



SUMMERSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL



STUDENT HANDBOOK

2026-2027



**SUMMERSVILLE
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

SAFE. RESPECTFUL. RESPONSIBLE.
Home of the Bears!



SUMMERSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Student Handbook

Welcome to Summersville Middle School where our staff is committed to the belief that each student is entitled to a quality and equitable education. We believe that teaming must be achieved in a clear and focused atmosphere of cooperation. Our teachers focus instruction according to the individual differences of all learners. SMS strives to ensure a safe & secure learning environment that will benefit all students and staff.

West Virginia State Curriculum standards development encompasses the needs of all students. Summersville Middle strives to provide experiences in all areas of development including academic, vocational, physical, social, and the arts. Our primary goal is to provide opportunities for students to develop transferable skills in order to solve problems in a variety of life situations. Our staff is acutely aware of the influence we exert over the lives of students. We strive to remain a positive influence.

MOTTO

Show Up Motivated to Succeed!





SECTION 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

The information in this section is provided to help students and families understand important daily procedures, safety expectations, and district policies.



SCHOOL DAY

SMS classes begin at 7:50 a.m.

Anyone not in class at 7:50 a.m. will be counted as tardy.



DOORS OPEN

Doors open at 7:30 a.m.



DISMISSAL

Evening dismissal is at 3:15 p.m.



ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

All students must be picked up and/or dropped off in front of the building, unless permission is given by the Administration.



VISITORS TO SMS

Summersville Middle School operates on a CLOSED CAMPUS model. To ensure the safety of students and staff ALL visitors will be required to enter at the main entrance through a visual entry system located to the left of the doors.

- Photo ID is required. Please ring the bell and wait for admittance from SMS staff.
- Visitors (parents and substitutes) are required to sign in with the school secretary and obtain a visitor's pass that MUST be worn and visible while on school property.
- Students not currently enrolled or seeking enrollment are not permitted to visit any area of the school.
- All NCBOE personnel NOT assigned to SMS, MUST also sign in at the front desk, as per NCBOE & SMS policy.
- Before any visitor can meet with a student, permission MUST be obtained from the administration.
- Per Nicholas County Board of Education School Safety Procedures, Summersville Middle School maintains an "Open Door Policy" to all levels of law enforcement—federal, state, county, and local.



EMERGENCY PROCEDURES CARD

All students MUST have an emergency procedures card (GREEN CARD) signed by the parent or guardian AND on file in the office. Please notify the office staff immediately of address & phone number changes as well as adults authorized to sign your child out from school.

Contact information listed on the green card is used to contact parents regarding inclement weather, attendance, transportation changes, or accidents/emergencies at school.



FIRE DRILLS

Each classroom teacher will explain the proper procedure in exiting the classroom in the event of a fire drill. Students are to exit the building quietly and in an orderly manner. Classes should remain together outside so that attendance may be taken.

ALL fire drills are MANDATORY for the safety of ALL students and staff. ALL those that are present will participate in the drill as instructed.



HOMEWORK & MAKE UP WORK

Completing homework within the required time frame is expected of all students. Homework is a purposeful learning task and serves to reinforce class materials. Summersville Middle School students are expected to comply with the homework requirements in each class and to complete such assignments as required by the classroom teacher.

It is the responsibility of the student to complete assignments missed due to absences. For each day of absence, the student has one school day to complete the assignments (EX: Absent on Monday — Present on Tuesday — Work is due Wednesday). If the timeline is not followed by the student, teachers may enter a zero for the missed work. In extenuating circumstances, an extension of time may be granted by teachers and administration following a conference.



LOST ITEMS

When students find unclaimed items throughout the school, they are expected to bring them to the office for the owner to claim. Students are reminded to always keep items in their possession. Items found are retained for several days. If they are not claimed, they will be eliminated. The school does not have facilities for long-term storage of any items.



LUNCH AND BREAKFAST

Grab N Go breakfast is served daily in the school cafeteria from 7:30 a.m. — 7:50 a.m. There will be NO charge for breakfast for any enrolled student. Lunch meals will also be served to students on a scheduled rotation. There will be NO charge for lunch for any enrolled student. Adult meals are available, but at a rate as determined by the NCBOE.

Nicholas County complies with all Federal and State Regulations in providing healthy meals to children.

The Nicholas County Food Service Department is operated in accordance with U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, handicap, religion, or national origin.



SCHOOL TELEPHONE USE

Students in middle school are beginning to take on more responsibility. One of these responsibilities is to remember to bring all necessary items to school. Phone calls will be allowed for emergencies only and at the discretion of the teacher, principal, counselors, or secretaries. The student must have permission before coming to the office. Students will not be called from classes to accept telephone calls except in emergencies/situations. Keep in mind that it is difficult to positively identify parents and authorized contacts over the phone. Students need to plan to go home with other students before they come to school. Students will not be allowed to use school phones/cell phones to make arrangements to travel home with another student.





BUS/PARENT PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Students are to ride their assigned buses to and from school. If it is necessary for a student to ride a bus other than the regularly assigned bus, the parent must send a yellow bus note to school with the student indicating the reason for riding another bus and giving a phone number where the parent can be reached for confirmation. Upon confirmation, the note is sent to the bus driver permitting the student to ride. Students are not permitted to use school phones to make arrangements to ride home with another student. Arrangements to ride home with another student must originate at home except in case of emergencies. School bus transportation is a privilege, which may be withdrawn for inappropriate behavior. When going to their bus, students **MUST** use the sidewalk in an orderly fashion. Students that are picked up by their parents at the end of the day are to remain in the building until all buses leave, and/or dismissed by the school. They will be released to the appropriate parking lot. All students are to be dropped off/picked up in front of the school.



Students will need a note if they are being picked up in a location other than the front/pick up line.



END OF SCHOOL DAY / DISMISSAL

All students not leaving the building at 3:15 p.m. are to report to the front lobby area. Any student staying after school must be participating in a school-sponsored activity. Please do not check students out after 2:50 p.m. unless it is an emergency. Students who are picked up by parents will be released immediately after the buses leave from the front lobby **ONLY**. Picking students up prior to bus departure creates traffic congestion and delays evening arrival times of other students.



BACKPACKS & BOOKBAGS

At this time there are **NO** lockers. Therefore, backpacks and book bags **ARE** permitted to be carried from class to class. They can be a school safety issue, and **ALL** backpacks and book bags are subject to search by the administration and/or their designee if it is believed to be a safety issue. Small sized personal "purses" may be carried by students for personal items only.



BATHROOM USE & HALLWAY ACCESS

Students will be required to **SIGN OUT** and **IN** from their classroom using **SMART PASS** before being allowed to go to the bathroom, office, etc. Students **ARE NOT** permitted to go to the restroom **BETWEEN** classes due to safety issues. Student safety and accountability go hand in hand in maintaining the safety and integrity of SMS' closed campus policy.

Students must respect the rights of others in class and in the hallways. Running, shouting, using obscene language and public displays of affection are **UNACCEPTABLE** behaviors. Hallways are off limits during scheduled class time. Students are not to carry food or drink containers in the hallways or classroom without prior arrangements. Students are to abide by the Hands-Off Policy at SMS.

Access to the hallway for purposes of going to the restroom:

1. Permission from the classroom teacher
2. Signing out on **SMART PASS** before leaving the classroom
3. Going to the appropriate restroom in reference to the classroom/hallway location
4. Signing back into the classroom, in a reasonable amount of time, so that others may go to the restroom.
5. Restrooms are a necessity. They are not to be used to violate school/county policy (a place for using cell phones, a location for skipping class, a prearranged meeting area with friends etc.)
6. Defacing school restrooms/school property will lead to disciplinary action as per WV Policy 4373





GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

The Summersville Middle School Counseling Department is committed to supporting the academic, social, emotional, and career development of every student.

Students who wish to meet with a school counselor should first report to class and obtain permission from their teacher before visiting the counseling office. Because counselors serve all students, appointments are scheduled as promptly as possible. Teachers and administrators may also refer students to the counseling office when appropriate.

The SMS Guidance Department offers a wide variety of services for students:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Counseling (one-on-one). | 8 Educational planning. |
| 2 Group guidance activities, testing, and field trips. | 9 Consultation with NCBOE staff
(for example: school nurse, psychologists,
speech and audiology therapists). |
| 3 Testing and Test Interpretation. | 10 Special testing. |
| 4 Referrals to CPS and/or DHHR as required by LAW. | 11 Clothing provisions. |
| 5 Interpersonal relationship skills. | 12 Evaluations. |
| 6 Career information. | 13 Student records including permanent record cards. |
| 7 Vocational introduction units. | |



TRANSFER & WITHDRAWAL FROM SMS

When it becomes necessary for students to transfer to another school or withdraw from school, they are to schedule a meeting with the guidance counselor to make appropriate arrangements.

A transferring student must fill out a transfer form, return all books (including library books), and take care of any other obligations. Likewise, a withdrawing student must do the same, as well as fill out necessary forms and validate the state age requirement for withdrawal (currently 17 years old under State law). Both transfers and withdrawals are to be done under the supervision and guidance of the parent(s).



MEDICATION DISTRIBUTION

All prescribed medication will be kept and dispensed by the counselors and/or a designated staff member. All prescription medicine must be brought to school by a parent or guardian and given to the counselor with the required documents completed by a physician.

- Students may NOT carry, nor shall school personnel be allowed, by law, to dispense any over-the-counter medication (OTC) even with parent permission (common Tylenol®, cough drops, nose spray, etc.).
- The Safe Schools Act of 1995 (HB 2073)
In 1995, the West Virginia Legislature passed the Safe Schools Act to provide a safe learning environment for all students and staff and applies to ALL with provisions that protect the rights to due process under state policies. The ACT is enforceable when the student is on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school sponsored function.



Our goal is to ensure a safe, supportive, and respectful environment where every student has the opportunity to learn and succeed.

SHOW UP MOTIVATED TO SUCCEED!



SMS FIELD TRIP POLICY

A field trip is an extension of the educational day, from through it is OUTSIDE the physical school itself. It still is under the jurisdiction of the school, its policies, rules, and regulations.

All students will conduct themselves in the same manner as they SHOULD in the school itself.

Every student on a field trip is RESPONSIBLE for their behavior and actions and WILL be subject to the school rules and guidelines, as identified in WVEIS Policy 4373.

In addition, the following criteria for students **MUST** be met to be eligible for most field trips:

- 1 NO unexcused absences in the 9-week grading period of the field trip.
- 2 NO in-school or out of school suspensions during the 9-week grading period of the field trip. This ALSO includes bus suspensions during the same time period.
- 3 Maintain a "C" average in the four academic core classes (ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies) in the 9-week grading period of the field trip.
- 4 All work turned in and up to date in ALL classes (including electives) in the 9-week grading period of the field trip.
- 5 NO more than 5 days of lunch detention in the 9-week grading period of the field trip.
- 6 If any field trip is scheduled at the BEGINNING of a new grading period, then the previous 9-week grading period AND the used to determine field trip eligibility.
- 7 The teachers and chaperones WILL be obeyed at all times.



SUPERVISION:

Also, it must be noted that chaperones permitted to accompany teachers on a field trip have been chosen by the board of teachers and approved by the Nicholas County Board of Education. "Children of chaperones" will NOT be permitted to go, follow, or interfere with the school's mission of a controlled, orderly and safe field trip. It is NOT a family outing, but a school sponsored event.



ABSENCES/HOMEWORK POLICY

As a rule, if a student misses or will miss 3 or more days, homework MAY be requested by the parent for the student, allowing them to get caught up on assignments missed.



"ENERGY DRINKS" POLICY

Energy drinks are not permitted in school. The manufacturers even recommend that these drinks only be consumed by those 18 and older due to the excessive caffeine and sugar content.



SEARCH

School officials may search school property used by students and personal property of students when considered necessary to maintain the proper education climate, to protect other students and staff, or to assist law enforcement agencies in the search for evidence of violations of law. This includes, but is not limited to, searches of property, this individual right, however, is balanced by the school's responsibility to prevent the health, safety and welfare of its students. Therefore, all lockers, purses, jackets, pants pockets, book bags, and other items of clothing are subject to search under the condition of "reasonable suspicion" and school officials may make any item which violates school or criminal law.



In compliance with
NCBOE POLICY 5136,
**THE USE OF CELLULAR
DEVICES DURING THE
INSTRUCTIONAL DAY
IS PROHIBITED.**





HARASSMENT AT SCHOOL

Nicholas County Schools is committed to assuring that the learning and working environment is free from any type of racial, sexual, religious, or ethnic harassment, or violence and that all people are treated with dignity.

Harassment or violence by any person will not be tolerated. It simply has no place in a positive school environment. No student, staff member, or member of the public, during any educational-sponsored event, shall engage in sexual, racial, religious, or ethnic harassment or violence. Persons found in violation of this policy will be subject to penalties. All instances regarding harassing behavior **MUST** be reported **IMMEDIATELY** to a faculty member, guidance counselor, or administrator.



HARASSMENT IS DEFINED AS...

- Abusing power over another person
- Unacceptable, illegal, or a violation of civil and constitutional rights



HARASSING BEHAVIOR MAY INCLUDE...

PHYSICAL HARASSMENT • VERBAL HARASSMENT • NON-VERBAL HARASSMENT



SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is illegal and will not be condoned in any form. It may be defined as:

1. Repeated, unsolicited, and clearly unwelcome flirtations, advances, propositions.
2. Continued or repeated verbal abuse or innuendo of a sexual nature.
3. Unwanted physical contact such as touching, hugging, patting, or pinching.
4. Graphic or degrading comments of a sexual nature about an individual's appearance, dress, or anatomy.
5. Intrusive questions about an individual's personal life.
6. Unwanted explicit descriptions of an individual's own experiences.
7. Display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures.
8. Jokes or remarks of a sexual nature in front of people who have made know that they find such comments offensive.
9. Making obscene gestures or sexually suggestive or insulting sounds.
10. Posturing in a sexually suggestive or provocative manner.
11. Indecent exposure.
12. Physical assault or abuse.
13. Any behavior which has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's ability to attend school free of intimidating, hostile, humiliating, or sexually offensive environment.



Technology Resource and Electronic Equipment (cell phone) Policy Attached



Dress Code Policy Attached





DRESS CODE GUIDELINES

These dress code guidelines are created, in accordance with NCBOE Policy 5511, so that students may learn appropriate dressing and grooming habits, as well create a safe and orderly school system.

The courts have repeatedly upheld a student's right to express themselves in their dress as long as there is no observable disruption to the educational process.

The Dress Code Guidelines are:

- 1 Clothing should cover undergarments and the buttocks area
- 2 Tops should be respectable and non-revealing. They should cover undergarments and be free of cut out areas. No see through material is permitted that exposes undergarments. Neck lines should be no lower than a straight line between underarms
- 3 No clothing should be worn that depicts profanity, obscenity, alcohol, drug, or racially discriminatory words, art, or symbols that encourage or depict violence in keeping with US Supreme Court precedents related to the free speech of students.
- 4 No Gang affiliated clothing, piercing, tattoos, jewelry, and hair styles as recognized by law enforcement
- 5 No sunglasses or bandanas worn or displayed at school other than with order from a medical doctor or during principal approved "spirit week" or other similar type celebrations. Hats may be worn to school. However, students will remove hats while reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, standing for the National Anthem, and during other solemn moments in which it is customary to remove head coverings. In addition, teachers who feel that hats are creating a visual disturbance that impairs their ability to monitor student engagement may ask students to remove hats during class time. Hoods and "hoodies" are not considered hats and shall not be worn indoors.¹
- 6 Sleepwear and underwear worn in place of, or on-top of regular clothing is not permitted unless during principal approved "spirit week" or other similar type celebrations
- 7 No jewelry with spikes or chains that could cause injury or damage such as pocket or dog chains are permitted
- 8 Uniforms or practice clothing for official extracurricular activities such a band, cheer, or other sports are excluded from this policy.

Students who violate the dress code policy should not be excluded from class unless there is a material and substantial disruption to the school environment. A material and substantial disruption to the school environment is one that interferes with the orderly operation of the school, the delivery of instruction, or poses a serious threat to the learning environment, health, safety, or welfare of others.

Staff should address the dress code violations privately and discreetly with the student. Students who deliberately and repeatedly violate the dress code should be disciplined according to WVBE Policy 4373.

Adopted: December 19, 2022

¹ Student may wear hoodies to school, they may not wear the hood on their head while indoors.



TITLE IX / DISCRIMINATION



As required by federal laws and regulations, the Nicholas County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, disability, age and national origin in employment and in the administration of any of its education programs and activities.



Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report.



Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours) by using the telephone number or electronic mail address, or by mail to the office address, listed for the Title IX Coordinator.



Inquiries may be directed to:

Title IX Coordinator

Section 504 Coordinator

Nicholas County Board of Education
400 Old Main Drive, Summersville, WV 26651.
Telephone: (304) 872-3611
ldfletcher@k12.wv.us



U.S. Department of Education

Director of the Office for Civil Rights
(215) 596-6793



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**ACHIEVEMENT**

All students enrolled in Nicholas County Schools are expected to put forth their best effort in the pursuit of an education. This expectation is established and emphasized in the West Virginia Code of Conduct.

**CURRICULUM**

Recently the West Virginia BOE added world-class rigor to traditional core subjects and aligned state standards with national and international standards. The curriculum at SMS is in total compliance with guidelines and standards established by the West Virginia State Department of Education, with a primary focus on Mathematics and English Language Arts. Students will engage in a technology-rich environment working on real-world problems and issues that will allow them to make the most of their experiences and talents. As always, SMS has high expectations for all students.

**ACADEMIC CORE CLASSES**

The following are required Core Classes that ALL students are mandated to take: Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and English (Language Arts).

**ENRICHMENT CORE CLASSES**

In addition, students are required to take: Physical Education and Art, Health, and a Music course.

**ELECTIVES**

SMS also offers Band at Beginner, Intermediate, and Advance Levels. Other electives are also available at the school. The elective programs change from school year to school year. They are aligned with WVBOE standards.

**GRADES**

A = 90-100
B = 80-90
C = 70-80
D = 60-70
F = 0-60

**SMS AWARDS CEREMONY**

SMS will host an Award Ceremony at the end of the year. Not all Students will receive an award. Please encourage your students to strive for high achievement so that they may be recognized.

**CONFERENCE REQUESTS**

Parent — Teacher conferences are held by teacher or parent request. Individual parent — teacher conferences can be arranged at any time throughout the school year by phoning the school counselors.

**PROMOTION / RETENTION**

At Summersville Middle School students must work to the best of their ability to advance to the next grade. Content area classes are English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies. Enrichment classes include PE and Art, Health & Music collectively. If needed, a student MAY need to retake a core content class to achieve success.

**REPORT CARDS**

Student report cards are sent home with the students at the end of each of the three grading periods. Report cards are issued approximately one week after the grading period ends. End of school year report cards (fourth and final grading period) will be mailed to the student's home if the student was not present on the last day of school and will arrive home approximately two weeks after the end of school. If a student is retained, the final report card will be marked as such. Otherwise, the child will be promoted to the next grade level.

**STANDARDIZED & OTHER TESTING**

As required by law, ability/achievement tests will be administered to students each school year. Testing of the student is needed to create a more complete academic picture of the student. ALL testing given by SMS is to be taken seriously by the student, and they are encouraged to always do their best on the test.

A few examples of Standardized Testing/Interest Inventory are:

- Career Exploration for 8th grade students
- State Required Standardized Testing for 6th through 8th grade
- Golden Horseshoe for 8th grade students and other tests that the State Dept. of Education MAY develop





SECTION 4: ATTENDANCE



NICHOLAS COUNTY ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Education that all students enrolled in Nicholas County Schools should expect to attend school on a regular basis. It is to be expected that illness will occur, and situations will arise that make it imperative for students to miss school. However, it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to limit student absences to those deemed necessary.

When students have been absent from school for a full day or part of the day or have been signed out, they must bring a written signed note from their guardian or a physician's statement within 3 days of the absence. All absences (including bus absences and suspensions) require a note from a parent, physician, or county official on their return to school. Failure to bring the proper documentation for an absence will result in that absence being recorded as unexcused. All unexcused absences over three days will result in a letter sent home notifying you of the documented unexcused absences, and it shall be reported to the attendance director. Continued excessive unexcused absences shall result in a court date with the prosecuting attorney and before a judge.



NOTES FROM HOME

Notes from home are limited to five per semester. When sending a note to school regarding your child's absence, please include STUDENT NAME, STUDENT LUNCH NUMBER, GRADE, REASON FOR ABSENCE, DATE(S) OF ABSENCE, DATE OF NOTE, and PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE. This will help notify the Attendance Director at the NCSOE. Also, Educational Leave can be granted on a case-by-case basis.

Throughout the school year incentives are sometimes offered to enhance student attendance. These incentives are designed to address overall attendance, and excused absences will be considered. Absences that are a result of school approved curricular/extra-curricular activities are not counted as absences.



EXCUSED ABSENCES

The West Virginia State Department of Education defines excused absences as those that have been approved by the school for the following reason code with a number, representing a partial day or whole day:

- | | |
|--|---|
| A - In alternative setting | I - Illness in family / Illness verified by physician / |
| B - Bus, failure to run | Illness verified by parent |
| C - Calamity (fire, flood, no power, etc.) / | L - Leave of educational value / Legal obligation (with verification) |
| Health exclusions (example: lice) | M - Medical illness of length or per IEP/504 / Military reasons |
| D - Death in family | R - Religious holiday/observance |
| H - Homebound instruction | X - School approved curricular/extra-curricular activity |



UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Any absence not meeting the above requirements will be considered unexcused. Days missed because of suspension will be counted as unexcused as per State Law.



TARDIES

Students are not to be in the halls after class begins. If a student is tardy for class, a violation may be given by the teacher to the student, and who may then submit it to the administration. Excessive tardies will result in disciplinary action that could include but is not limited to:

- Notice/Warning by Classroom / Team Teachers
- Parent Contact and/or Parent Conference
- Social Probation (limitation of student in school activities)
- Noon or After School Detention
- Referral to Attendance Director





SECTION 5: ATHLETICS



SMS offers interscholastic athletic programs for all students. The West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission (WVSSAC) governs all secondary school athletic teams. WVSSAC policies can be accessed at www.wvssac.org.

The following athletic programs are available for SMS students.

Fall

- Football
- Cheer
- Cross Country
- Soccer
- Volleyball

Winter

- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Cheer
- Wrestling

Spring

- Track
- Softball



Any student interested in participating in any athletic program must provide the following information to SMS Athletic Director:

1. A WVSSAC physical form must be completed after May 1, by a physician and signed by the parents. The Summersville Wellness Center will provide athletic physicals for any SMS student at no cost. Insurance Companies will be billed, but there will be no out of pocket expense for any SMS student. A parent must schedule physicals provided by the Summersville Wellness Center. The Summersville Wellness Center can be reached at 304-883-3900. The wellness center will require proof of health insurance coverage by providing a copy (front and back) of the insurance card.
2. Any other documentation as required by policy and/or law.



ATHLETIC EXTRA-CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

The WVSSAC requires that each athlete have a 2.0 grade point average (GPA). A 2.0 GPA for each athlete will be verified at the beginning of each athletic season. When determining eligibility for SMS students, GPA is calculated by adding the quality points for the previous grading period or semester and dividing by the total number of classes.



SECTION 6: ELECTIVES/ EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

6th Grade

- General Music
- Band
- Choir
- Math Lab/Reading

7th and 8th Grade

- Band/Choir
- General Music
- Ukulele
- Piano & Stringed Instruments
- National Junior Honor Society
- Spanish (8th Graders)



NOTE CONCERNING: MUSIC CLASSES

Attendance is REQUIRED at instrumental music and choral activities and will be graded accordingly. Excused absences are death in the immediate family, doctor's excuses, religious observances, or participation in a school sponsored event. Concert attendance is MANDATORY. All performances may count TWICE toward the student's final grade.





BUS PRIVILEGES

Students riding the school bus must be aware that it is a privilege and can be lost. According to WVDE Policy 4336, students are expected to follow the following set of guidelines. Remember a student can and will be suspended from the bus for misconduct.

- Observe classroom conduct.
- Be courteous, and do not use profane language.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus.
- Keep the bus clean.
- Cooperate with the driver.
- Do not smoke (tobacco products are forbidden by State Law)
- Stay in your seat.
- Keep your head, hands and feet inside the bus.
- Do not fight, push or shove.
- Do not tamper with bus equipment.
- Do not bring pets on the bus.
- Do not bring flammable material on the bus.
- The bus driver is authorized to assign seats.
- The Driver is in charge!
Have a Safe Trip...



EXCLUSION FROM CLASS

According to WVDE Policy 4373, teachers may exclude a student who is guilty of disorderly conduct; who interferes with the educational process; who threatens or intimidates a teacher or pupil; who disobeys a school employee; or who uses abusive or profane language directed at a school employee. Once a student is excluded, the administration has the authority to determine when he or she may be readmitted to the classroom, or if further discipline is required.



CHEATING

Cheating is considered to be an irresponsible, serious offense which may include, but not limited to: (1) using "cheat sheets", (2) copying from another student, (3) allowing another student to copy, (4) doing another student's assignment. SMS does not condone this type of behavior and students are subject to disciplinary action in connection with WV Policy 4373.



FIGHTING

Fighting by students is disruptive behavior and will not be tolerated. All students involved in an altercation, physical or verbal, will be disciplined according to WV State Policy 4373.



HANDS-OFF POLICY

For the safety of all students, SMS promotes a "hands-off" environment. Picking on another student, jumping on another student's back, grabbing another student around the neck in a wrestling move, and similar behaviors, are UNACCEPTABLE. Students will be disciplined in accordance with the fighting and "horse playing" guidelines set in place at SMS. Video cameras function in the hallways, classrooms, commons area and gym for student safety.



TOBACCO/VAPING

The use or possession of tobacco products or electronic smoking devices, liquids, or paraphernalia at any time on school property is prohibited. This includes athletic events, curricular or extra-curricular events, and on the bus. Students in violation of the policy will be subject to disciplinary action and/or referred to law enforcement and could face a fine in excess of \$150.





DRUGS, ALCOHOL & WEAPONS

Drugs, Alcohol & Weapons are illegal for sale, possession, and/or use in the public schools of West Virginia. SMS will follow the disciplinary guidelines set forth by WV Policy 4373 & the Nicholas County Board of Education in dealing with such. At no time will they be tolerated. The use of these items WILL lead to expulsion from the Nicholas County school system.



SUSPENDED or EXPELLED STUDENTS

Any student under a current suspension or expulsion from school will NOT participate in school-sponsored activities which occur during that period. Those activities may include athletic events, field trips, school dances, and other activities as determined by the SMS administration.



WEST VIRGINIA STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

West Virginia Board of Education Policy 4373 authorizes the Student Code of Conduct for West Virginia students. The State Code of Conduct applies to all students enrolled in public schools in West Virginia. The code is as follows:

- ① Attend school faithfully, complete his/her assignments on time, and work to his/her full potential.
- ② Behave in a manner that does not disrupt classroom learning or the operation of the school.
- ③ Obey teachers, principals, and others in authority.
- ④ Refrain from aggressive or threatening behavior toward fellow students, teachers, or other school staff.
- ⑤ Refrain from the possession or use of any weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products.

