

HUSKY NATION



Ashe County High School

2023-2024 Student Handbook

Leading the P A C K

Welcome to Ashe County High School! The administration and staff are dedicated to providing a safe and orderly school climate and an environment that enhances the educational process.



The policies & procedures provided in the handbook are to make you aware of the rules and regulations that will help you adjust to our school and become an integrated part of it. It is our hope that you will become familiar with all that Ashe County High School has to offer, obey all the rules and regulations, and build memories that will last a lifetime.

Leading the PACK

Rules and Regulations contained within this publication are not all-inclusive and the administration reserves the right to address other discipline acts in a fair and equitable manner.

The administration also reserves the right to assess rules and regulations on an individual basis and act according to severity when appropriate.

No student at Ashe County High School will knowingly be discriminated against because of race, sex, sexual orientation, or social standing.

HOPE4NCHPLINE 1.855.587.3463

ASHE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION



Jennifer Crisco
Assistant Principal



Dustin Farmer
Principal



Jerry Graybeal
Assistant Principal



Brian Hampton
Assistant Principal/
Athletic Director

ASHE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY

Cultural Arts

Katherine Greene- Chair
Amber Dillingham
Parker Dula
Shane Greene
Caitlin Hodge
Steve Lewis

English

Josh Beckworth- Chair
Sarah Beckworth
Jessica Hall
Caitlin Hodge
Ethel Hunter
Christy Rivers
Becky Wells

ESL

Kathy Evans

Foreign Language

Marta Pacheco- Chair
Maryam Thorpe

Exceptional Children

Jennifer Treva- Chair
Jocelyn Bruening
James Cline
Leslie Lewis
Heather Phillips
Rita Southern

Math

Erika Donahue - Chair
Danny Eldreth
Matthew Raisig
Tichonda Remias
Madison Roberts
Rachel Sexton
Tim Trivette

Physical Education

Adam Elliott- Chair
Jamison Cline
Kristi Powers
Ronnie Pruitt

Science

Alex Rollins- Chair
Stephanie Burwell
Seth Johnson
BJ Lewis
Jennifer Miller

Media

Tonya Denny

JROTC

David Hollis- Chair

Social Studies

Marty McKenzie - Chair
Nathan Colvard
Vernon Roten
Zack Russ
Stephanie Stolt
Rebekah Washburn



ASHE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY

Career Technical Education

Earl Pennington- Director

Daniel Calhoun- Chair

Megan Colvard

Daisy Finley

Roxane Gilbert

Shane Greene

Jennifer Phipps

Walter Pugh

Stephen Simms

Debbie Sturgill

Matthew Suggs

Kris Wagoner

Abby Wallace

Testing/CTE

Jennifer Dollar

Curriculum Coordinator

Christina Pennington

Student Services

Jamie Little - Director

Kelly Fletcher- Counselor

Elizabeth Kerley- ASC Coord.

Jennifer Glass- WCC Liaison

Lucy Phipps- Counselor

Diane Sprague- Career Dev. Coord.

Paige Blevins- Social Worker

Meghann Roberts-Clawson- Counselor

Baylee Smith- College Advising Corps

Health Services

Robin Goss

Technology

Amy Walker- Director

Travis Bennett- Technician

William Baldwin - Technician

Teacher Assistants

Elizabeth Pennington

Emily Sheets

Renee Weaver



ASHE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STAFF

Office Staff

Justine Hopkins- Receptionist
Erin Shepherd- Finance/Payroll
Linda Sloan- Student Services

ISS

Eddie Taylor

TAB Coordinator

Vacant

PowerSchool Data Manager

Michelle Kitson

School Resource Officer

Officer Dusty Farmer

Custodians

Tim Walton- Head Custodian
Jody Barr
Bobby Greer
Mark Holt
Matt Rupard

Cafeteria

Melissa Calhoun- Manager
Sandra Dillard
Joan Faw
Linda Howell
Linda Powers
Vicki Jones
Natasha Loggins



GRADING SYSTEM / REPORT CARDS

Letter	Percentile	Regular	Honors	AP
A	90-100	4.00	4.5	5
B	80-89	3.00	3.5	4
C	70-79	2.00	2.5	3
D	60-69	1.00	1.5	2
F	0-59	0.00	0	0

All courses are assigned the same quality point value except those course assigned as honor/AP courses. Class rank shall be based on quality points achieved. Students and parents/guardians should review and carefully select honors/AP courses when choosing a program of study.

Grades are available to be viewed in POWERSCHOOL throughout the year.

If you need assistance with Powerschool please contact the Data Manager, Michelle Kitson.

BELL SCHEDULE

1st period	8:20-9:45
Husky Hall	9:50-10:40
2nd period	10:45-12:45
Lunches	10:45-12:15
3rd period	12:50-2:10
4th period	2:15-3:40

Cell Phones -

Major Change

- Phone will need to be powered off and out of site during class time (take care of this at the beginning of class) - this includes earbuds
- Student will need to place phone in caddy if it becomes a disruption
- Student will be written up in Educator Handbook if it becomes a power struggle

INCENTIVES

Students will have an opportunity each semester (year-long for A/B day schedule) to earn exam exemption for teacher made finals. This does not include AP, EOC, or CTE required tests. The criteria is as follows:

- An A for the semester and no more than 6 total absences (this includes excused and unexcused absences)
- A B for the semester and no more than 4 total absences (this includes excused and unexcused absences)
- A C for the semester and no more than 2 total absences (this includes excused and unexcused absences)

Following each midterm and nine weeks, we will have a pep rally or activity time outside. To be eligible you must meet the following requirements:

- Passing 3 of 4 classes
- No assignments of ISS or OSS
- Missed 2 or fewer days

****All requirements start over following each scheduled activity*

Any students who makes a 4 or 5 on the EOC and/or shows growth will be rewarded with a movie at Parkway Theater.

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY 4316

The purpose of the dress code is to ensure that a student's dress and appearance promote a positive learning environment, does not disrupt the learning of others or the general operation of the school, and does not create a safety hazard. Both research and experience have shown that student conduct, identification with the school purposes and activities, personal pride and self-respect, and even the level of learning responses of students are all related to personal appearance and mode of dress. Maintaining a positive learning environment and ensuring the health and safety of each student are high priorities of the Ashe County Schools.

Students are expected to dress in a manner that does not cause disruption in school and promotes respect. Clothing should be clean, neat, and appropriate for school wear. Clothing or accessories that are disruptive, potentially injurious, or that creates a question regarding a student's health and safety, will not be allowed. Students who are dressed inappropriately will be required to change the clothing or accessories in question. If a student has to be sent to the office because of a dress code infraction, instruction time is interrupted for the student, the teacher, and the other students in the class. Furthermore, more time is lost for the student if the administration determines that the clothing must be changed and the student must wait for a parent to bring the change of clothing.

If a student has to be sent to the office because of a dress code infraction, instruction time is interrupted for the student, the teacher, and the other students in the class. Furthermore, more time is lost for the student if the administration determines that the clothing must be changed and the student must wait for a parent to bring the change of clothing. **It is vital that students understand that time out of class will be regarded as unexcused.**

School administrators have the authority and the responsibility to determine what clothing or accessories are disruptive to the school environment or injurious to a student's health and safety. Cooperation among school personnel, parents (or other legal guardians), and students is essential in the implementation and enforcement of school regulations, including this dress code. Decisions regarding a student's clothing or accessories will be made in accordance with the following guidelines.

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY 4316 continued

NOTE: If a student is in violation of the dress code he/she will be asked to change into clothes provided to them by the school. He/she could also take an absence to go home to change. Students clothing will be returned to them at the end of the school day.



You represent us as Huskies, please do so with pride!

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY 4316 continued

1. **Headgear-** No headgear or sunglasses will be worn in the building, except those worn for obvious or established reasons. Hats/Hoods are not allowed to be worn inside the building.
2. **Shirts/Blouses/Tops-** Blouses/shirts/tops must be secured to the shoulder and worn at all times.
 - No halter-tops, strapless tops, spaghetti straps (less than 2 inches), bralettes, camisoles, or tube tops allowed
 - Blouses/shirts/tops that expose any portion of the waist, hips, or midriff are not allowed. Other blouses/shirts not appropriate for school include but are not limited to, low-cut, see through (top underneath must meet dress code), backless tops, or have inappropriate cut out holes or slits
 - No sleeveless/cutout t-shirts are allowed unless an undershirt that meets dress code guidelines is worn
3. **Shorts/Skirts/Dresses/Pants-** All shorts and skirts must reach the mid-thigh or the end of the fingertips with arms down at the side.
 - All tops worn with tight legwear (i.e. leggings, tights, jeggings, skinny jeans, yoga pants, etc.) must cover the buttock and pelvic areas. Fabric must not be see through (i.e. tights and pantyhose).
 - Slits, holes, or tears in shorts/skirts/pants are not permitted above the mid-thigh or above the length of the fingertips with arms down to side
 - Shorts, skirts, or pants must be worn securely around the waist with no bagging or sagging.
 - The waistline of shorts/skirts/pants must be worn on or above the hips with no underwear showing and may not be worn rolled at the waist.
 - Belts may not be excessive in length and should not be hanging from either side of the body.
 - Pajama tops or bottoms are not permitted.

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY 4316 continued

4. **Footwear-** Health regulations and safety factors require that shoes be worn at all times. Bedroom slippers are not allowed.
5. **Undergarments-** Undergarments must never be visible.
6. **Words/Symbols.** No student clothing shall display words or symbols that advocate or depict violence, drugs, alcohol, sexual implications, gang affiliation, or other illegal activity expressly or implied. Clothing may not use or depict hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation or any other protected group.
7. **Jewelry/Accessories.** Jewelry or accessories that may be used as weapons are not permitted at school. This includes but is not limited to, jewelry such as spiked rings, spiked bracelets, two or three finger rings that are connected, and bulky chains worn around the neck or waist. Sharp objects such as spikes are not allowed on clothing or book bags.
8. **Other Inappropriate Dress.** Any student dress/appearance not specifically prohibited in this policy but which school administration deems disruptive to the learning process will not be allowed. To ensure student health and safety, school administrators may adopt and implement additional dress and appearance regulations for certain curriculum areas, such as science labs, vocational classes and JROTC.
9. **Exceptions.** Exceptions to this policy may be made by school administration on an individual basis for a *bona fide* religious, medical, or appropriate reason. School may designate special dress days at the direction of the principal.
10. **Applicability to School Sponsored Trips and Events.** This policy applies to all school sponsored trips and events. Any deviation from the policy will be discussed by the advisor and the principal or his designee.

GRADUATION DRESS CODE

WHAT TO WEAR:

Males: Dress pants, dress shoes, dark socks, dress shirt, and tie (strongly suggested). Clean cowboy boots are appropriate.

Females: Dress or dress pants and dress shoes. Clean cowboy boots and dressy sandals are appropriate.

WHAT NOT TO WEAR:

The following items are absolutely **NOT** allowed:

- Shorts
- Jeans
- Flip flops
- Athletic shoes- including those with heels or sequins/glitter
- Hiking boots or work boots
- Casual sandals (such as Birkenstocks)

All students must wear a graduation cap, gown, and tassel sanctioned by the school. Graduation caps may NOT be decorated. School sanctioned honor cords are the only additions allowed.

Adopted: Nov 2004, Amended: June 2007, June 2017, July 2019

Academics

PROMOTION STANDARDS

Students must have earned the indicated number of credits in order to be classified as follows:



Sophomores must have earned 6 units

Juniors must have earned 13 units

Seniors must have earned 20 units

In order to graduate, students must earn at least 23 units (22 units for class of 2027) and earn at least 30 hours of community service, as well as meet all state and local requirements.

Academics

High School End-of-Course Testing

Students must take all end-of-course (EOC) tests required by the State Board of Education. If required by the State Board of Education, students who do not score at Level III or above on the first administration of an EOC test may be retested. *Policy Code: 3460*

- A. For EOC courses: The EOC will count as the final exam. This score will count as 20% of the final grade. Subject to change depending on state field tests.
- B. For non-EOC courses: The teacher will give a MSL/common exam on exam day. This will count as 20% of the final grade. Students will be exempted from teacher made final exams if they meet the following criteria:
 - Six or fewer absences and an A
 - Four or fewer absences and a B
 - Two or fewer absences and a C

Wilkes Community College: Career and College Promise

Get An Early Start On Your College Education or Career

An opportunity that high school juniors, seniors and qualified sophomores have available is Career and College Promise (CCP) with Wilkes Community College (WCC). Students may take WCC classes during the school day and receive both high school and college credit. Beyond the academic and financial advantages of the CCP program, including a jump start on a college degree, students develop tools for future success either in furthering their education or joining the workforce.

Free Tuition: Starting Fall 2023, CCP students will be able to take college classes for free. This includes textbooks. Some courses may have course fees such as science courses and cosmetology. Fees can be paid at the WCC Ashe Campus Poe Hall business office.

CCP Expectations:

- The academic expectations for these courses are the same as any college level course. Students should expect a rigorous curriculum, with a significant investment of time outside of the classroom.
- Students must follow the college schedule and attendance policy while enrolled in WCC classes. If WCC has classes when Ashe County Schools is closed, students are expected to attend their WCC classes. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor to inform them they will be absent. They are also responsible for any missed assignments or information shared during the missed class.
- Students who withdraw from a college class before the seventy-five percent mark for the class will receive a “W” on both the college and high school transcript. Classes dropped after the seventy-five percent mark of the class will earn the grade they have at the end of the semester. Students who wish to withdraw from a college class must meet with Ms. Jennifer Glass, Career Coach prior to withdrawing from the class.

Career and College Promise Eligibility:

Sophomore Eligibility: See Jennifer Glass, Career Coach to learn more about eligibility requirements for 10th grade students.

Juniors & Seniors Eligibility:

College Transfer Pathways:

Courses count towards associate degrees and are eligible for transfer to a UNC member institution as well as many private/out-of-state colleges.

- **Students registering for courses in the College Transfer Pathways must:**

- be a high school junior or senior

- making progress toward high school graduation

- have at least a 2.8 unweighted GPA in their high school courses

- OR

- demonstrate college readiness in Reading, English, and Math on an approved assessment or placement test

To maintain eligibility, students must continue to make progress toward high school graduation and maintain at least a 2.00 GPA in college coursework after completing two courses.

College Transfer Pathway courses of three to four hours will receive one high school credit and are weighted.

The Career & Technical Education (CTE) Pathways provides an opportunity for eligible students to continue building on the skills gained in their high school CTE classes. Many of the pathways allow students to earn a certificate over the course of the academic year, providing them a workforce credential that is highly valued by employers.

Students registering for courses in a Career & Technical Pathways must:

- be a high school junior or senior
- be making progress toward high school graduation
- have at least a 2.8 unweighted GPA in their high school courses

OR

- have the recommendation of the high school principal

To maintain eligibility, students must continue to make progress toward high school graduation and maintain at least a 2.00 GPA in college coursework after completing two courses.

CTE courses that do not transfer to one of the UNC institutions are regular weighted courses.

Student who are interested in taking advantage of the CCP program should meet with Jennifer Glass, WCC Career Coach, located in the Student Services Office, to develop an academic and career plan. You may contact Ms. Glass by telephone at 336-846-2400 or email jlglass944@wilkescc.edu.

HONORS

BETA CLUB:

Grades/Classes	Behavior
3.5 Weighted GPA	No infractions of OSS
No grade below 75 Wilkes Community College and AP courses count toward this requirement.	Students will be inducted on probation with one discipline infraction warranting ISS. Any further infractions of ISS will result in the student <i>not</i> being inducted in Beta Club.
Must have 2 honors courses within the 9th and 10th grade years. To remain in Beta Club, students must have an honors course in both their 11th and 12th grade years.	Students will <i>not</i> be inducted into Beta Club if they have one documented infraction of cheating or bullying.

HONORS

JUNIOR MARSHALS:

The top 10% of the Junior Class will be selected as Junior Marshals for the graduation ceremonies. The selection will be based on weighted grade point averages calculated at the end of the first semester.

CREDIT BY DEMONSTRATED MASTERY:

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery, specifically offers NC students the opportunity to personalize and accelerate their learning by earning course credit through a demonstration of mastery of course material. For more information visit your guidance counselor or the following website:

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/students-families/enhanced-opportunities/advanced-learning-and-gifted-education/credit-demonstrated-mastery>



STUDENT SERVICES

A comprehensive program of school counseling is provided to assist each ACHS student with academic and career planning and or personal/problem solving. Students are assigned to counselors based on last names as follows:

Sophomores & Freshman (P-Z)	Meghann Roberts-Clawson (meghann.roberts-clawson@ashe.k12.nc.us)
Juniors & Freshman (H-O)	Lucy Phipps (lucy.phipps@ashe.k12.nc.us)
Seniors & Freshman (A-G)	Kelly Fletcher (kelly.fletcher@ashe.k12.nc.us)
Secretary	Linda Sloan (linda.sloan@ashe.k12.nc.us)
Career Coach	Jennifer Glass (jennifer.glass@ashe.k12.nc.us)
Career Coordinator	Diane Sprague (diane.sprague@ashe.k12.nc.us)
GearUp Coordinator	Karee Mackey (karee.mackey@ashe.k12.nc.us)
ASC Coordinator	Elizabeth Kerley (elizabeth.kerley@ashe.k12.nc.us)
College Advising Corps	Lorena Calvillo (lorena.calvillo@ashe.k12.nc.us)

Services in the Husky Student Services

Freshman Opportunities, Sophomore/Junior Opportunities, Senior/Financial Aid & Scholarships, ACT & SAT, Discussion Groups/Classroom Programs, Community Work/Business Visitations, PLAN/PSAT, Internships

SEEING YOUR COUNSELOR: Because counselors work around the school and are often involved in meetings we might miss you if you drop by to see us. We want to see you! In order to receive assistance from your counselor and to limit out of class time, we encourage students to make appointments with his/her counselor whenever possible. Student may do this by leaving a note, sending an email, or by having a conversation with her or him to arrange a time. Unless the student is in crisis, we request students visit the Student Services office with a pass from their classroom teacher. In the event of an emergency, the student should check-in with the secretary, and be directed to an available counselor. Conversations with counselors will be kept confidential unless the student has indicated harm to self or others.

STUDENT SERVICES

PARENT APPOINTMENTS

Parents may arrange appointments by telephoning 336-846-2400 and asking for appropriate extension or emailing the counselor.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Special interest discussion groups are offered. In the past, topics have included substance abuse, eating concerns, family conflict, grief, etc. Groups will be advertised, and students may sign up in the Student Services office. Students will need teacher support to attend the groups. Groups will be confidential. Parents should contact the Guidance/Counseling office if they do not wish their sons or daughters to participate in discussion groups.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship information may be accessed online through the Student Services Sr. Canvas page. Hard copies of scholarship applications will be maintained in the file cabinet at Mrs. Sloan's desk. Students and parents can access this information as needed throughout the school year.

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT CALENDARS

A master calendar for the 2023-2024 school year will be posted on the Student Services website.

STUDENT SERVICES WEBSITE AND CANVAS PAGES

Announcements, scholarship opportunities, calendars, camps and programs, etc can be found on this website. To find us go to ACHS homepage: <http://asheschools.org/achs> and click on the For Students tab then Student Services or sign on to Canvas and join you student services class account (you should receive a invitation to join by email)!

STUDENT SERVICES

ASC CENTER Assessment, Support, & Counseling Center

Students who are struggling with difficulties such as depression, anxiety or social stress may find that these challenges get in the way of their academic success. The Assessment, Support and Counseling Center is a school-based mental health program offering on-site free services to ACHS students and families. Services include: individual treatment, crisis intervention, brief family therapy and consultation. If you are interested in services, please contact students' school counselor and ask about making a referral to ASC services. If you wish to know more detail about the program please call 336-846-2400, Elizabeth Dunbar, ASC Program Coordinator.

Mrs. Dunbar, along with our staff, can also provide you with a Resiliency Toolkit. This will help you identify and reduce stress through your choice of stress-reduction tools. Please see your counselor or Mrs. Dunbar for more information.

NURSES OFFICE

The Nurse's office is located beside the main office in the administrative area. Services provided can include: minor first aid, minimum physical assessment in the event of illness, chronic health care maintenance, information and education about health care topics.

Students are not allowed to stay in the Nurse's office unattended. Please ask school officials for assistance. Do not use telephones without asking permission. Confidential health issues that students may need to discuss with a nurse can be sensitive. Students can be assured that health issues they discuss with the nurse is confidential.

Students will scan the QR Code in their current classroom to schedule a visit with Nurse Robin. She will call for the student when she has availability.

STUDENT ILLNESS

At any time during the day, if a student presents with any COVID-19 symptoms, they will be taken to a holding room area and monitored until they can be picked up.

If a student needs to see the nurse for any reason, such as minor first aid or chronic health care maintenance, the nurse must be contacted before sending the student. The student will need a pass to visit the nurses office.

IMMUNIZATIONS

NC Law requires all students grades K-12 to have a complete immunization record. If your child does not have a completed 'shot record' already at school, please bring it to school as soon as possible. A "Request for School Health Record Information" will be sent home if any immunizations are found incomplete. Students must have their immunizations up to date to continue in school.

NURSES OFFICE

HEALTH SCREENINGS

Throughout the school year, students will be screened to assure they can see and hear. During the fall, 9th grade will have vision screening. In the spring, hearing screening will be done. In addition, at any time during the school year when a teacher may feel a student is having difficulty seeing or hearing in the classroom, they can request that a vision or hearing screening be done. A parent can request this as well.

HEALTH INFORMATION FORM

Each year health information forms will be sent home at the beginning of the school year. This information is essential in helping us prepare to take the best care of students while they are at school. Please note any and all health conditions on the form and return it to school as soon as possible. The School Nurse must be notified if your child has any chronic illness. Physician documentation is required to implement a plan of care for a student while he/she is at school.

ILLNESS

Ideally, sick children should stay at home. However, sometimes we can be contagious when we feel well. This makes the spread of illness difficult to contain. The main reason for staying home when sick is that you are too sick to participate comfortably at school or that you might spread germs to others. A fever of over 100 degrees should stay home for example. Teach children good hygiene practices, such as hand washing, covering mouth when coughing, and using tissues when sneezing. When in doubt about sending a child to school due to illness, consult your doctor.

NURSES OFFICE

MEDICATIONS

POLICY-Ashe County Schools Medication Policy requires that all medications given in the schools must be accompanied by a physician's order. This includes all prescription and non-prescription medications. Medications cannot be given without this written doctor's order. Just having the medication bottle is not acceptable. If a student does require a medication to be taken at school, do not send the medication to school with the student. A parent/guardian must bring the medication to school and give to the school nurse. If the school nurse is not immediately available, see the principal. Do not leave medication with front office personnel or student's teacher.

Students are not allowed to carry medications with them while they are at school. However, students can self-carry emergency medications such as inhalers, epi-pens, and glucagon's. Medications are registered with the school nurse and stored in the Nurse's office locked medication cabinet.

All medications brought to school must be in the original container, properly labeled, and accompanied by a doctor's order. The School Nurse has a Physicians Authorization Form on the Ashe County Schools website that you can obtain and take to your physician to complete.



NURSES OFFICE

MENINGITIS

Meningococcal meningitis disease is a serious, potentially fatal illness caused by bacteria. Symptoms may resemble the flu but progress rapidly and can often cause death within two days. Meningitis is contagious and is spread through air droplets and direct contact with infected persons. It can be spread through coughing, sneezing, kissing, or sharing items like drinking glasses, lip balm, eating utensils or cigarettes. Adolescents are at increased risk of contracting this disease. The majority of cases among adolescents are preventable by vaccination. The vaccine is a covered benefit, paid for by most major insurance companies, Medicaid, and free to children up to age 18.

Meningococcal immunization is recommended for the following age groups:

- Adolescents aged 11-12 year old.
- Adolescents at high school entry,
- College freshman, through 18 years of age, who live in dormitories, or
- Children 11 > Years of age who are at increased risk for Meningococcal disease.

For medical advice about Meningococcal immunization, consult your physician, health department, or school nurse.

INFLUENZA

The flu is a respiratory illness caused by a virus and can be easily spread to others. Infection with flu viruses can result in illness ranging from mild to severe and to life-threatening problems. In the United States, it is estimated that 10-20% of people get the flu each year. Healthy persons may be able to spread the flu from 1 day before getting sick to up to 5 days after getting sick. This can be longer in children and in persons who don't fight disease as well. A flu vaccine is the best way to protect against the flu. The peak season for the flu in the U.S. is November through April. The ideal time for children to get a flu shot is in October. See your physician or local health department to receive a flu vaccine. In addition, the following steps may help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses like flu:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick,
- Stay home when you are sick,
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing,
- Wash your hands frequently with lots of soap and warm water,
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

NURSES OFFICE

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Coronaviruses are a type of virus. There are many different kinds, and some cause disease.

COVID-19 symptoms include cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches, sore throat, unexplained loss of taste or smell, diarrhea and headache. COVID-19 can be severe, and some cases have caused death. The coronavirus can be spread from person to person. It is diagnosed with a laboratory test.

Prevention involves:

- frequent hand-washing,
- coughing into the bend of your elbow,
- staying home when you are sick
- wearing a cloth face covering
- practice social distancing

MEDIA CENTER

The mission of the ACHS Library/Media Center is to empower students, staff, and community members to be life-long learners, informed decision-makers, ethical users of information technologies, and enthusiastic readers.

We believe that a strong library has a positive effect on student achievement and this is supported by state and national studies.

Career and College Promise students will utilize the library/media center during times when WCC classes are not meeting on the college campus and during open periods to do online CCP classes. CCP students must sign in at the front desk.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner as outlined in this handbook.

REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER STUDENTS

Prospective students wishing to enter/reenter Ashe County High School should first appear with a parent or guardian in the Student Services Office for initial registration paperwork. Required paperwork includes presentation of a birth certificate and immunization records. Students are then required to meet with the Principal or other administrative designee (grade level counselor) to discuss past educational experiences and ACHS expectations.

There will be a **24 hour** waiting period before an incoming student may begin attendance. During this time period the Principal or designee (Mrs. Sloan) will make contact with the student's previous school in regard to special needs, attendance, discipline, credits earned, and academic achievement. The student and guardian will then be contacted in regard to beginning attendance and registration of classes.

WITHDRAWALS

Students withdrawing from ACHS should go by the Student Services office prior to departure and then follow the withdrawal process. Enrollment in another school can not be completed until the student has properly withdrawn from ACHS. It is important that all debts be paid and books, etc., be turned in.

LOCKERS

Each students will choose whether or not her or she will use a locker this school year. If not, they will carry their materials in their book bags to each class. Students are expected to come to class prepared with necessary materials and chromebook. The school cannot accept any responsibility for stolen money or other articles/items.

TEXTBOOKS

All textbooks issued to students are the property of the state and school. The student will be responsible for any replacement cost or fines assessed due to lost or damaged books. No student will be allowed to withdraw from school unless all books are returned or fines satisfied.



TRIPS

All trips will be classified in one of the following categories:

School sponsored trips/events—Students who are involved in school sponsored trips or athletic events will not be counted absent from school. Students who follow guidelines set by the guidance department may make college visits and not be counted absent.

Other educational trips— Students may request pre-approval for other trips that have educational value. Days absent from school for pre-approved trips will be counted as excused absences.

Other trips—Days absent from school for trips not listed above will be counted as unexcused absences.



DRIVING LEGISLATION

The Dropout Prevention/Driver's License legislation reflects a coordinated statewide effort to motivate and encourage students to complete high school. The revocation of a student's driving permit or license will result if a student is unable to maintain adequate academic progress or drops out of school.

This legislation is directed to all North Carolina students under the age of 18 who are eligible for a driving permit or license. This includes public school, home school, private school and community college students.

Adequate academic progress will be evaluated at the end of each semester. A student must pass 3 out of 4 classes (75%) in order to be eligible to receive and maintain a Driving Eligibility Certificate. For students not meeting adequate academic progress, the NCDMV will revoke all driving privileges for the upcoming school semester.

A student who drops out of school will lose his/her driver's permit or license. Parents or legal guardians of a student wanting to pursue a Driving Eligibility Certificate based on hardship must notify the school principal.

“Lose Control, Lose Your License” Guidelines

As of July 1, 2000, a student's permit or license will be revoked for one year whenever a student is given an expulsion/suspension for more than 10 consecutive days or when an assignment to an alternative educational setting for more than 10 consecutive days is made for one of the following reasons:

1. The possession or sale of alcoholic beverages or an illegal/over-the-counter substances on school property.
2. The possession or use on school property of a weapon or firearm that resulted in disciplinary action or that could have resulted in disciplinary action if the conduct had occurred in public school.
3. The physical assault on a teacher or other school personnel.
4. The destruction of school property. The definition of school property is the physical premises of the school, school buses or other vehicles under the school's control or contract that are used to transport students, and school sponsored or school related activities that occur on or off the physical premises of the school.

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STUDENT PARKING REGULATIONS

Driving to school and parking on campus is considered **a privilege not a right**. To ensure the safety of our students, visitors, faculty and staff, high standards of conduct are expected of our student drivers and their passengers. Random Drug Testing will be done each school year.

Expectations:

- Standard established 2013-2014 school year-All students seeking a parking pass must agree to be subject to and participate in the ACHS random drug test program.
- All students are to register their vehicles at the beginning of each year and have a completed application on file before parking on campus.
- Campus speed limit is 15 M.P.H.
- Drivers are expected to adhere to all school and traffic regulations.
- Cell phone usage while driving on campus is strictly prohibited.
- Parking tags are to be displayed on the driverside (lower left hand) section of the windshield.
- Parking in assigned parking spaces only.
- Students are to enter the building upon arriving to school . The parking lot is an unauthorized area during the school day and a student shall not return back to ANY vehicle without written permission from an administrator or SRO.
- Students are to report to their cars at the dismissal of school and leave immediately unless they are involved with extracurricular activities. Students are not to stand and socialize in the parking areas before or after school hours.
- Yield right of way to yellow buses

STUDENT PARKING REGULATIONS

Registering and Purchasing a Parking Pass:

- Parking permits can be purchased in the finance office.
- Parking permits are to be purchased on designated days or during Husky Hall. and 8:20 am.
- Student parking is \$40.00 per year. Once purchased, spots may not be switched and are non-transferable. Parking fees are non-refundable.
- A completed application must have both parental and student driver signatures.
- All fees or debts owed to the school must be paid before a pass can be purchased.
- A lost tag may be replaced for a \$20.00 replacement fee.
- A valid NC drivers license must be shown at the time of registration
- Students must inform the finance office if they change cars or tags at anytime during the school year in order to keep records up to date and prevent them from receiving a ticket.

STUDENT PARKING REGULATIONS

Consequences:

Students may receive a minimal \$20.00 citation for the following reasons:

1. Failure to register their vehicle within the first 10 days of school
2. Parking in someone else's space
3. Failure to properly display their parking tag
4. Parking in a staff or visitor space
5. Parking tickets will immediately be placed on the debt list and it is the student's responsibility to resolve the ticket and make sure that is cleared off the debt list through the finance office.

Long and short term revocation of privileges may occur for the following reasons:

1. Leaving campus without permission
2. Transporting another student off campus without permission or without following correct procedure.
3. Loaning out a vehicle for others to leave without permission.
4. Careless or reckless driving.
5. Failure to obey traffic director/officer.
6. Excessive tardiness as defined and laid out in the student handbook.
7. Administrators hold the right to use revocation of privileges in lieu of any punishment listed in the student handbook.

Towing at the owner's expense or the application of a wheel lock will occur when:

1. A student fails to register after ample chances and citations.
2. Repeated offenses of any expectation or rule.
3. Failure to pay driving citations.

The school is not responsible for any loss or damage of vehicles or vehicle contents. Any vehicle parked on the ACHS campus is subject to search by school administrators.

ATTENDANCE

9-12 Attendance

Policy Code: 4400

The Ashe County Board of Education believes attendance is an important factor in the educational development of the student as well as a desirable habit for young adults to develop as they prepare to enter the areas of higher education and work. Any student who misses **over 6 days**, and the days are unexcused, in a class during a semester will automatically lose credit for the course and will receive an “FF” to indicate an overage in absences in that course. If a student is able to maintain a passing grade in a class with more than six unexcused absences, they may qualify to appeal the loss of credit to the attendance waiver committee. It will be the student’s responsibility to complete the waiver form and submit all necessary paperwork by the deadline. Students must attend the waiver hearing. Waivers will be granted or denied based on the necessity of the absences (confirmed by relevant notes from doctors and parents) along with student attitude and overall classroom performance. If a student’s absences cannot be accounted for or if the student has demonstrated a poor attitude and work ethic in class, waivers will be rejected and the student will fail the course.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to make up missed assignments as a result of absences and will be responsible for arranging a make-up schedule with their teachers. Students may be asked to attend tutorial sessions during or after school.

Written documentation is required for all absences; therefore, a student must present a doctor's note or a written statement from parent/guardian as to the reasons for absences within 3 days of returning to school or it will not be accepted and coded unexcused. Determination as to whether the absences are excused or unexcused will be made by the principal or designee according to the following legitimate reasons for absences:

1. Illness and injury
2. Quarantine
3. Death in the immediate family
4. Medical or dental appointments
5. Court or administrative proceedings (court ordered)
6. Religious observances
7. Educational Opportunity
8. Special emergencies as determined by the principal

ATTENDANCE

9-12 ATTENDANCE WAIVER PROCEDURE

Waivers will be heard at the end of each semester. It is the student's responsibility to complete the Request for Attendance Waiver Form and submit all necessary paperwork by the deadline. Students must attend the waiver hearing and have the option of inviting parents and guardians.

BASIC CRITERIA FOR WAIVER APPROVAL

- Must have a passing grade in the class
- Did not receive a waiver the previous semester
- Must have fewer than 10% missing assignments in the class
- Must have made an effort to attend tutoring in the class (evidenced by teacher input on the application form)

ATTENDANCE WAIVER COMMITTEE

The Waiver Committee will include one assistant principal, one counselor, 3 teachers and the Lead Innovator of Student Success. The Committee will review the attendance policy before each attendance review session. The committee will read student input from the submitted form which includes:

- Current average in each class
- The number of excused, unexcused, and total absences in each class
- The number of missing assignments
- The number of times the student has attended tutoring
- The student's explanation of the extenuating circumstances causing excessive absences.

ATTENDANCE

Student Responsibility

Step 1: Students must complete the Request for Attendance Waiver form. These forms will be available at the front desk and must be turned in by the deadline to the principal or designee (the LISS).

Step 2: After turning in the application form to the office, if any of the criterion are not met, the student will be notified and the process will end. If the student meets the criteria, he/she will receive a date and time to appeal the loss of credit with the Waiver Committee. Students who submit a waiver request form must appear in person before the committee. They have the option of inviting parents and guardians.

Step 3: Student will be notified of the Waiver Committee's decision.

Waivers will be granted or denied based on the necessity of the absences (confirmed by relevant notes from doctors and parents) along with student's interview with the waiver committee. If a student's absences cannot be accounted for or if the student has demonstrated a poor attitude and work ethic in class, waivers will be rejected and the student will fail the course. The committee will vote to grant or deny waivers for each class in which the student has over 6 unexcused absences separately by secret ballot. The determination of the waiver will be based on the majority's opinion. The administration reserves the right to review and waive absences due to extenuating circumstances and overall classroom performance.

ATTENDANCE

Compulsory Attendance Law

In addition to the elements of the local board policy as listed above, all students who come under the Compulsory Attendance Law, will have the following regulations applied: (House Bill 558)

1. After three (3) accumulated unexcused absences, the parents/guardian of students under age 16 will be contacted and advised that they may be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law.
2. After six (6) accumulated unexcused absences, parents/guardian will be notified by mail.
3. After ten (10) unexcused absences, the principal (or designee) will confer with the student and parents/guardian to review attendance.
4. If the principal (or designee) determines that the parent/guardian has not made a good faith effort to comply, the juvenile intake counselor is notified and charges may be filed against the student and/or parents/guardian.
5. The law states that the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child shall notify the school of the reason for each known absence of the child.

Educational Opportunity

The principal may approve one pre-arranged trip of up to three days. Students must submit a Request for Educational Opportunity form to administration at least 5 days prior to the trip for it to be considered for approval. A submission does not mean it will automatically be approved. If approved, a one-page journal writing will be submitted upon return from the trip to the principal or designee. Missed days will count towards the total number of absences for the semester. (No absences for prearranged educational opportunity will be granted during the two weeks prior to end of the semester.)

College Visits/Scholarship Interviews

Absences due to documented college visits or scholarship interviews must be approved by the principal (or designee) at least 5 days prior to being off campus. Properly documented college visits and scholarship interviews are not counted as an absence. All missing work is required to be made up by the student in a timely manner acceptable to their teachers.

ATTENDANCE

The Ashe County Board of Education recognizes that regular school attendance plays a significant role in the academic performance of all students. It is a reasonable expectation that in order for learning to occur, each student must arrive to school on time. Students who are tardy excessively fall behind in academic achievement. A student who is continually tardy not only places his/her own learning in jeopardy, but also interrupts the learning of other students. Teachers take roll each morning and students are considered tardy if they are not in the classroom when the bell rings OR if a student leaves before the end of the instructional day. Students will have three school days to provide a written excuse for the tardy. Written excuses will be accepted up to 6 unexcused tardies or 10 accumulated tardies. After 6 unexcused tardies or 10 accumulated tardies, a medical excuse will be required.

ATTENDANCE

The following procedures will be followed for frequent and excessive tardiness in Ashe County Schools:

In grades 9-12, tardies will be counted per class. The following procedures are followed as tardies are accumulated in each class:

- After **3 tardies** the classroom teacher will contact the parent or guardian of the student to address the tardies and provide possible solutions and educate parents or guardians of possible consequences of continued tardiness. The student will receive a warning referral to the office.
- After **6 unexcused tardies**, a student, teacher, administrator conference will be scheduled. An agreement will be developed by the administration and the student that includes steps that will be taken if the tardiness continues. The student will receive a referral to the office. The student will serve detention and driving privileges will be suspended for up to 5 days.
- After **9 tardies** the student will receive a referral to the office, 1 day of In School Suspension, and driving privileges will be suspended for up to 10 days. The student and administration will revise the agreement.
- After **12 tardies** the student will receive a referral to the office, 2 days of In School Suspension, and driving privileges will be suspended for the remainder of the semester.

Discipline continues for tardies as stated in the ACHS Student Handbook.

July, 2016

ATTENDANCE

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT

A. Once a student reports to school, he/she is expected to report to all classes during the day. Students arriving late to school after 8:20 MUST sign in at the office and get an admit slip prior to going to class. Failure to report will be considered cutting class and will be dealt with according to the discipline policy.

B. Absences will be handled in the following ways:

1. Students will be required to make up work missed due to absences.
2. Each student is responsible for keeping up with his/her attendance.
3. Students shall account for the lawfulness of an absence with the attendance administrators by giving them a note from their parents or guardians. Absences will be coded excused or unexcused and student will be given an absence slip to present to his/her teachers. Failure to present a note within 3 consecutive days shall result in the absence being coded unexcused. According to the State of North Carolina attendance policy. "Attendance must be taken each day of the school year. In order to be considered in attendance, a student (except for hospital/homebound or staggered kindergarten) must be present in the school for the school day, or at a place other than the school with the approval of the appropriate school official for the purpose of attending an authorized school activity. Such activities may include field trips, athletic contests, student conventions, musical festivals, or any similar approved activity."
4. Students must request make up work for an excused or unexcused absence the first day they return to school. Missed work will be made up at each teacher's discretion as stated in class syllabi.
5. Students are expected to make up missed assignments as a result of absences and will be responsible for arranging a make-up schedule with their teachers. Students with excused absences may be asked to attend after-school tutorial sessions.
6. Students needing help with make up assignments need to ask teacher for assistance in a timely manner in order to get assignments done by the due date. This can be accomplished by selecting the teacher for Husky Hall in Edificiency.
7. The administration reserves the right to review absences and waive consequences due to extenuating circumstances and overall classroom performance.

ATTENDANCE

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TEACHER

- A. Period attendance must be done within the 1st 10 minutes of each period and recorded in Power School.
- B. Teachers are to remind students of accumulating tardies and to remind students to turn in assignments resulting from absences.
- C. Tardies – Tardies are considered a discipline problem and after every 3rd unexcused tardy the student will be referred by the teacher and dealt with in accordance to the ACHS discipline policy. Refer to Discipline Chart in the back of this Student Handbook.
- D. In cooperation with the student's prompt and conscientious request to make up work, it is the responsibility of the classroom teacher to be available and to assist in a reasonable manner in this effort.
- E. Early departure (3:35) must be approved by the administration before the student leaves the school (for underclassmen).

SCHOOL RELEASES AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. School releases do not count as absences. Since students are not counted absent for a school release, they are responsible for completing assignments or responding appropriately to any information given in the class missed. Classroom teachers will provide appropriate timeframes to students for making up assignments due to school releases. A student will be considered released from school for the following:
 - 1. Ashe County High School – related activities
 - 2. Late bus
 - 3. No bus service because of limited routes
- 2. Educational Opportunities are excused absences pre-approved by the principal. If a student has accumulated less than three absences for the semester, one trip of up to three days may be approved. Requests must be submitted in writing to the principal prior to the trip.

ATTENDANCE

ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

Once a student arrives on school grounds they may not leave the premises without following proper procedure of signing out within the office. **Some may feel that if they arrive on campus early that it is okay to leave if it is prior to the actual school day beginning. However, once you arrive on campus you become the responsibility of the school and its staff.** Your parents and/or guardian have entrusted us with your care once you enter school grounds, therefore we must exercise our duty in keeping you as safe as possible within the confines of the Ashe County High School campus.

LATE ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

Students who arrive late will be screened by front office staff and will be given a Check In Pass to enter their class.

Students arriving to school after 8:20

Step 1: Present a note from a parent/guardian and receive a Check In Pass in the office.

Step 2: Present a Check In Pass to classroom teacher when entering late.

Reminder: Students must be in class at least one half the period in order to be considered present.

TARDIES

It is important that students always be in class when the tardy bell rings. The school reserves the right to place students in morning or afternoon detention or ISS for excessive tardies. In grades 9-12, tardies will be counted per class.

A cumulative semester total of tardies will be kept in the office.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Students wishing to leave early should follow this procedure:

Step 1: Present a note from a parent/guardian and receive a Check Out Pass in the office.

Step 2: Present Check Out Pass to classroom teacher if leaving during a class period.

Step 3: Sign out in office when leaving.

Reminder: Students must be in a class at least one half of the class in order to be considered present.

GRADUATION

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Six students will be selected to speak during the graduation ceremony. These students will include the following:

- Student Body President
- Senior Class President
- Two Essay Winners (Seniors wishing to speak will submit an essay which will be read by graduation committee. The top 2 essays will be selected to speak at graduation.
- One graduate selected by ACHS administration
- One graduate selected by ACHS staff

School debts must be paid in full in order to participate in graduation rehearsal and ceremony. Seniors must attend graduation rehearsal in its entirety to participate in the ceremony.

DRESS CODE

WHAT TO WEAR:

Males: Dress pants, dress shoes, dark socks, dress shirt, and tie (strongly suggested). Clean cowboy boots are appropriate.

Females: Dress or dress pants and dress shoes. Clean cowboy boots and dressy sandals are appropriate.

WHAT NOT TO WEAR:

The following items are absolutely **NOT** allowed:

- Shorts
- Jeans
- Flip flops
- Athletic shoes- including those with heels or sequins/glitter
- Hiking boots or work boots
- Casual sandals (such as Birkenstocks)

Students inappropriately dressed will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and may receive their diplomas the following Monday. It is the responsibility of the student to receive prior approval for any questionable clothing items from the graduation coordinator or administration. Student Services is also available to provide dress clothing and shoes for any student needing assistance.

GRADUATION

HONOR GRADUATES

For students receiving a diploma, we will recognize the honor graduates as follows:

LATIN HONORS	MEANING	GPA RANGE
Summa Cum Laude	With highest praise	Weighted GPA 4.3 or higher
Magna Cum Laude	With great praise	Weighted GPA 4.111-4.299
Cum Laude	With praise	Weighted GPA 4.0-4.1



STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

BAND Student must complete 8 separate performance band courses. Courses do not have to be taken in consecutive semesters. The student must have a minimum 3.50 GPA

BETA Student must be an active BETA member and exemplify the motto “Let us lead by serving others.” Members must maintain a weighted 3.50 GPA or higher, have no semester grade lower than a “C” and must have earned 6 or more BETA credits annually.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMPLETER

Student must be a concentrator in at least one CTE pathway. A concentrator is a student who has earned two or more technical credits in a Career Cluster Pathway, at least one of which is a completer course. Student must have an unweighted overall GPA of 3.0. Student must take the ACT Workkeys exam.

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA (FFA) Student must have taken at least 3 agricultural classes during their high school career and be a dues paying member of the ACHS FFA Chapter.

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS STUDENTS OF AMERICA (HOSA) Student must be an active member of HOSA and earn 200 HOSA points from volunteer and chapter activities.

INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY Student must meet the criteria set forth by the EdTA.

JROTC Student must have completed 6 semesters of JROTC and 65 hours of community service while maintaining an “A” in JROTC all semesters. The student is required to participate in one semester of special team and have a 3.0 overall GPA. There can be NO incidences of ISS or OSS during junior and senior year.

JOURNALISM HONORS: It is awarded to those few, dedicated students who have committed themselves to at least three years and a total of four semesters to the ACHS yearbook program while maintaining an overall weighted GPA of 3.5. Generally these students have served as an Editor their senior year.

MU ALPHA THETA The student must have completed 3 semesters of college preparatory mathematics and be enrolled in another semester. The student must maintain at least a “B” average in these courses. To remain in good standings student must participate in 3 of 4 weekly challenges and attend monthly meetings.

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

NC PROSTART/CULINARY HONOR Student must pass ProStart Level 1 and 2 with a final grade of “B” or higher, earn their Foundations of Restaurant Management & Culinary Arts Level 1 and 2 Certificates, and have a minimum weighted GPA of 3.0.

NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY Student must take at least one art class per year, maintain a “B” average in art, volunteer ten hours per year taking part in community art activities, show artwork in the Ashe County Arts Council Young at Art show, and take part in the Very Special Arts Festival / Spring Fest.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Student must have donated blood three times during his or her senior year.

RHO KAPPA Students must have completed 6 social studies course with no grade lower than an 88. Students must also attend 2 civic events for a total of 5 hours of community services to instill the Rho Kappa belief that knowledge without service is useless.

STUDENT COUNCIL Student must be a student council member for at least two years, including senior year, and have a minimum of 50 total hours. Student must have a GPA of at least 3.50.

SPANISH HONOR SOCIETY Student must have taken Spanish I, Spanish 2, and a honors Spanish class with an “A” average. Students must have demonstrated integrity and respect for themselves and others and have a passion to enhance their Spanish language skills and to embrace it’s cultures.

TRI-M HONOR SOCIETY Student must have at least a 3.50 GPA in music courses and at least a 3.0 overall GPA.

WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE Career and College Promise Student must complete 12 credit hours and have a minimum 3.0 WCC GPA.

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA ENDORSEMENTS

Students in North Carolina public schools may receive one or more endorsements on their high school diploma. These endorsements indicate that students have completed specific course concentrations preparing them to be ready for college or careers. The five endorsements are:

- Career Endorsement indicating completion of a rigorous course of study that includes a CTE concentration
- College Endorsement indicating readiness for entry into community colleges
- College/UNC Endorsement indicating readiness for entry into a four-year university in the University of North Carolina system
- NC Academic Scholars Endorsement indicating that students have completed a balanced and academically rigorous high school program preparing them for post-secondary education
- Global Languages Endorsement indicating proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS WITH ENDORSEMENTS

Will be designated by the state board of Education as having achieved an endorsement

Will receive a seal of recognition attached to their diplomas

Will have their specific endorsements listed on their official academic transcript

May receive special recognition at graduation exercises and other community events

May be considered for scholarships or employment opportunities

May use this special recognition in applying to post-secondary institutions.



DIPLOMA ENDORSEMENTS



Career Endorsement



College Endorsement

Credits	Career	College
4	English I, II, III, IV	English I, II, III, IV
4	Mathematics I, II, III and a fourth mathematics course aligned with the student's post-secondary plans. Acceptable fourth math courses for the Career Endorsement include any math course that may be used to meet NC high school graduation requirements, including applied math courses found in the CTE domain.	Math I, II, III and a fourth mathematics course aligned with the student's post-secondary plans. The fourth math course must meet UNC system minimum admission requirements or be acceptable for earning placement in a credit-bearing college math class under the NC Community College System's Multiple Measures Placement policy.
3	Science (Earth Science, Biology, Physical Science)	Science (Earth Science, Biology, Physical Science)
4	Social Studies (World History, Civics & Economics, American History I and American History II)	Social Studies (World History, Civics & Economics, American History I and American History II)
1	Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education
World Language Specific to Endorsement	NA	NA
Electives Specific to Endorsement	The student shall complete a CTE concentration in one of the approved CTE Cluster areas: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Architecture and Construction Arts, A/V Technology and Communications Business, Management and Administration Health Science Hospitality and Tourism Human Service Information Technology Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Manufacturing Marketing, Sales and Service STEM Transportation, Distribution and Logistics The student shall earn an unweighted GPA of at least 2.6.	
GPA Requirements or/and Other Specifications	GPA 2.6 The student shall earn at least one industry-recognized credential. Earned credentials can include Career Readiness Certificates at the Silver level or above from WorkKeys assessments OR another appropriate industry credential/certification.	GPA 2.6



College/UNC



NC Academic Scholars



Global Languages

Credits	College/UNC	NC Academic	Global Language
4	English I, II, III, IV	English I, II, III, IV	English I, II, III, IV
4	Mathematics I, II, III and a fourth mathematics course that meets UNC system minimum admission requirements.	Mathematics I, II, III and a higher level mathematics course with Mathematics III as prerequisite	Mathematics I, II, III and a higher level mathematics course with Mathematics III as prerequisite The student shall earn unweighted 2.5 GPA or above for the four English Language Arts courses.
3	Science (Physical Science, Life science and one additional science)	Science (Physics or Chemistry course, Biology, and an Earth/Environmental Science course)	Science (Earth Science, Biology, Physical Science)
4	Social Studies (World History, Civics & Economics, American History I and American History II)	Social Studies (World History, Civics/Economics, American History I and American History II)	Social Studies (World History, Civics & Economics, American History I and American History II)
1	Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education	Health and Physical Education
World Language Specific to Endorsement	Two Units: World Language other than English	Two Units: World Language other than English	The student shall establish proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English, using one of the options outlined below and in accordance with the guidelines developed by the NCDPI. Pass external exam approved by the NCDPI establishing "Intermediate Low" proficiency or higher per the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages proficiency scale. Complete a four-course sequence of study in the same world language, earning an overall unweighted GPA of 2.5 or above in those courses. Establish "Intermediate Low" proficiency or higher per the ACTFL proficiency scale using the Credit by Demonstrated Mastery policy described in GCS-M-001

DIPLOMA ENDORSEMENTS



College/UNC



NC Academic Scholars



Global Languages

Electives Specific to Endorsement		The student shall complete four elective credits in any one subject area, such as CTE, JROTC, Arts Education, World Languages, or in another approved content area.	
Advanced Placement/ Honors Specific to Endorsement		The student shall have completed at least three higher-level courses during junior and/or senior years which carry quality points such as AP, International Baccalaureate or Career & College Promise courses; Advance CTE and CTE credentialing courses; honors level courses, or Project Lead the Way courses.	
GPA Requirements or/and Other Specifications	GPA 2.5	GPA 3.5	GPA 2.5 Limited English Proficiency students shall complete all the requirements of the above standards "Developing" proficiency per the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment proficiency scale in all four domains on the most recent state identified English language proficiency test.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Students are responsible for completing 30 hours of community service by the 2nd semester of their senior year. Students can download the community service form from the Ashe County High School website or get one in the Student Services office. Forms must be turned in to the Student Services secretary, Linda Sloan, to be recorded.

Download form at:

https://www.asheschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=23&dataid=8245&FileName=community_service_form.pdf

SENIOR TRIP

The Senior Trip is designed as a reward trip for those students who have conducted themselves in a positive manner within the school year. The opportunity is open to all Seniors who have acted as responsible young men and women and have ardently sought to be successful in their coursework. Seniors may lose the privilege to participate by abusing school policies and rules that result in any of the following:

- Out of School Suspension (2nd semester)
- 3rd ISS (year-long)
- Failing grade at time of trip in any course required for student graduation
- Unexcused absences at time of trip in excess of 6
- Student owes school debt
- Student has 12 or more tardies in current semester

Every effort will be made to keep the expense of the trip as low as possible. Higher numbers of participants will mean the cost is lower per individual student.

SCHOOL BUSES

The driver of a school bus shall work closely with school bus supervisor of the school to foster and develop a positive attitude toward riding a school bus. All students who ride a school bus shall be assigned to a seat by the school bus driver. Seat assignment shall be completed by the end of the second full week of school. All cases of misconduct on a school bus shall be reported by the driver to the school bus supervisor or school principal on a standard bus misconduct form.

The following procedures shall be followed in handling cases of misconduct on school buses:

All infractions must be documented in writing.

Bus discipline is divided into two categories. Category I addresses general misconduct and Category II addresses severe misconduct. Consequences for students who are guilty of Category II misconduct will face beginning consequences listed for the 4th infraction and/or additional consequences as administration deems appropriate.

SCHOOL BUSES

CATEGORY I OFFENSES (failure to follow these rules)

1. **Bus assignment.** Only students assigned to the bus are to ride the bus and they are to get off at their assigned stop only. Any changes must be with a note from a parent and signed by a school official. The note should be signed by the principal/designee and a copy given to the driver.
2. **Bus stop behavior.** Be on time at the designated bus stop only. Stand a safe distance from the roadway and wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before attempting to board.
3. **Boarding and unloading.** Students are to board the bus in an orderly manner with no pushing, shoving or breaking in front of another student.
4. **Driver instruction.** Instructions from the driver are to be obeyed the first time they are given.
5. **Language.** Use polite language, speak softly and maintain respectable conduct while riding the bus.
6. **Hands and feet.** Keep hands and feet inside the bus at all times.
7. **Seat.** Stay in your seat facing forward with feet on the floor while the bus is in motion.
8. **Personal items.** Items not authorized to be transported will be taken by the driver and given to the principal or designee.
9. **Food.** Only water is allowed while on the bus.
10. **Homework.** Books are the only school materials that may be out while on the bus. No pencils, pens, paper, etc. are to be out while on the bus.
11. **Electronic devices.** Electronic devices are allowed as long as they do not cause problems on the bus. If a problem arises because of an electronic device, the student will be asked to put it away. If the student refuses to comply with the driver's request the device will be taken by the driver and turned in to the school office. Any loss of, or damage to, an electronic device used by students on the bus will not be the responsibility of the school system.

SCHOOL BUSES

CATEGORY II OFFENSES

1. **Weapons.** Refer to Ashe County Schools Board of Education Policy 4330.
2. **Controlled substances.** No student rider shall possess, use or be under the influence of any illicit drugs on a bus or bus parking area. Refer to Ashe County Schools Board of Education Policy 4325.
3. **Tobacco/Vapes.** Tobacco products are prohibited on or around the bus or bus parking lot.
4. **Fighting.** No student rider shall provoke or engage in a fight or cause personal injury or discomfort to another.
5. **Physical intimacy.** No student will engage in any type of intimate contact with another.
6. **Gross disrespect.** No student shall show disrespect to another student or driver by use of vulgar or profane language, indecent exposure, etc.
7. **Safety equipment.** No student shall tamper with emergency exits, bus equipment or deface a bus in any manner.
8. **Willful disobedience.** No student shall willfully fail to comply with any request by school personnel or the driver regarding safety on the bus and protection of other persons or property.
9. **Bus privileges.** No student shall ride their assigned bus or any other school bus within the system after the school bus supervisor has suspended riding privileges.



SCHOOL BUSES



CONSEQUENCES

Category 1 Offenses

1st infraction – parental notification and warning issued by the administrator

2nd infraction = 1st infraction (*Category II Offense*)

Category II Offenses (1st infraction = 2nd infraction for Category 1 Offenses)

1st infraction – parental notification and counsel with the student; may receive 3 days bus suspension or 3 days ISS

2nd infraction – May receive up to 5 days off the bus or 5 days of ISS and recommendation to Teen Court by SRO

3rd infraction – May receive up to 10 days off the bus or may be suspended for the remainder of the semester or school year

ATHLETICS

Ashe County High School offers students the opportunity to participate in the following sports. The head coach for each team is listed beside each sport.

FALL SEASON	WINTER SEASON	SPRING SEASON
Football- Brian Hampton Golf, Women's Varsity – Nathan Colvard Volleyball, Varsity – Dalton Lewis Volleyball, JV – Kristi Powers Tennis, Women's Varsity – Judy Smith Soccer, Men's Varsity – Jamison Cline Soccer, Men's JV - Tichiona Remias Cheerleading, Varsity – Madi Roberts Cheerleading, JV – Stephanie Holman Cross Country, Men & Women's Varsity – Shane Greene	Basketball, Women's Varsity – Brianna Ashley Basketball, Women's JV – Justin Wood Basketball, Men's Varsity – Justin Grubb Basketball, Men's JV – Jamison Cline Wrestling, Varsity – Brandon & Danny Dillard Cheerleading, Varsity – Madi Roberts Cheerleading, JV – Stephanie Burwell Swimming, - Adam Widner Indoor Track & Field - Aaron Cronk	Baseball, Varsity – Ben Cheek Baseball, JV – Chris Pennington Soccer, Women's Varsity – Wayne Cable Tennis, Men – Travis Richardson Men's Golf, Varsity – TBA Track, Women's Varsity – Alex Rollins Track, Men's Varsity – Alex Rollins Softball, Varsity – Justin Wood Softball, JV – Travis Eason



ATHLETICS

Ashe County High School is proud to be part of the **Northwestern 3A/4A Conference.**

Gate Ticket Sales	All-Season Passes	Digital Tickets
<p>All sports except varsity football and all basketball games:</p> <p>Adults & Students (K-8)..... \$7</p> <p>Varsity football JV/Varsity basketball games:</p> <p>Adults & Students (K-8)..... \$8</p> <p>Conference wrestling tournament ... \$10</p>	<p>Student pass (K-8)..... \$50</p> <p>Adult pass..... \$200</p> <p>Family pass..... \$400</p> <p><i>(Family pass - all sports/all seasons - includes parents/guardians and children up to 6 persons max)</i></p>	<p>Digital Tickets to games will be sold through the GoFan app. There is an additional \$1 convenience fee to purchase tickets online.</p> <p>Some schools in our conference only accept Digital Tickets. Before traveling to an away game, you need to check the ticket protocols for that school. ACHS does not currently sell digital tickets.</p>



ATHLETICS

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for athletic participation, a student must:

1. Pass a minimum load of work during the preceding semester to be eligible at any time during the present semester. A minimum load is defined as three courses on the “block” format. Students must also meet local promotion standards set by the LEA and/or the local school. A student, upon first entering grade nine, is academically eligible for competition on high school teams.
2. Meet all ACHS Attendance Policy requirements.
3. Meet the age requirement as specified by NCHSAA. A student may participate in athletic contests during a school year if he/she will not become 19 years of age on or before August 31 of the school year.
4. Each parent/student must register through Dragonfly. Each student must have a current physical examination (a physical examination is good for 365 days) a signed current parental permission form, a completed Gfellar Waller checklist and a current EKG before being allowed to participate in athletics. In addition, an athlete must have a current drug testing consent form. An athlete should be covered by insurance.
5. Ashe County athletes are offered the opportunity to get sports physicals and EKG's at our annual **HEART OF A HUSKY** event each spring (usually in May). The medical professional community volunteers their services for this event and it is free of charge to all athletes.
6. Upon entrance into high school, a student has eight consecutive semesters of eligibility.

ATHLETICS

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS

The athletic department of Ashe County High School has adopted the following regulations concerning the conduct of all members of its interscholastic teams:

1. Athletes must meet all NCHSAA eligibility requirements before being allowed to participate in any sport.
2. Athletes are expected to practice good health and training habits. Use of tobacco, alcohol, and other controlled substances is forbidden.
3. Profanity will not be tolerated at any time or place.
4. Athletes are to be at practice everyday. Every practice is important; even if injured, an athlete can learn from observation.
5. Athletes must travel to and from away games with their coaches. An athlete may only leave with a guardian, and then only after signing out with his or her coaching staff.
6. An athlete being placed in ISS *may* result in the athlete not participating in practice or a contest during the entire time the athlete is assigned to ISS. OSS **will** result in the athlete not participating in practice or a contest.
7. Athletes are expected to abide by the general conduct codes.
8. Athletes are expected to dress appropriately for school.
9. Athletes are expected to have a good attendance record at school. Furthermore, no athlete will be allowed to actively participate in a practice session or play in a game on a day in which he/she has not been present in school (special exceptions can be approved by the principal or athletic director). Present is defined as two periods.
10. It is the student-athlete's responsibility "to not use any form of social media to be critical of teammates, coaches, game officials, school administrators, opponents, opposing schools or any other personnel involved in the athletic program.
11. Insubordination, poor sportsmanship, violation of an individual coach's rule, or anti-social behavior exhibited by an athlete is considered detrimental to the team and to school spirit. The athlete shall receive no less than a reprimand and no more than a suspension for the season.

ATHLETICS

ATHLETIC PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. To provide students with the opportunity to engage in competitive activities.
2. To provide students with the opportunity to achieve goals through self-discipline, sacrifice, and dedication.
3. To provide students with the opportunity to exemplify good sportsmanship as a means of learning good citizenship.
4. To provide students with the opportunity to work as a team member in order to achieve a goal, learning that cooperation and competition are not mutually exclusive concepts.
5. To provide students with the opportunity to experience both winning and losing. To come to an understanding that losing provides opportunities to learn. To set the stage for future win-ning. To understand that winning is not the only indicator that the team and individuals are working together to achieve the end result.
6. To provide students with the opportunity to engage in competitive experiences in an acceptable manner.
7. To provide students with the opportunity to experience a feeling of self-worth and to develop self-confidence.
8. To provide students with the opportunity to develop problem solving and decision making skills.
9. To provide students with the opportunity to learn new skills beyond those acquired in physical education classes and to improve upon those already acquired.
10. To provide students with the opportunity to understand and practice the principles of sound health, safety, and physical fitness.

FEES

Ashe County Schools require a technology usage fee of \$30 for chromebooks / devices.

Ashe County High School's general, class, and departmental fees are listed below. All students are responsible for paying all fees assigned.

Due to restrictions not allowing students to use lockers, the locker fee has been removed from the general fees for the 2021-2022 school year

21-22 General Fees	Departmental Fees
Instructional fee..... \$11.00	Art..... \$20.00
Science..... 4.00	Ceramics..... \$25.00
Library..... 3.00	Band..... \$50.00
Locker fee waived..... 4.00	Graphic Design..... \$10.00
STEAM Lab..... 2.00	Parking (per year)..... \$40.00
Technology..... 6.00	Parking Tickets..... \$20.00
Class..... <u>3.00</u>	PE Fee..... \$15.00
TOTAL GENERAL FEE..... \$ 29.00	Photography..... \$30.00
	Theatre Arts..... \$10.00

General Fees are to be paid online during the first 2 weeks of school.

Department Fees are to be paid in online during the first 2 weeks of school.

General Fee Waivers must be submitted in the first ten (10) days of school.

STUDENT DEBT LIST

At ACHS we have a student debt list. Students are placed on the debt list for any/all of the following reasons:

- Not paying General Fees
- Not paying Departmental Fees
- Not paying ACS chromebook/tech device fee
- Unpaid Parking Tickets
- Losing or damaging book(s) or devices
- Overdue Library book fines and lost library books
- Unpaid Cafeteria charges (*Note: If you get free and reduced lunches and you get extras, you are responsible to pay for those. If not paid by end of each year, they go on the school debt list. Charges are accumulative and do carry over to the next year(s) until paid.*)
- Fundraiser items (candy, tickets etc.)
- Unreturned uniforms and supplies (if you play a sport)

It is very important that you take care of your fees before the end of each school year. If you find you have a financial burden, you or a parent can contact the finance secretary to make payment arrangements.

You must be off the debt list to attend school dances, events, or get a parking pass (when you become eligible).

These debts carry over from year to year, and must be paid by your Senior year in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Waiver applications for assistance with general fees are available in the finance office and must be completed and submitted within the first ten (10) days of school.

NEW ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

Students are given the opportunity to pay their fees in the first ten (10) days of school. After that 10 day period, they will be put on the debt list. Parents are now able to go to our new online payment system and view their student's account and see any past due debt and pay online with a credit or debit card.

The link is available on the ACHS webpage.

<https://osp.osmsinc.com/AsheSchools/>

On the website, click on the person icon in the top right corner to create an account.

After creating an account, log in and click the person icon in the top right corner to go to your account page.

In the Account menu, click on Student/Employee Profile. Here you can connect your student to your account.

You will need your students name and school ID (Powerschool / Lunch number).

After you have created your account and successfully added your student, you can click PAY OBLIGATION in the top blue bar.

Choose your student and school and any debt they owe to the school will appear on the bottom of the screen labeled
“Detailed Obligation Amount to Pay”

You will be able to see a description of any obligations (debts) that your child owes.

If your student is clear of the debt list, nothing will appear on the bottom of the screen under obligations and the “Amount to Pay” will remain at \$0.

If you need assistance, please contact the finance office at the high school.

COMPUTER / TECHNOLOGY USE

Student Network/Internet Safety/Media Publishing Information

Introduction

We are pleased to offer students of the Ashe County School System access to the district computer network resources, Internet access, and communications. These tools have become a vital part of our instructional program and are used daily in classrooms throughout our system. Students and their parents/guardians should review this document and understand that the use of online (Internet) resources has become a standard method of delivery for instructional materials as well as required standardized tests. Therefore, students must have access to these resources for full participation in the educational process. Any questions or concerns about our computer network or access should be referred to your school's Technology Facilitator. A copy of the board policy regarding student access to networked informational resources (3225/7320) is available on the Ashe County Schools District website, www.asheschools.org

General Network Use

The network is provided for students' instructional use. Access to network services is a privilege and is given to students to use in a considerate and responsible manner. Students are expected to utilize good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or school hallway. As such, general school rules apply for behavior/communications and users must comply with district standards and honor agreements they have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network. Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district servers will always be private.

Damaged Devices

Damage will be assessed by the IT department and replacement/repair costs will be charged to the responsible student.

COMPUTER / TECHNOLOGY USE

Internet Access and Communications

Access to Internet will enable students to use thousands of libraries and databases. Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While our intent is to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. Filtering software is in place and eliminates most of the inappropriate material, but no filtering system is capable of blocking 100% of the inappropriate content available on the Internet. To assist in protecting our students, Internet safety and responsible use is taught to students at the third, sixth and ninth grade levels, but teachers will expect responsible and ethical behavior while utilizing the internet at all levels. We believe that the education benefits to students from access to the Internet exceeds the disadvantages.



Publishing to the Internet

Parents should be aware that your student's work may be considered for publication on the Internet (specifically on their school's or teacher's website). Such publishing is to highlight exceptional projects and reward student achievements. Photos of students may also be published to school/county websites to illustrate student projects and achievement or their participation in educational events. To align with our policy, only the student's first name and last initial will be published.

COMPUTER / TECHNOLOGY USE

Technology Violations

The activities listed below are examples of violations and hazards that could result in disciplinary or legal action.

Sending, receiving, displaying or accessing defamatory, offensive, profane, sexually oriented, racially offensive or illegal materials.

Using obscene language.

Sharing personal information on websites (full name, address, phone number, identifiable photos) without permission from a teacher, parent or guardian.

Harassing, insulting or attacking others

Unauthorized access, damaging or modifying computers, computer systems or computer networks

Violating copyright laws

Invading the privacy of individuals or using others' passwords

Trespassing in others' folders, work or files

Intentionally wasting limited network resources (streaming content without permission)

Employing the network for commercial purposes, financial gain or fraud

Attempting to access websites blocked by district policy including the use of proxy services, software or websites.

The use of keylogging devices/software is prohibited.

COMPUTER / TECHNOLOGY USE

Student Chromebook User Agreements are given to all new ACHS Students. Students on campus are required to use a school issued device. Personal chromebooks/laptops should not be used at school.

ACHS is not responsible for any loss/damage or theft of personal devices or property.

Student devices must be connected to the student network:



Student Network User Password:

husky302

FIRE DRILL

When the fire alarm sounds, all persons are expected to leave the building quickly and quietly and to return on a signal after the drill. Detailed instructions for drills are posted in all rooms. Teachers are responsible for making sure the students know the drill instructions

No student shall deliberately “pull” or initiate a false fire alarm. This action shall be deemed as a serious safety infraction. (Legal Ref.: G.S. 14-286)

GEAR UP

GEAR UP stands for “Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs” and is a national college access initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Education. As a state grantee, GEAR UP NC implements program models serving students, families, and educators. In 2023-24 school year services will be provided to 9th and 10th graders.

Contact: Karee Mackey (karee.mackey@ashe.k12.nc.us)

LOST & FOUND

Lost and found items should be brought to the receptionist in the front office. Students who lost articles should inquire at the front desk to see if the item has been turned in. Items will be held at least 30 days after which they may be discarded.



CAFETERIA CHARGES

Ashe County High School is pleased to announce that breakfast and lunch will be free to all students during the 2023-2024 year. *Students are still responsible for purchasing any extras.*

NOTE: Students are charged full price for **extra items** in cafeteria, even if the student is on free or reduced lunch.

Breakfast:	Paid-Free
Grades 7-12 Lunch:	Paid-Free

You can find information to fund your student's lunch charges online and information to fill out the free/reduced lunch application online at the Ashe County School website under Child Nutrition.



TELEPHONES

Office phones are for business use and are not to be used by students. In the event a student receives a call he/she will be given the message at a designated time; students will be called from class only in emergencies.

NON-SUFFICIENTLY FUNDED (NSF) CHECKS

Due to the volume of uncollectible checks that the district receives, **Ashe County Public Schools** has contracted with the CheckRedi for the electronic collection of checks returned for insufficient funds (NSF). The district will gladly accept your checks; however, in the event your check is returned, your account will be debited electronically for the face amount and fees allowed by the state of North Carolina.

Please include the following on your check.

- Drivers License Number
- Full Name
- Street Address
- Phone Numbers

PAYMENT BY CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD

Ashe County High School is now able to accept Credit or Debit Cards for school payments. (Not in the cafeteria). We accept Visa or Mastercard and there are applicable card fees of 4% of purchase + .35 transaction fee.



BEHAVIOR

ALCOHOL/DRUGS The use/possession of alcohol products, illegal, legal or over-the-counter drugs is considered a threat to the safe and orderly operation of Ashe County High School. Students who use, have possession of, or are under the influence of any of the above, will be dealt with in accordance with Ashe County Board of Education policy. Also, the Ashe County Sheriff's Department will be involved in each incident when necessary and appropriate.

ASSEMBLY CONDUCT Assemblies are held for the education and enjoyment of students and faculty. Give every courtesy to the speaker and to the program. It is the responsibility of each student to maintain high standards of conduct. All students will sit with their homeroom/homeroom teacher in their designated area.



BEHAVIOR

BULLYING

Reporting and Investigating Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment or Bullying It is the policy of the Ashe County Board of Education to maintain learning environments that are free from discrimination, harassment or bullying. This freedom includes . . . freedom from harassment or bullying based on an individual's real or perceived race, color, sex, religion, creed, political belief, age, national origin, linguistic or language differences, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, socioeconomic status, height, weight, physical characteristics, marital status, parental status, or physical, mental or sensory disability. It shall be a violation of this policy for any student, teacher, administrator, other school personnel or any third party . . . to harass or bully any person based upon any differences of status including, but not limited to, those listed above.

It shall also be a violation of this policy for any teacher, administrator or other school personnel to tolerate such discrimination, harassment or bullying. Employees are required to report any actual or suspected violations of this policy. Students, parents, volunteers, visitors or others are also strongly encouraged to report any actual or suspected incidents of discrimination, harassment or bullying. All reports should be made in accordance with policy 1710/4021/7230, Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Compliant Procedure, and reported to one of the school officials identified in that policy. Reports may be made anonymously, and all reports shall be investigated in accordance with that policy. Students, parents and school personnel may refer to Ashe County Board Policy 1720 at <https://docs.google.com/a/ashe.k12.nc.us/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=YXNoZS5rMTlubmMudXN8Ym9lZC1wb2xpY3l8Z3g6YmQ1ZmZhYzYyYjU5MWEz> or pick up a copy of the policy at the Ashe County Board of Education or in any school office.

REPORTING AND INVESTIGATING COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT OR BULLYING Employees are required to report any actual or suspected violations of this policy. Students, parents, volunteers, visitors or others are also strongly encouraged to report any actual or suspected incidents of discrimination, harassment or bullying. All reports should be made in accordance with policy 1710/4021/7232, Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedure, and reported to one of the school officials identified in that policy. Reports may be made anonymously, and all reports shall be investigated in accordance with that policy. Parents and students may refer to Ashe County School Board Policy 1720 to read the entire policy.

BEHAVIOR

CELL PHONES / ELECTRONIC DEVICES Parent/Guardian is required to pick up their child's cell phone/electronic device on each and every violation. On the day that the cell phone/electronic device is confiscated it may only be picked up after 3:40 or as child is checked out early from school. During class cell phones/electronic devices will need to be powered off and remain out of site.

ACCEPTABLE USAGE TIMES: Before school, at class change, and during lunch
Student devices must be connected to the student network. **User pass phrase: husky302**

CHEATING / PLAGIARISM Students who use plagiarized papers or projects or are involved in any other form of cheating will be given a zero on that assignment and disciplinary action may be taken.

DANCE CODE OF CONDUCT All debts must be cleared before purchasing a ticket. **Any student who has been suspended (OSS), has 3 instances of In School Suspension (ISS), or has over 10 tardies, or 3 instances of lunch detention will not be allowed to attend the dance (this criteria starts over with each dance).** To ensure that the dance is an evening that everyone enjoys, please obey the following rules and regulations. The ACHS dress code will be enforced; however, girls will be allowed to wear dresses that are strapless or that have spaghetti straps. Students should remember that excessively short dresses or dresses that expose cleavage are not appropriate for school functions. Students who do not follow the dress code will not be admitted, even with a ticket. Dance tickets are **NON-REFUNDABLE** for any reason except in the event the dance is cancelled by the school.

ZERO TOLERANCE: Since the dance is a school-sponsored event, all rules and regulations of Ashe County Public Schools Code of Student Conduct will be followed. Ashe County High School prohibits the use, possession, transmission or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs or any substance capable of modifying mood or behavior. Absolutely no alcohol, tobacco, or drugs of any nature are permitted at the dance. Anyone perceived to be under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other mood modifying substance will be referred to a police officer on duty, parents/guardians will be contacted, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

DANCING Dancing must remain appropriate to the school environment. Lewd, suggestive or dangerous dancing will be stopped and those participating will be removed from the dance area. Students must remain in a standing position at all times while dancing (face to face). Dancing may not be sexual in nature (example: grinding, twerking).

GUESTS: Students are responsible for the behavior of any invited guest.

DRESS CODE

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

Policy Code: 4316

The purpose of the dress code is to ensure that a student's dress and appearance promote a positive learning environment, does not disrupt the learning of others or the general operation of the school, and does not create a safety hazard. Both research and experience have shown that student conduct, identification with the school purposes and activities, personal pride and self-respect, and even the level of learning responses of students are all related to personal appearance and mode of dress. Maintaining a positive learning environment and ensuring the health and safety of each student are high priorities of the Ashe County Schools.

Students are expected to dress in a manner that does not cause disruption in school and promotes respect. Clothing should be clean, neat, and appropriate for school wear. Clothing or accessories that are disruptive, potentially injurious, or that creates a question regarding a student's health and safety, will not be allowed. Students who are dressed inappropriately will be required to change the clothing or accessories in question.

If a student has to be sent to the office because of a dress code infraction, instruction time is interrupted for the student, the teacher, and the other students in the class. Furthermore, more time is lost for the student if the administration determines that the clothing must be changed and the student must wait for a parent to bring the change of clothing. **It is vital that students understand that time out of class will be regarded as unexcused.**

School administrators have the authority and the responsibility to determine what clothing or accessories are disruptive to the school environment or injurious to a student's health and safety. Cooperation among school personnel, parents (or other legal guardians), and students is essential in the implementation and enforcement of school regulations, including dress code.

HALL PASS

All students must have a pass from an administrator or teacher to be in the halls. Any student in the halls without a pass is subject to disciplinary action.

HARASSMENT / HAZING

No one should be subjected to harassment/hazing at school, or any school related event for any reason. Acts of harassment, hazing, hostility, or defamation, whether verbal, written, or physical, will not be tolerated and constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

ACHS prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, etc. This incorporates any sign, symbols, picture, gestures, etc.

****Consequence- Administrative Decision****



INFRACTIONS

STUDENT DISRUPTIONS No student shall by use of passive resistance, noise, threat, fear, intimidation, coercion, force, violence, or any other form of conduct, intentionally cause the disruption of any lawful function, or process of the school, nor shall any student urge any other student to engage in such conduct.

The use of electronic technologies to the instigation of any disruption at school will be dealt with according to the discretion of the principal and/or law enforcement.

BOMB THREAT OR HOAX No student shall, by any means of communication, make a report, knowing or having reason to know the report is false, that there is located on school premises a device designed to cause damage or destruction by explosion, blasting or burning.

VERBAL ABUSE/DISRESPECT Verbal or written action that prevents an orderly and peaceful learning environment is prohibited. Students must respect each other and respond to verbal and written directions given by **all** school personnel. Cursing or using vulgar remarks is specifically prohibited.

PHYSICAL CONTACT Students are to show respect for one another and **NOT** engage in any type of antagonistic physical contact. A student who is attacked may use reasonable force **ONLY** to an extent to free themselves from the attack and notify school authorities. A student who exceeds this reasonable force may be disciplined even though they may not have provoked the fight. Administration will determine the aggressor, and administer appropriate consequences. **Any physical contact beyond holding hands is prohibited.**



METAL DETECTORS The reasonable use of metal detectors by school officials to keep weapons off school grounds is not a violation of Fourth Amendment rights. Legitimate privacy interests must be balanced by policies and procedures that provide the school system with a safe learning environment. The use of metal detectors will follow the Ashe County Board of Education policy (#3513) which allows for students to be randomly screened at the discretion of the administrators.

PROHIBITED ITEMS The following items are prohibited (review all sections in handbook for additional items and list may be added to by administrative decision).

- Pagers- (volunteer firemen & EMS)
- Tobacco Products and all forms of vapes
- Any other electronic or battery-powered devices that prove to be disruptive in the classroom environment
- Weapons

SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE In support of Ashe County Board of Education's commitment as well as state and federal law, employees, students and visitors are prohibited from using or possessing any tobacco product.

1. In any school building, school vehicle or on the school grounds at anytime.
2. At any school related activity, including athletic events.
3. At any time when the student is subject to the supervision of school personnel, including school trips.

The term "tobacco products" means any products that contains or is made or derived from tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including all lighted and smokeless tobacco products and all electronic cigarettes, vaporizers, vapes, e-cigarettes, juuls, and other electronic or battery-powered smoking devices even if they do not contain tobacco and nicotine. School personnel shall destroy any tobacco product determined to be possessed by a student in violation of this regulation.

TARDIES It is important that students always be in class when the tardy bell rings. The school reserves the right to place students in morning or afternoon detention or ISS for excessive tardies. A cumulative semester total of tardies will be kept in the office. Discipline for tardies will be in accordance with the School Rules and Consequences table in this handbook.

*(*Tardies will result in loss of driving privileges and more than 10 in the current semester will take away dance and senior trip opportunities).*

THEFT OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY No student shall steal or possess stolen property. No student shall damage any school property or private property while under school jurisdiction. A police report will be filed on all damages, and student or parents will be held accountable for restitution.

SCHOOL RULES & CONSEQUENCES

Administration reserves the right to assess the rules and regulations on an individual basis and act accordingly depending on severity when appropriate.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pSgB5lvFiz5YCCBL2sO2bFwGRuypuCGuFLRF6azU2M0/edit?usp=sharing>

Ashe County High School Discipline Policies (In Accordance with Ashe County Schools Code of Conduct and ACS Board Policy)	
1. Skipping School/Calls 1st Offense: Parental notification, unexcused absence and one day of ASD/driving privilege suspended (if left campus) 2nd Offense: Parental notification, unexcused absence and three days of ASD/driving privilege suspended (if left campus) 3rd Offense: Parental notification, unexcused absence and five days of ASD/driving privilege suspended (if left campus) 4th Offense: Parental notification, unexcused absence, and may receive OSS/driving privilege revoked (if left campus)	10. Communicative Threats, 11. Sexual Behavior, 12. Bullying/Harassment, 13. Sexual Harassment, 14. Adult Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension or no suspension if the Principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.
2. Possession, Display, Sale, Distribution, or Use of Tobacco Products 1st Offense: Parental notification; the product will be confiscated, and the student will serve three days of SS. 2nd Offense: Confiscation of the product; the student will serve 5 days of SS. Students will be referred to Teen Court. 3rd Offense: Confiscation of the product and may receive up to a three-day OSS suspension.	15. Damage to Property or Vandalism: Intentionally damaging, vandalizing, or attempting to damage, vandalize, or deface school or private property while under school jurisdiction. Up to \$1,000.00 Damage, Replacement, or Repair Cost. 16. Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension, payment of the cost of replacement, repair, or restoration of the property. Property Damage, Repair or Replacement Cost Exceeds \$1,000.00 17. Offense: If the damage to property or loss of property exceeds \$1,000.00, the student may be suspended for up to 10 days with a recommendation for expulsion as authorized under Board policy 4353. Long-term suspension, 365-day suspension, and Expulsion.
3. Electronic Devices 1st Offense: Parental notification and confiscation of the item. 2nd Offense: Confiscation of the item and may receive a 1-day SS suspension. 3rd Offense: Confiscation of the item and may receive up to a 3-day SS suspension.	18. Possession of Weapons Other than Firearms 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension. 2nd Offense: Will receive a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension or expulsion as authorized under Board policy 4353. Long-term suspension, 365-day suspension, and Expulsion.
4. Conduct on the School Bus 1st Offense: Parental notification and counsel with the student; may receive up to 3 days off the bus or 3 days of SS. 2nd Offense: May receive up to 5 days off the bus or 5 days of SS and recommendation to Teen Court by SRC. 3rd Offense: May receive up to 10 days off the bus or may be suspended from the bus for the remainder of the school year.	19. Sale or Distribution of Tobacco Products 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension. 20. Failure to Comply with a Lawful Directive 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension. 2nd and subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension.
5. Medication: Students will not possess or use any prescription or non-prescription medication except as authorized under Board policy 6125. Administering Medication to Students. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension. 2nd and subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension.	21. Possession or Use of Drugs Including THC, Delta-8, Vapes, Gummies, or Alcohol, 22. Threats of Death or Serious Bodily Injury 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension. 2nd and subsequent Offenses: Will receive a 10-day suspension and may be recommended for long-term suspension or expulsion as authorized under Board policy 4353. Long-term suspension, 365-day suspension, and Expulsion.
6. Academic Integrity: 7. Cheating, 8. Verbal Abuse or Harassment, 10. Sexual Harassment The student may receive a zero on the assignment if the violation pertains to schoolwork and may be recorded on the student's discipline file in PowerSchool. Academic integrity violations will receive a phone call home and a zero for the assignment on the first offense. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension. 2nd and subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension.	23. Use of a Weapon, 24. Sale or Distribution of Drugs or Alcohol, 25. Arson, 26. Threat or False Threat of False Violence or Educational Property 1st Offense: Will receive a 10-day suspension and may be recommended for long-term suspension or expulsion as authorized under Board policy 4353. Long-term suspension, 365-day suspension, and Expulsion. 26. Possession or Use of a Firearm 1st Offense: Will receive a 10-day suspension and may be recommended for long-term suspension or expulsion as authorized under Board policy 4353. Long-term suspension, 365-day suspension, and Expulsion.
7. Verbal Abuse or Disrespect toward a Staff Member 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension. 2nd and subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension.	

MODEL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s educational records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the School principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the School to amend a record should write the School principal (or appropriate school official), clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent the FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using its own employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. (Note: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.)

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the *School District* to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Student Policy Compliance Office

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20202-5920

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Ashe County Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's educational records. However, Ashe County Schools may disclose appropriately designed "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the School System to the contrary in accordance with the School System's procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Ashe County Schools to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include: A playbill showing your student's role in a drama production, the annual yearbook, honor roll and graduation lists, graduation programs and sports activity sheets.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories—names, addresses and telephone listings—unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior consent.¹ If you do not want Ashe County Schools to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the School System in writing by August 31. Ashe County Schools has designated the following information as directory information.

- Student's name
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

Footnote:

¹These laws are: Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7908), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110), the education bill, and 10 U.S.C. 503, as amended by section 544, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (P.L. 107-107), the legislation that provides funding the Nation's armed forces.

MODEL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

PRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)—

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of—

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

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MODEL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use—

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Ashe County Schools will develop policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. Ashe County Schools will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. Ashe County Schools will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey.

Ashe County Schools will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the School System has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Student Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5920

PPRA MODEL NOTICE AND CONSENT / OPT-OUT FOR SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, requires Ashe County Schools to notify you and obtain consent or allow you to opt your child out of participating in certain school activities. These activities include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following eight areas (“protected information surveys”):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers; religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure or use of student information for marketing purposes (“marketing surveys”), and certain physical exams and screenings.

Parents will have the opportunity to opt-out of specific surveys and activities. However, these events will not be scheduled until after the school year begins. Parents will then be given an opportunity prior to the administration of such instruments to opt-out. (Please note that this notice and consent/opt-out transfers from parents to any student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.)

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