnel, (2) is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of this specified or substantially disrupting the 	<p>Elementary 4. Penalty for any act of bullying shall be at the discretion of the principal and may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 4. Penalty for any act of bullying shall be at the discretion of the principal and may range from warning to a possible recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in expulsion..</p> <p>Third offense in a school year will result in a ten-day out-of-school suspension and recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that could result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>

<p>orderly operation of the school, and</p> <p>(3) creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.</p> <p>Electronic communication includes but is not limited to any transfer of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo-electronic or photo optical system.</p>	
<p>5. Bus Misbehavior - Any and all bus conduct violations are subject to bus and/or school consequences. While on a bus students are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited from acts of physical violence as defined in Code Section 20--2--751.6, bullying as defined in Code Section 20-2-75-1.4, physical assault or battery of other persons on the school bus, verbal assault of other persons on the school bus, disrespectful conduct toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus, and other unruly behavior. Prohibited from using mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective devices in a manner that might interfere with the school bus driver's operation of the school bus. 	<p>Elementary 5. Penalty may range from warning to suspension from riding the bus up to a year.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 5. Penalty may range from warning to suspension from riding the bus up to a year.</p>
<p>6. Classroom disturbance - Conduct or behavior that interferes with or disrupts the teaching/learning process.</p>	<p>Elementary 6. Penalty may range from warning to a short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 6. Penalty may range from warning to a short-term suspension.</p>
<p>7. Computer Trespass – Unauthorized use of a computer or computer network including deleting, obstructing, interrupting, altering, damaging or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer network, program(s), or data as well as visiting inappropriate web sites.</p>	<p>Elementary 7. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 7. Penalty may range from ISS to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>8. Disorderly Conduct - No student shall substantially disrupt the orderly conduct of a school function, the orderly learning environment, or pose a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff or others.</p>	<p>Elementary 8. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 8. Penalty may range from ISS to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>9. Dress Code Violation</p>	<p>Elementary 9. Penalty may range from a warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 9. Penalty may range from a warning to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>10a. Drug Sell/Transmission/Solicitation – No student shall sell/buy, attempt to sell/buy, intend to sell, transmit or distribute any legal or illegal drug in any form whatsoever, including, but not limited to any narcotic drug, inhalant, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, cocaine, marijuana, other controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, intoxicant of any kind, vitamin, herbal supplement, any over-the counter pill, medication or similar substance, or any substance represented to be or reasonably appearing to be any type of drug, including alcohol. This rule shall be in effect at school or on school property at any time, off the school grounds at a school- sponsored activity, function, or event, and en route to and from school.</p>	<p>Elementary 10a. Penalty may range from in-house suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 10a. Penalty will include short-term suspension with a mandatory recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>

<p>10b. Drug Possession/Use/Under the Influence – No student shall possess, use or be under the influence of any legal or illegal drug in any form whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any narcotic drug, inhalants, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, cocaine, marijuana, other controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroids, intoxicant of any kind, vitamins, herbal supplements, over-the-counter pills, medications or similar substances, or any substance represented to be or reasonably appearing to be any type of drug, including alcohol. This rule shall be in effect at school or on school property at any time, off the school property at a school-sponsored activity, function, or event, and en route to and from school. Possession and use of over-the-counter medications or medications prescribed to the student by a doctor will not be considered a violation of this rule, provided that all school and school district rules and procedures are followed.</p>	<p>Elementary 10b. Penalty may range from in-house suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 10b. Penalty will include short-term suspension with a mandatory recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>10c. Drug Violation of the Medication Policy</p>	<p>Elementary 10c. Penalty may range from student warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 10c. Penalty may range from detention to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>10d. Drug-related paraphernalia possession or use- Any item that can be used in connection with illegal drugs. This may include: Pipes made of glass, wood, stone, plastic, or ceramic; water pipes, bongs, and chillums; roach clips, miniature spoons that hold less than one-tenth of a cubic centimeter, or freebase cocaine kits.</p>	<p>Elementary 10d. Penalty may range from student conference to short-term suspension</p> <p>Middle School/High School 10d. Penalty may range from ISS to a possible recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion. .</p>
<p>11. Electronic communication devices – Students are permitted to bring electronic devices onto school board property. Students are permitted to use any electronic communication devices during the school day with the permission and knowledge of a staff member or administrator and in compliance with district's Acceptable Use Policy. The school day begins when the student enters the property and ends when school is dismissed.</p>	<p>Elementary 11. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Devices may be confiscated when in violation of the guidelines.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 11. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Devices may be confiscated when in violation of the guidelines.</p>
<p>12. Failure to comply with teacher, administrator or other school personnel directive</p>	<p>Elementary 12. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 12. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>13. False Reporting and Statements - Students are prohibited against falsifying, misrepresenting, omitting or erroneously reporting information regarding instances of alleged inappropriate behavior by a teacher, administrator, or other school employee.</p>	<p>Elementary 13. Penalty may range from a warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 13. Penalty may range from warning to recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>14. Fighting – A physical conflict between students</p>	<p>Elementary 14. Penalty may range from in-house suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 14. Penalty may range from ISS to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>15. Gambling - Playing any game of skill or chance for money or anything of value on school property, at a school function or on property used by the school with permission of the owner.</p>	<p>Elementary 15. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>

	<p>Middle School/High School 15. Penalty may range from a warning to short-term suspension</p>
<p>16. Gang-related activity will not be tolerated in Carroll County Schools. A gang member is a person who is part of an association of three or more people, associated for common purpose, which engages, individually or collectively, in illegal or disruptive behavior. Gang-related activity includes, but is not limited to, communication of gang affiliation through hand sign flashing, wearing of clothing articles in a certain way or color scheme, jewelry, tattoos, gang signs, symbols or graffiti on personal items, vandalism of public or private property and acts of intimidation, threats, fighting or other forms of violence.</p>	<p>Elementary 16. Penalty may range from student parent conference to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 16. Penalty may range from student/parent conference to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>17. Harassment – Any act of harassment based upon race, color, religion, national origin, disability and gender (including sexual orientation and gender identity). This includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment as used in connection with Title IX of the education amendments of 1972.</p>	<p>Elementary 17. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension</p> <p>Middle School/High School 17. Penalty may range from ISS to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>18. Leaving Campus without permission</p>	<p>Elementary 18. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 18. Penalty may range from detention to short-term suspension</p>
<p>19. Possession of prohibited or hazardous object- Student found in possession of an item or instrument that could cause destruction or harm to property or individuals (i.e.- fireworks, smoke bombs, laser pointer, tear gas, stick pins, or other similar objects.)</p>	<p>Elementary 19. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 19. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>20. Public Display of Affection</p>	<p>Elementary 20. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 20. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>21. Off Campus Misconduct - Any off campus behavior of a student which could result in the student being criminally charged with a <u>felony</u> and which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process.</p>	<p>Elementary 21. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 21. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>22. Parking and traffic violations on campus – Each student who chooses to park a vehicle at a high school parking lot must purchase a parking permit. Students are not allowed to park at the middle schools. A copy of the high school parking and traffic regulations will be issued to each student at the time of registration.</p>	<p>Elementary 22. N/A</p> <p>Middle School/High School 22. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension or revocation of parking permit, and/or towing of violator's vehicle from campus.</p>
<p>23. Physical Acts of Violence against an educator – A student shall not commit an act of physical violence against a teacher, school bus driver, or other school official or employee either by: (1) Intentionally making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of another. (2) Intentionally making physical contact, which causes physical harm to another unless such physical contacts or physical harms were in defense of him or her.</p>	<p>Elementary 23. Penalty may range from in-school suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 23. (1) Short-term suspension with a mandatory recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion. (2) Short-term suspension with a mandatory recommendation to a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion. Possible recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public school.</p>

24. Physical Acts of Violence against a student A student shall not commit an act of physical violence against another student. Offenses involving physical violence may include assault, battery, hazing, and/or attacking another student.	<p>Elementary 24. Penalty may range from in-school suspension to short-term suspension</p> <p>Middle School/High School 24. Penalty may range from ISS to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
25. Profanity – Use of vulgar, or obscene words, gestures, or other actions, which disrupt school system operations or show disrespect to school personnel during and after school hours or show disrespectful conduct toward persons attending school-related functions.	<p>Elementary 25. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 25. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>
26. Property Offense – Willful or malicious damage of and/or threats to destroy or damage school, public or private property.	<p>Elementary 26. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Arrangements for restitution of damages may be required.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 26. Penalty may range from ISS to possible recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion. Arrangements for restitution of damages may be required.</p>
27. Repeated violations/Chronic misbehavior – A pattern of behavior with interferes with the learning process, the orderly works of the school or the safety of those in the school.	<p>Elementary 27. Penalty may range from in-school suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 27. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
28. Rude and Disrespectful Behavior	<p>Elementary 28. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 28. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>
29. School disturbances - Acts which cause substantial disruption of learning opportunities and/or threat to the safety or wellbeing of other students which may include pulling fire alarms, bomb threat, sit-downs, walk-outs, riots, picketing, trespassing, inciting disturbances, threats, or actual violence during period of disruption.	<p>Elementary 29. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 29. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
30. Sexual Battery – Unwanted physical touching of another in the areas including chest, buttocks, groin or inner thighs.	<p>Elementary 30. Penalty may range from in-house suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 30. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
31. Sexual Offense - Inappropriate contact or of indecent exposure.	<p>Elementary 31. Penalty may range from in-house suspension to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 31. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
32. Skippping class or required activities	<p>Elementary 32. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>

	Middle School/High School 32. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension
33. Student Confrontation - Verbal altercation between students.	Elementary 33. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Middle School/High School 33. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.
34. Tardiness	Elementary 34. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Middle School/High School 34. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.
35. Theft/Larceny – Unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property of another person.	Elementary 35. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Middle School/High School 35. Penalty may range from ISS to a recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.
36. Threatening or intimidating another student(s) Written, verbal or implied, but not involving actual physical contact.	Elementary 36. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Middle School/High School 36. Penalty may range from warning to a recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.
37. Tobacco – Possession, use or distribution - Includes smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco or snuff, e-cigarettes, vapes, hookahs, and other similar items is prohibited.	Elementary 37. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. Middle School/High School 37. Penalty may range from warning to a short-term suspension.
38. Vandalism – Destruction, or defacement of public or private property located on school premises or at a school function or on property used by the school with the permission of the owner, or inciting, advising or counseling of others to engage in prohibited acts such as marking, defacing or destroying school property.	Elementary 38. Penalty may range from in-school suspension to short-term suspension. Arrangements for restitution of damages may be a part of the consequences. Middle School/High School 38. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to expulsion. Arrangements for restitution of damages may be a part of the consequences.
39. Violation Acceptable Use Policy Violation - Improper use of the internet or internet capable device. Students must follow all expectations for internet use as outlined in the Technology Acceptable Use Agreement.	Elementary 39. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. May include loss of privileges Middle School/High School 39. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension. May include loss of privileges
40. Verbal Assault of an Educator - Includes threatened violence of teachers, administrators or other school personnel.	Elementary 40. Penalty may range from warning to a recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion. Middle School/High School 40. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.

<p>41. Violation of School Rules - Failure to follow school rules or procedures.</p>	<p>Elementary 41. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 41. Penalty may range from warning to short-term suspension.</p>
<p>42. Weapons (CCBOE Policy JCDAE) a student shall not possess, use, handle or transmit any object that reasonably can be considered a weapon on property or in a building owned or leased by a school district, at a school function, or on a bus or other transportation provided by the school district. Weapons may include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>1. Any handgun, firearm, rifle, shotgun or similar weapon; any explosive compound or incendiary device; or, any other dangerous weapon as defined in O.C.G.A. § 16-11-121, including a rocket launcher, bazooka, recoilless rifle, mortar, or hand grenade.</p> <p>2. Any hazardous object, including any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any instrument of like kind, any nonlethal air gun, and any stun gun or taser. Such term shall not include any of these instruments used for classroom work authorized by the teacher.</p>	<p>Elementary 42. Students who possess any weapon described in paragraph (1) will be subject to a minimum of a one calendar year expulsion via the tribunal process. Students who possess any weapon described in paragraph (2) will be subject to penalty which may range from a warning to short-term suspension.</p> <p>Middle School/High School 42. Students who possess any weapon described in paragraph (1) will be subject to a minimum of a one calendar year expulsion via a mandatory tribunal hearing. Students who possess any weapon described in paragraph (2) will be subject to penalty which may range from a warning to a recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing which may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>

Vaping Devices

Too often in our schools, student vaping has led to medical emergencies where, in some cases, students had to be transported to local hospitals. In addition to the potential health risks, it is illegal for students under the age of 21 to use vaping devices or to purchase vaping materials. It is also against school district policy for students to vape or to bring the devices or materials to school.

The Carroll County School System will apply the following consequences to our students for possession of a vaping device:

A vaping device with THC or any other type of illegal drug will result in a 1st offense **minimum consequence of 10 days out-of-school suspension which could also include a recommendation for long-term suspension/expulsion.**

Student possession of any vaping device will result in the following consequences:

1st offense - Up to 5 days out of school suspension (**Elementary students up to 3 days OSS**)

2nd offense - Up to 10 days out of school suspension (**Elementary students up to 5 days OSS**)

3rd offense - 10 days of out-of-school suspension and recommendation for long-term suspension or expulsion
(**3rd offense - Elementary students up to 10 days OSS**)

Parents, please talk with your children at home about the potential health-related dangers of vaping and these consequences for bringing vaping devices to school. Should you have any additional questions or concerns please contact the principal of your child's school.

Dress Code

The purpose of a dress code is not to inhibit any person's taste in attire, but rather to better facilitate the process of education through reasonable guidelines of "dress." Instilling dignity, pride, modesty, and cleanliness are our goals. For these reasons, some types of clothing are prohibited. The principal has the authority to determine appropriate dress.

Acceptable Clothing Standards:

The following acceptable clothing standards shall apply:

Pants, trousers, jeans, capris, etc., are permitted. Plain jeans may be worn in any color.

All pants, trousers, jeans, capris, etc., must be worn at the waist. Belts shall be worn securely at the waist.

Shorts, skirts, and dresses shall measure no shorter than three (3) inches from mid- kneecap.

Shirts shall have a sleeve and shall fit properly. Shirts that do not fit properly shall be worn tucked in.

Prohibited Clothing Items:

See-through or mesh clothing

Garments that expose the midriff and/or cleavage

Halter tops, tank tops, and sleeveless shirts

Tennis, gym, biking, short shorts, leggings, lounging pants, pajamas

Garments that expose underclothing or impede walking

Garments that are poorly fitted, oversized, excessively tight, or extremely baggy.

Garments with holes above the knee that expose skin

Hats, visors, hoods, or other head garments including non-prescription sunglasses inside the school building.

Cleats, and/or heelies inside any school building; bedroom slippers, and/or novelty footwear deemed inappropriate by the principal.

Garments which display emblems relating to abusive substances, tobacco products, alcohol, sex, violence, or obscenities.

Garments that might be considered socially unacceptable or inflammatory.

Any emblem, sign, or representation of a gang symbol, or any garment indicating a gang affiliation.

Code of Conduct Definitions

The following are definitions applicable to the Student Code of Conduct:

Corporal Punishment: Physical punishment by the principal or designee. It must be administered in accordance with regulations set forth by the Board of Education.

Detention: A requirement that the student report to a specified school location and to a designated teacher or school official to make up work missed or to receive specific instruction in behavior modification. Detention may require the student's attendance before school, after school, on Saturdays, or during scheduled class or school activity time if school officials deem removal of the student from his/her regular school schedule essential to the well-being of the student or school.

Expulsion: Means expulsion of a student from a public school beyond the current school quarter or semester.

GOAL Program: Alternative educational setting for students who cannot attend their home school due to long-term suspension or expulsion.

In-house suspension: Isolation of student in the classroom setting. Student will do class assignments while isolated from the rest of the class.

In-school suspension (ISS): Removal of a student from class or classes assigned to an on-site designated supervisor. A student in In-School Suspension is also suspended from school -sponsored activities. The student will have assignments to complete from which he/she will receive credit and student will be counted present.

Long-term suspension: Means the suspension of a student from a public school for more than ten school days but not beyond the current school quarter or semester.

Safe-school zone: Any area within 1000 feet of school property.

Short-term suspension: Short-term suspension means the suspension of a student out- of- school for not more than ten days. The principal has the authority to issue short-term suspension.

Student Support Team: A committee that consists of teachers, counselors, administrators and parents designed to deal with any educational or behavioral problem a student exhibits.

Trespassing: Illegal presence on a school campus by suspended students, or any other person who does not have permission to be on school grounds.

Tribunal Panel: An appellate committee made up of school or district administrators charged with hearing Code of Conduct infractions that could result in long-term suspension or expulsion.

Waiver of the Right to a Tribunal Hearing: A process wherein a student who admits guilt and accepts the consequences recommended by the school administration foregoes the opportunity to have their case heard by a Tribunal Panel.

TECHNOLOGY - ACCEPTABLE USE BY STUDENTS (ref. [BOARD POLICY: JEBG](#))

The Carroll County School System strongly believes in the educational value of electronic information services and recognizes their potential to support the curriculum and student learning in facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The Carroll County School System will make every effort to protect students and teachers from any misuse or abuse as a result of interacting with an information service. Inappropriate and/or illegal interaction with the information service is strictly prohibited.

By virtue of using Carroll County School District technology, students are subject to the provisions of this acceptable use agreement. If any user violates these provisions, access to the information service may be denied and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Terms of Usage

1. *User Responsibility:* As a representative of the school, students will accept user responsibility for reporting any misuse of the network to their school administrator. Misuse may come in many forms, but is commonly viewed as any message(s) sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, inappropriate language, and other issues described below.
2. *Acceptable Use:* The use of student accounts must be in support of educational research and align with the educational goals and objectives of the Carroll County School System. Students are personally responsible for this provision at all times when using the electronic information service.
 - a. Use of other organizations' networks or computing resources must comply with rules appropriate to that network.
 - b. Transmission of any material in violation of any United States or other state organizations is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret.
 - c. Use of commercial activities by for-profit institutions is generally not acceptable.

- d. Use of product advertisement, political lobbying is prohibited.
 - e. Use of any Internet censorship circumvention tools is prohibited.
3. *Privileges*: The use of the information system is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. . The final determination of appropriate use is at the discretion of the school administrator. The system administrator or staff may close an account at any time deemed necessary. The administration or staff of a particular school may request that the system administrator deny, revoke or suspend specific user accounts.
4. *Network Etiquette and Privacy*: You are expected to abide by the following generally accepted rules of network etiquette:
- a. Be polite, and do not become abrasive in messages to others. General School District rules and policies for behavior and communicating apply.
 - b. Use appropriate language at all times. Do not swear, use vulgarities, or any other inappropriate language.
 - c. Do not reveal your personal address or phone numbers or those of other students.
 - d. Recognize that email is not private or confidential.
 - e. Do not use the network in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
 - f. Consider all communicators and information accessible via the Internet to be the property of the School District.
 - g. Respect the rights of other users to an open and hospitable technology environment, regardless of race, sexual orientation, color, religion, creed, ethnicity, age, marital status or disability status.
5. *Services*: The Carroll County School System makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for electronic services provided. Carroll County School System is not responsible for any damages suffered while on this system. Potential damages may include, but are not limited to, loss of data as a result of delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by the system or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the information system is at your own risk. The Carroll County School System specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through its services.
6. *Security*: Security is a high priority. If you identify a security problem, notify the system administrator at once. Never demonstrate the problem to other users. Never use another individual's account without written permission from that person. All use of the system must be under the user's assigned account. Any user identified as a security risk will be denied access to the information system.
7. *Vandalism*: Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user or any other public or private provider connected to the system. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Any vandalism may result in the loss of computer services, disciplinary action, and legal referral.
8. *Updating*: The information service may occasionally require new registration and account information from you to continue the service. You must notify the information system of any changes in your account information.
9. *Social Media*: Carroll County Schools is proud to embrace the power of social media as a tool to communicate and engage with our parents, students and communities. Negative behavior or attacks on a student or employee, by a student, employee, parent or any member of the public is disruptive to our positive learning environment. Use of social media for learning, informing and engaging students, parents, community members and employees in the educational process is encouraged.
10. *BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology)*: BYOT refers to privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic hand held equipment that includes, but is not limited to, existing and emerging mobile communication systems and smart technologies, portable Internet devices, Personal Digital Assistants

(PDAs), handheld entertainment systems or portable information technology systems that can be used for word processing, wireless Internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc. Each school will set procedures for use of personal technology by students. The use of technology to provide educational material is not a necessity, but a privilege. A student does not have the right to use his or her laptop, cell phone or other electronic device while at school. When abused, privileges will be taken away. When respected, they will benefit the learning environment as a whole. Students must comply with the following BYOT guidelines:

(1.) Only the Internet gateway provided by the school system may be accessed while on a Carroll County School System campus. Use of personal Internet connection devices such as, but not limited to, cell phones / cell network adapters are not permitted to access outside Internet sources at any time. The school's network filters will be applied to one's connection to the Internet and attempts should not be made to bypass them. Processing or accessing information on school property related to "hacking", altering, or bypassing network security policies is in violation of Policy IFBG: Internet Acceptable Use.

(2.) Responsibility to keep the device secure rests with the individual owner. **The Carroll County School System, nor its staff or employees, is liable for any device stolen or damaged on any campus.** If a device is stolen or damaged, it will be handled through the administrative office similar to other personal artifacts that are impacted in similar situations. It is recommended that skins (decals) and other custom touches are used to physically identify your device from others. Additionally, protective cases for technology are encouraged.

(3.) Technology must be in silent mode while on school campuses and while riding school buses. Personal technology should be charged prior to bringing it to school and should run off its own battery while at school.

(4.) Technology may not be used to cheat on assignments or tests, or for non- instructional purposes during class times (such as making personal phone calls and text/instant messaging). Technology may not be used to record, transmit, or post photographic images or video of a person, or persons on campuses during school activities and/or hours.

(5.) Technology may only be used to access files on computer or internet sites which are relevant to the classroom curriculum. Games are not permitted. Furthermore, bringing on premises or infecting the network with a virus, Trojan, or program designed to damage, alter, destroy, or provide access to unauthorized data or information is in violation of Policy IFBG: Internet Acceptable Use. The school district has the right to collect and examine any device that is suspected of causing problems or was the source of an attack or virus infection.

Students using Carroll County Schools' technology, defined as the district's technology resources, peripheral equipment, WiFi network, Internet and Intranet, agree to abide by the provisions and conditions of this technology usage agreement. Any violations of the above provisions may result in disciplinary action, the revoking of user account, and appropriate legal action. Users agree to report any misuse of the information system to their school administrator. Parents/Guardians should understand that school system technology is designed for educational purposes and that it is impossible for the Carroll County School System to restrict access to all controversial materials. Parents/Guardians will not hold the School System responsible for materials acquired on the network and will also report any misuses of the information system to the school administrator. Parents/Guardians are fully responsible for the supervision of their child's activity, if and when their child's use is not in a school setting.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL - Guidelines

Carroll County Schools strongly believes that education is a collaborative venture between parents/guardians and school personnel. At times parents/guardians may wish to visit their child's school for a short period of time, volunteer or observe in a classroom. All visitors are under the jurisdiction of the building principal, who has the responsibility to develop rules and procedures to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment. The following guidelines are intended to assure a successful school visit or observation:

- Request a visit/observation and state your purpose for the request at least 24 hours in advance.
- Arrange a mutually agreed upon date and time through the building principal.
- Observations are limited to not more than 30 minutes per visit to avoid disruption or distractions in the classroom
- The number of observations will be limited to assure the least amount of disruption to instruction.
- Private/public agencies are not allowed to observe in classrooms unless party to a memorandum of agreement with Carroll County Schools
- For security reasons, visitors are required to check in at the school office to sign in and present a government issued photo ID to obtain a visitor's badge before proceeding to contact any persons in the building or on the school grounds.
- To protect the learning environment, only one visitor is allowed in the classroom during the observation. Parents/guardians are asked not to bring younger siblings or children while observing in the classroom.
- Pictures and video/audio recording devices and use of cell phones are prohibited.
- If the parent would like to talk to the teacher, a meeting can be scheduled for another time, rather than disrupt the scheduled lesson.
- Parents/Visitors will see or hear things which must be kept confidential. Confidentiality regarding our students is paramount and visitors must agree to respect the rights of the school staff, as well as the students, and refrain from sharing any information collected during the visit.
- Visitors will need to sign out and leave their visitor's badge when their visit is complete.

**Middle/High School Parent/Guardian
Handbook Signature Page
2021-2022**

Please review the following statements concerning handbook information before signing:

1. The signature of a parent/guardian on this page signifies that you have read the Student Code of Conduct, as well as have knowledge and an understanding of the Carroll County School System policies and guidelines contained within the student handbook.
2. The signature of a parent/guardian on this page signifies that you have received and understand the consequences and penalties for failing to comply with the State of Georgia's laws regarding Compulsory Education, Student Attendance Protocol Committee, the Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA) and Drug Testing of Students (for more information see pages D5 and D7)
3. The signature of a parent/guardian on this page signifies that your child has permission to access school-based Internet-capable technology. It also signifies you have read the Acceptable Use of Technology by Students in this handbook and are familiar with and in agreement with the terms of usage and the consequences of misuse of technology owned and operated by Carroll County Schools. Your signature also indicates that you are aware and in agreement with the guidelines regarding BYOT.
4. Throughout the school year there are numerous activities that provide opportunities for students to be photographed and/or videotaped. Student publications, school websites, school Facebook pages, Instagram and school yearbooks use photographs to document student life and various events. These events include, but are not limited to band performances, drama performances, extracurricular and athletic activities, class presentations, competitions, and club sponsored projects. If any parent/guardian does **NOT** wish for his or her student's school to use their child's photograph or video for any purpose including honors and awards during the school year, please signify those wishes in the opt-out section provided below.
5. Within the provisions of O.C.G.A. 20-2-705, schools must provide notification at the beginning of the school year to parents/guardians relative to the various school clubs provided at each of their respective schools. (These notifications will specifically exclude interscholastic activities). This notification will be accomplished through each school's web site. If any parent/guardian does **NOT** wish for his or her student to participate in a club or organization designated by him or her, please signify those clubs or organizations in the opt-out section below.
6. Under current Federal law, all schools must, if requested, provide student directory information (names, addresses and telephone numbers) of high school students to U.S. military recruiters. If any parent/guardian or eligible student does **NOT** wish for student directory information to be released to the United States military recruiters, please signify in the opt-out section that this information not be released.

OPT-OUT SECTION:

- ☐ I do not want my child to participate in the following clubs: _____
- ☐ I do not want my child's student directory information released to U.S. Military recruiters.
- ☐ I do not want my child's photograph or videos containing images of my child used as outlined in item #4.

STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____ **SCHOOL** _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

Sign and return to your child's school during the first week of school.