



Donnie Bickham

STUDENT HANDBOOK



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Ryan Burton - *Assistant Principal*
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This handbook provides parents and students with helpful information about rules, policies, procedures, student privileges, and responsibilities at Donnie Bickham. It serves as a guide and should not be assumed to cover every situation and circumstance that arises during the year. Administration will make changes as situations warrant.

Visit the website at
donniebickham.caddschools.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Donnie Bickham Family (staff, students, parents, and community), will provide an environment of caring, quality instruction, and enrichment opportunities to enable our students to achieve success and learn the skills needed to expand their world.

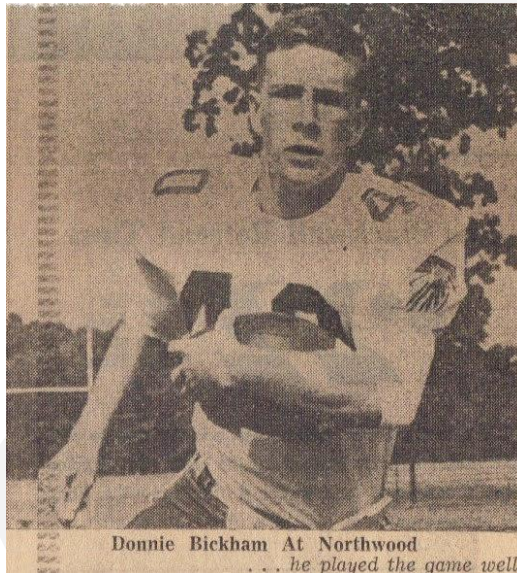


Our educational opportunities help our students thrive by taking into account their academic, emotional, physical, and social development. Donnie Bickham's educational opportunities are listed below to address the challenge of preparing students for the future.

- The Tier 1 Curriculum is designed to improve student achievement
- PBIS School-wide Management Plan
- Acceleration/Interventions in Math and Reading
- Gifted and Talented Classes
- Elective Courses for high school credit include Spanish I, Spanish II, Band, Choir, Quest for Success, IBCA, and Music

WHO IS Mr. DONNIE BICKHAM?

Donnie Bickham Middle School was named in April of 1987 by the Caddo Parish School Board. Donald 'Donnie' Thomas Bickham, a 1970 graduate of Northwood High School, met a tragic death in 1972. He was the victim of a head-on collision caused by a drunken driver on a four-lane Texas highway. He was an exemplary student who excelled both academically and athletically. Many of his accomplishments and memorabilia are displayed in the trophy case located near the library. In approving the name, it was felt that Donnie's achievements may motivate other students and that his life of service could be a model for students to follow.



STUDENT COMMITMENT

As a student at Donnie Bickham Elementary/Middle School, I will:

- Attend school with a positive attitude.
- Be present and on time each day in each class.
- Dress according to the school and parish dress code guidelines.
- Respect school authority, students, and property.
- Produce the highest quality classwork and homework possible.
- Support the school and the school's activities.
- I have read and reviewed the Donnie Bickham Student Handbook.

Student's signature

Date

Homeroom Teacher's signature

Date

PARENT COMMITMENT

As a parent/guardian of a Donnie Bickham Elementary/Middle School student, I will:

- Help my child develop a positive attitude about school.
- Make sure my child is present and on time each day.
- Teach my child to respect school authority, students, and property.
- Support the school's efforts to make my child a successful learner.
- Make sure that my child dresses according to school and parish guidelines.
- Support the school and the school's activities.
- Stress the importance of education.
- I have read and reviewed the Donnie Bickham Student Handbook

Parent/Guardian's signature

Telephone #

Student's signature

Date

Donnie Bickham Middle School
2026-2027
Student Behavior Contract

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

As the school year begins, we would like to stress the importance of good behavior, attendance, and academic readiness. It is important for students to be in their classes on a daily basis. Regular classroom attendance and participation will help to ensure student success in class as well as on standardized tests.

Our school-wide expectations state that Patriots **Demonstrate** responsibility, **Be** on Task, **Make** Good Choice, and **Show** Respect. In our efforts to provide an educational environment conducive to learning, we feel that students who exhibit appropriate behavior should be rewarded. These students earn the right to participate in various extracurricular activities. If a student fails to act appropriately, this will result in him/her being removed from extracurricular activities for a nine week period. It also includes attending any dance, concert, athletic event, participating in jeans day, concessions, class events such as field trips, and grade level events.

The disciplinary infraction levels are as follows:

1. One out of school suspension will automatically result in a removal from activities for a nine week period.
2. Three or more days in ISS will result in a removal from activities for a nine week period.
3. Students with more than 5 unexcused absences will result in removal from activities for a nine week period.
4. Students with an F in any class will result in removal from activities for a nine week period.
5. Failure to return this contract will result in removal from activities.
6. Being picked up late from one after school activity will exclude you from future activities.

The faculty and staff work diligently to provide enriching extracurricular activities to our students. The right to participate in these activities is a privilege, which in turn promotes responsibility. Research indicates that student participation in extracurricular activities fosters success in school and other facets of life.

We look forward to a pleasant and enriching school year!

Sincerely,

Dennis Spires
Principal
Donnie Bickham Middle School

Student's Signature and Date

Parent's Signature and Date

WE BELIEVE IT!

We, the Donnie Bickham Faculty, believe the following:

- The general purpose of education is to provide **every** student with the opportunity to develop to his or her fullest potential.
- The instructional programs at Donnie Bickham must be committed to fulfilling each age group's unique needs and interests. Students should have an opportunity for maximum growth through developing a positive self-image, self-discipline, citizenship, and social graces. These opportunities are provided by offering a variety of academic and enrichment experiences.
- The school should assist each student in developing a sense of pride in self, school, community, and nation.
- The school, family, and community must work together in order for our students to achieve these goals and develop the mental, moral, and spiritual concepts that will enable them to be better citizens today as well as tomorrow.

We want students to achieve; therefore, we will do our personal best to:

- Provide a safe and caring environment for learning while offering a high-quality curriculum.
- Take into account individual differences.
- Maintain high expectations for our school and our students.
- Help our students follow the school and classroom rules.
- Communicate with families to support student learning.
- Assign appropriate homework.
- Keep parents informed of their child's progress.
- Prepare students for standardized tests.

If we want our students to achieve, then we will expect families to:

- ❖ Ensure your child(ren) attend school dressed appropriately and arrive on time.
- ❖ Stress the importance of learning and doing the work by being involved and asking questions.
- ❖ Remind your child to ask for help when needed.
- ❖ Actively check your child(ren)'s grades through JCAMPUS and work in Canvas.
- ❖ View all school messages and share the information with your child.
- ❖ **Be prepared for the progress report at four weeks and a report at the end of the nine weeks. Contact the counselor or your child's teachers with any questions or concerns.**
- ❖ **Communicate with the school for any questions or concerns through JCAMPUS Connect found on the JC Student app:**

- Instruction (Grades PreK-2) - Christen Stokely
- Instruction (Grades 3-5) - Kacie Brown
- Instruction (Grades 6-8) - Ryan Burton
- Setting up Teacher Conference or Mental Health Concerns-
 - (Grades PreK-2) - Brenda Scott
 - (Grades 3-5 and 504) - Lisa Elliott
 - (Grades 7-8) - Nicole Harper

WE BELIEVE IT!

The Students

We, the students of Donnie Bickham, believe in our school, its achievements, its continued service and standing, and its growing traditions. **To honor** this belief, **we will** try at all times to:

- Be honest, dependable, and courteous.
- Treat others as we would like them to treat us.
- Respect and cooperate with all people in authority.
- Develop our character and personality through clean living.
- Promote a friendly atmosphere.
- Work for grades worthy of our ability.
- Have pride in Donnie Bickham and our community.
- Serve our school in every way and make it a better place.

Patriots follow **DBMS** Expectations!

D Demonstrate Responsibility

B Be on Task

M Make Good Choices

S Show Respect





Middle School Activity Schedule

1st Period: 8:00 – 8:43

2nd Period: 8:47 – 9:30

3rd Period: 9:34 – 10:17

4th Period: 10:21 – 11:04

Lunch

1st: 11:04 – 11:38

2nd: 11:55 – 12:25

5th Period: 11:42 – 12:25

6th Period: 12:29 – 1:12

7th Period: 1:16 – 1:59

8th Period: 2:03 – 2:46

Activity Period: 2:50 – 3:25

DBMS EXPECTATIONS

In an assembly:

- Move quietly and orderly to the assembly and follow the teacher's directions.
- No talking or playing while the program is in progress – pay attention.
- Sit straight in seats during the program (no slouching or sleeping).
- Exit in a quiet and orderly fashion as directed by adults. Failure to follow the rules will result in removal from the program and appropriate action from the discipline office.

On the playground:

- Students are to report immediately to designated areas after eating.
- Students should keep their hands and feet off other students (no rough-housing).
- Students should obey all the duties of teachers/staff members.
- Students with any problem should report it immediately to the nearest duty teacher/staff member.
- Bad weather days
 - Girls report to the auditorium
 - Boys report to the big gym

In the hall:

- Go directly from one class to the next.
- Walk on the right side of the halls.
- Avoid gathering in the halls in a manner that blocks traffic.
- Avoid inappropriate physical contact.
- Absolutely no screaming, hollering, or loud outbursts.

In the cafeteria:

- No saving places or cutting in line.
- While in line
- **NO** throwing food, paper, or any objects in the cafeteria.
- No food is to be taken out of the cafeteria.
- No canned/bottled drinks. Fruit/vegetable juice should be in a disposable container.
- Students failing to cooperate in helping to keep our cafeteria clean may be assigned cafeteria clean-up detention.
- Students may not leave campus for lunch.
- When finished eating, push the chair under the table, properly dispose of trash, and exit the cafeteria at the assigned exit.
- No fast-food lunches may be brought in.

A PATRIOT CODE OF CONDUCT

We believe that there are certain human rights that should be guaranteed to the students and faculty of Donnie Bickham Middle School. These rights should govern our conduct throughout the school day, including after-school activities and travel to and from school. The discipline policy established by the Caddo Parish School Board and rules established by the faculty/staff guarantee the following rights:

- ★ The right to develop one's own personality (so long as it does not interfere with the rights of others) without disrespectful criticism or pressure from others.
- ★ Freedom from physical abuse and mental abuse, such as name-calling, intimidation, or harassment.
- ★ Freedom from being set apart or mocked because of race, sex, religion, physical strength, size, features, friendship groups, age, culture, handicap, financial status, clothing, classroom performance, etc.

SCHOOL-WIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Donnie Bickham Middle School has a school-wide classroom management plan consisting of:

Four school-wide rules

- D Demonstrate Responsibility**
- B Be on Task**
- M Make Good Choices**
- S Show Respect**

Consequences for breaking rules

- **First Incident: Verbal Warning**
- **Second Warning: Verbal Warning and Parent Contact**
- **Third Warning: Code 2 and Parent Contact**

Rewards for following rules

The management plan will be posted in each classroom, and students must follow the rules. The rules and consequences will be very similar in each class; therefore, students will know the expectations. The plan aims to provide a classroom atmosphere in which teachers can teach and students can be successful. Some possible rewards include:

Dress Down Passes
Pizza Parties

School Dances

BUS EXPECTATIONS

Bus Stop Change Request

The school bus driver has the legal authority to keep order on his/her bus and is held responsible for this order. Only students who behave and abide by the rules and regulations may ride the bus. Caddo Parish School Board Policy for riding the bus is reviewed with every student. The bus ramp is off limits for traffic other than bus traffic between 6:50 and 8:05 a.m. and 2:00 and 3:45 p.m.

Other bus rules are:

- Remain seated and quiet while the bus is in motion so as not to disturb the driver.
- Do not purposely or carelessly destroy property or throw objects.
- Do not extend arms or other parts of the body out the window.
- Eating/drinking may be done only with the driver's permission.
- Absolutely no tobacco/profanity/fighting/horse-play.
- Remember that the bus is a classroom on wheels, and students should act courteously and respectfully as though they are in the building.
- The cell phone on the bus is the same as the cell phone policy in the classroom.
- The driver has the authority to assign seats.
- Students who do not cooperate are subject to disciplinary action, suspension, and expulsion from bus riding.

CHECKING OUT?

Once a student is on the school grounds, he/she is to remain throughout the day unless an emergency arises. If a student should become sick at school, he/she will report to the office with the teacher's permission to contact a parent/guardian. A parent/guardian should communicate with the office for plans for early dismissal, and a parent/guardian must come into the office to check out his/her student. **Parents, please limit checking out students after 2:30 p.m.**

LOSE SOMETHING?

Items found in and around the school **must** be turned in to the office. Failure to turn in articles may be considered possession of stolen property. Owners may be asked to identify certain

articles. All unclaimed property will be given to charity at the end of each nine-week period.

Important: Label all your personal belongings, including clothing.

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ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Buses and car riders unload at 7:40 a.m. Students should proceed directly to the cafeteria for breakfast and then to their designated area. School begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. Students arriving at school after 8:00 a.m. should report immediately to the front office. **Parents who drop off students after 8:00 a.m. MUST escort the student to the main office.** Tardies will be addressed according to the CPSB Discipline Policy. Students should be in their seats, prepared to work at the beginning of each class period. Any student over 5 minutes late for class will be considered 'skipping class' unless the student has permission from an adult on campus.

Students should not be dropped off or on campus before 7:40 a.m. Vehicles should enter the side drive and follow the traffic to the back to drop off students at the east end of the building. ALL car riders should be picked up by 3:45 p.m. After a student's 3rd time to not be picked up by 3:45 p.m., the student will be assigned a bus to ride. Students should follow the breezeway between the buildings to the cafeteria.

No students should be in the building after 3:45 p.m., except for the following situations:

- Inside a classroom or the gym with a staff member/ teacher in charge.
- Participating in make-up work, detention, or tutoring with adult supervision
- Participating in an after-school activity and waiting for parents, the student will be in the lobby/office area near the main entrance. Students are not to wait outside.

BICKHAM WEST **ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL**

MORNING CARPOOL GUIDELINES

Morning dropoff begins at 7:40am. This is when duty teachers and our security officer are present to provide supervision and ensure student safety.

****ALL students must be dropped off from a vehicle at the designated areas on the map below. ALL parents must remain in the car line and drop off their students at the designated areas on the map below.

Before 7:40 am:

- Vehicles must enter Birch Street from Pine Hill Road only.
- Birch is a ONE-WAY street (from Pine Hill to Jodie) on school days from 6:30 am until 5:00 pm.
- Parents and students must stay in their vehicle.
- Vehicles must stop at the edge of the fence line and remain in a single file line.

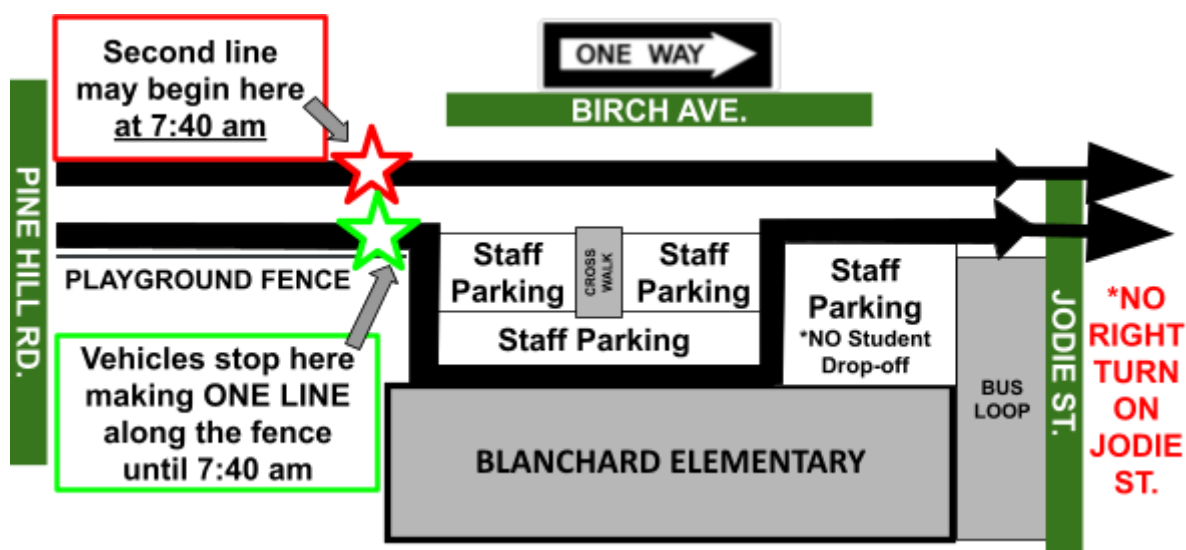
At 7:40 am:

- Vehicles may move past the edge of the fence line to drop off students.
- A 2nd line can be formed on Birch Avenue to drop-off at the crosswalk near the marquee sign.
- Students should be prepared to exit the vehicle quickly to prevent traffic from backing up.
- Vehicles should go straight on Birch Avenue after drop off.

At 8:00 am:

- Students are considered tardy and require a parent to check them into school.

** If you need to drop off your child before 7:40 each morning, you should **make other arrangements** for before school care and transportation.



AFTERNOON PICK-UP/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

- Please limit check-outs **after 3:00 pm**.
- Changes in transportation must be in writing and hand-delivered to the school **before 2:45 pm**.
- Without a note delivered to the office, changes will not be made and **students will be sent home in the usual manner**.
- ***Please be consistent with the daily dismissal arrangements you have given to your child's teacher. When you change these plans, it increases the chances for mistakes made by students and/or teachers.

CAR DISMISSAL PROCEDURES ***Please Note Time Changes***

- ALL parents must remain in their vehicle to pick up their child.
- Due to the anticipated increase in the number of car riders, please pull up as closely as possible in the car line.
- Beginning NO earlier than 3:00 pm, parents may park along the fence, making ONE LINE on the right side of Birch Ave.
- At 3:15 pm, parents may pull into the carpool loop.
- Car dismissal will begin at 3:20 pm.
- Parents must have a visible name tag displayed in the front windshield with child's first and last name written in large font.
- Students must be picked up no later than 3:45, unless they are enrolled in our YEP program.

BUS DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

- Bus students will be dropped off and picked up in our Bus Loop.
- Bus students will enter and exit from the cafeteria.

- Bus Loop is for buses only.

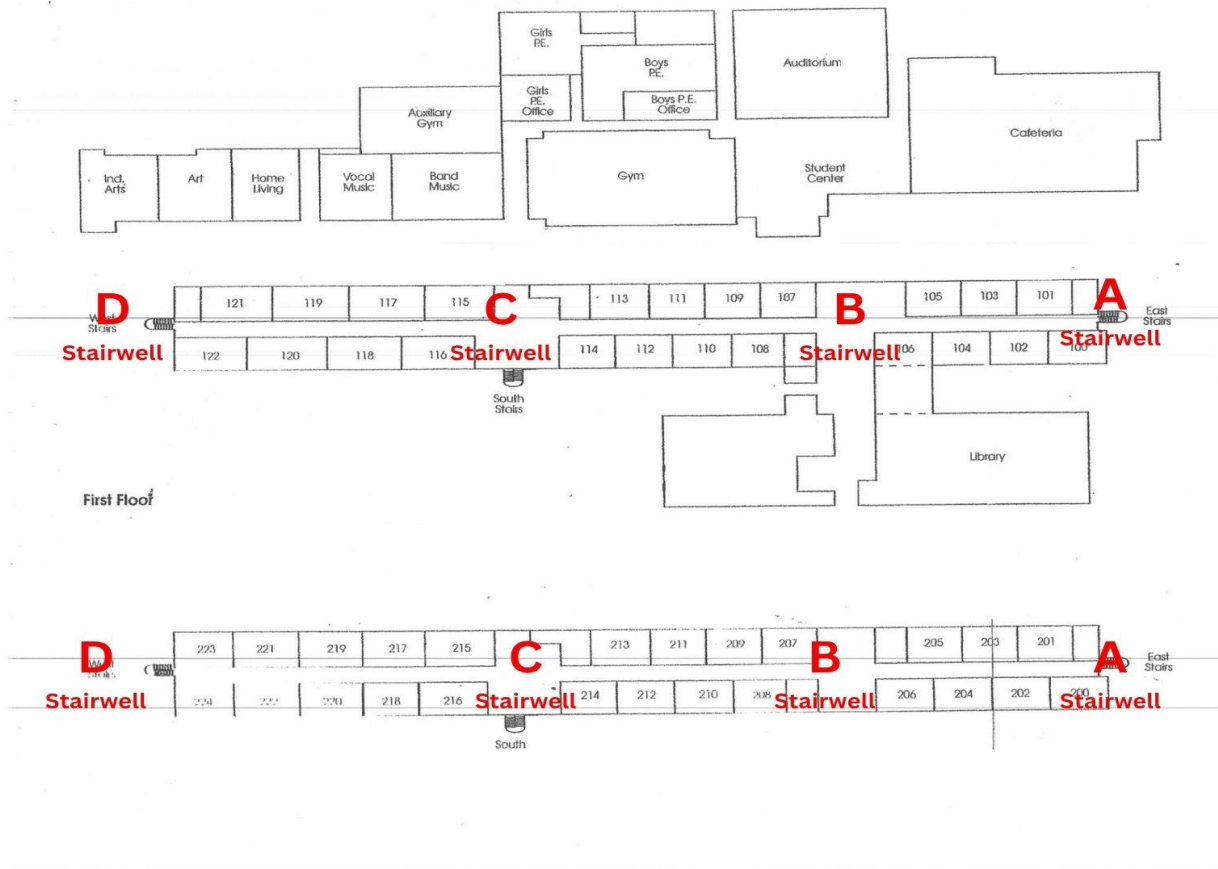
PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES WITH BUS TRANSPORTATION

***** The “Find My Bus Stop” link can be found on the Caddo Parish Schools website.**

1. Please note the time provided for the morning and afternoon stops, as well as the name and phone number for the bus driver.
2. **Students should arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes before the designated pick-up time.**
3. Parents are responsible for the safety and conduct of their children at the bus stop before morning pick-up and following afternoon drop-off.
4. Parents are responsible for providing supervision at bus stops that is appropriate to the student's age and maturity.
5. Caddo Parish School Board staff does not assess all possible walking routes to and from bus stops, supervise these routes, or guarantee the safety of any particular route. Walking routes will be assessed for unusual hazards when concerns are brought to their attention.
6. Parents should impress upon their children the need for good behavior and observance of safety precautions while riding the bus. The bus is considered an extension of the classroom. All school behavior expectations apply on the bus.
7. Parents of special needs students are required to assist the student on and off the bus at his/her stop.
8. All Pre-K through second grade children must be accompanied by an adult at the morning stop and be met by an adult at the afternoon drop off. The bus driver will not leave a student unattended and will return the student to the school for parent pick-up.
9. Parents of students not eligible for transportation per Board Policy or state law will be responsible for their own transportation.
10. Parents must request a change in bus stop through the transportation department.
11. Parents must notify the office of all student information changes immediately.

Stairwell Traffic

Middle school students will use the following stairwells during each part of the day: Morning entry from outside-use stairwell B Between classes-use stairwell A or B Bus rider dismissal from school-Classrooms between stairwell C and D will use stairwell D. Students between stairwell A and C will use stairwell B and exit through hallway next to the office. Car rider dismissal-Use stairwell A.



Cell Phones

- There is a zero tolerance for cell phones on campus. Therefore, we will not investigate or search for lost, broken, or stolen cell phones.
- Cell phones should stay at home or be powered off in the student's backpack.

IT'S JUST A DRILL

Crisis response drills (fire, tornado, etc) are held at regular intervals throughout the school year to ensure the safety of each student. Teachers are trained to handle these events. Students should check the posted instructions in each classroom: WALK, DON'T TALK, and OBEY THE ADULT IN CHARGE.

Book Bags!

Lockers will not be issued for the 2026-2027 school year. Students are allowed to bring one clear or mesh book bag to carry their books and other school supplies. **The school has the authority to search book bags if necessary.** Students are responsible for keeping up with their book bags and the content within them.

WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?

Students should not bring large amounts of money to school. This year, parents will pay school fees online at School Cash Online. Additional instructions will be given at the Open House. Some clubs, groups or teams will charge a fee, as needed. The total fees for the year (with the exception of bands, sports, clubs, organizations, etc.) are \$40 for all students.

WHAT ABOUT MEDICINE?

The Caddo Parish School Board policy is that parents administer medication for the students. However, some circumstances and conditions require some students to take medication during school hours or on a daily basis when a parent or guardian cannot come to the school to administer it. In such cases, medication can be given by trained school personnel in strict compliance with established regulations.

If a student must take **any** medication (including Tylenol, ointments, etc.), a parent/guardian should contact the office to receive directions and authorization papers completed by the

parent/guardian and the student's physician. The parent should bring the medicine to the office. Office personnel will count and record the pills. **All medications must be checked in and kept in the office.**

I JUST NEED TO TALK

There are times during the school day when students need to talk with someone. Our school counselors are available to help students with problems with family, friends, teachers, grades, or simply with themselves. Students may request to see the counselor from their teacher or by submitting a request on their Canvas page, and the counselor will call the student. If there is an urgent problem, students should notify their teacher for permission to see an administrator as soon as possible.

VISITOR GUIDELINES

Anyone who wants to visit a student or employee must follow the visitor guidelines. A request to visit must be made through the appropriate counselor. Visitors must abide by the procedures we have in place to ensure everyone's safety on campus.

ATTENDANCE

The benefits of instructional time can only be received if the student makes every effort to be present in class; however, there are times when a student must be absent. The Caddo Parish School Board officially excuses a student with a physician's note or a parent's excuse. Parent notes will be accepted for no more than 3 consecutive days at a time. A physician's excuse must be presented if a student is absent for more than three (3) consecutive days at a time. In addition, failure to provide a parent note within three (3) days of a student's return to school will result in the day(s) being counted as unexcused and counted toward truancy.

Absences accrued due to the death of an immediate family member may also be excused with a copy of the newspaper obituary or a funeral program. (Please see CPSB Policy Manual at the end of the handbook.) Please note that after 3 unexcused absences, the parent/guardian will receive a CPSB letter regarding the absences. After 5 unexcused absences, the CPSB sends a letter to the parent/guardian inviting them to an attendance conference at the school. After 10 unexcused absences, a court referral is sent to the parent. All excuses should be given to the

teacher taking roll, then sent to the office and kept on file. If a student is absent, the parent/guardian will be called by office personnel to verify the absence.

TIME TO MOVE ON

3rd Grade

Act 422 of the 2023 Legislative Session enacted R.S. 17:24.11 to prohibit promotion to fourth grade if a student scores at the lowest level of the literacy screener.

Assessment

- Amplify's DIBELS 8th literacy screener.
- Promotion is based on scoring higher than well below on the composite score.

Students are given three opportunities to score above well below.

- EOY benchmark in April
- Second opportunity at end of May
- Third opportunity after optional summer learning opportunity

PreK, K, 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th

Teachers shall, on an individual basis, determine the promotion of each student according to the local PPP. Particular emphasis shall be placed upon the student's proficiency in grade-appropriate skills. Students who have not met the acceptable level of performance may 5 be retained or promoted, but in either case, shall be provided with an expanded academic support plan that adheres to requirements in Section VI. Support for students. See the promotion guidance document for more information: [Promotion Guidance](#)

6th - 8th Grades

To promote to the next grade, students must earn a total of 6 1/2 courses in an 8-period day schedule, one of which must be reading or mathematics.

- **All students must attend a minimum of 160 days.**

WOW, TAKE A LOOK AT MY PROGRESS!

Parents can access their child's grades, discipline record, and attendance record twenty-four hours a day by accessing the JCAMPUS Parent Portal system via the Caddo Parish School Board website at www.caddoschools.org. The password will be the last five digits of the child's Social Security number.

During each nine-week period, tests, quizzes, daily grades, homework assignments, and other measures may be used to determine a student's progress in a given subject. The progress

report will be issued at the midpoint of the nine-week reporting period. Progress reports should be signed by a parent and returned to the school. Report cards will be issued approximately one week following the end of the nine-week grading period.

EXTRA, EXTRA!

Extracurricular activities are offered at DBMS. Students may choose from a wide variety of clubs. Football, basketball, track, cross country, softball, volleyball, soccer, and golf are all offered. Cheerleading, dance line, flag line, and pep squad are also offered. To be eligible for athletics, students must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. **Students must be picked up promptly upon conclusion of an after-school event, or they may not be allowed to attend other extracurricular activities at the administration's discretion.** Out-of-school and in-school suspended students are NOT allowed to participate in or attend extracurricular activities during suspension. Students suspended two or more times will be unable to participate in or attend extracurricular activities for the rest of the year.

FIELD DAY

DBMS has several fun days in the sun at the end of every school year to celebrate Donnie Bickham's many successes. The same guidelines stated in the Student Behavior contract determine participation in this event. Students with one or more out-of-school suspensions, or three or more days in ISS in the nine weeks preceding Field Day, will not be allowed to participate. **No student expelled during the current school year may attend Field Day.**

WHERE'S THE BEEF?

A very spacious cafeteria has been provided to serve the student body. Breakfast and lunch are provided free to all middle and elementary students who attend Caddo Parish Schools. Students may eat the lunch provided by the school district or bring lunch from home. At lunch, all food must be eaten in the cafeteria. Students are expected to use good table manners and extend courtesies to each other. Staff members are assigned to cafeteria duty.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

To ensure the safety of all students, faculty, and staff at Donnie Bickham, a random metal detector search is conducted periodically. This may include a single classroom, bus, or the entire school. If there is a reasonable suspicion that a student may possess an illegal or

prohibited item, that student will be searched. Lockers are subject to random searches with reasonable suspicion.

BOUNDARIES OF SCHOOL JURISDICTION

As stated in The Revised Statutes 17:416 of the State Legislature in 1994, Donnie Bickham Middle School will hold students accountable for actions occurring on school grounds, on streets or roads going to or returning from school, including bus stops. This includes before and after school and during lunch breaks.

Our school buildings and equipment cost taxpayers to construct, purchase, and maintain. Students who destroy or vandalize school property will be required to pay for losses or damages. If a student willfully destroys school property, suspension may be necessary. If damage is done accidentally, it should be immediately reported to a teacher or staff member.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT/BULLYING

Students who engage in sexual harassment on school premises or at a school-sponsored activity will be subject to appropriate discipline as defined in the Caddo Parish Discipline Policy. Sexual harassment is any activity of a sexual nature that is unwanted or unwelcome, including but not limited to, unwanted touching, pinching, verbal comments of a sexual nature, sexual name-calling, pressure to engage in sexual activity, repeated propositions, and unwanted body contact. If the administration recommends suspension or expulsion as a result of conduct, due process will be afforded to the student in accordance with Caddo Parish policies.

No forms of bullying shall be permitted or condoned by the Caddo Parish School Board or Donnie Bickham Middle School. All students, teachers, and other school employees shall take reasonable measures within the scope of their individual authority to prevent violations of this policy. Students who engage in bullying on school premises, on the bus, at the bus stop or at school-sponsored activities will be subject to appropriate discipline to the fullest extent as defined in the Caddo Parish Discipline Policy. Bullying consists of repeated acts over time that involve a real or perceived imbalance of power, with the more powerful individual or group abusing those who are less powerful. The power imbalance may be social power and/or physical power. Forms of bullying include but are not limited to physical, emotional, verbal, electronic (cyber), and sexual.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the Caddo Public Schools are hereby notified that this parish does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in admission of access to, or treatment of employment in any program or activity. Any person inquiring about the Caddo Parish Public Schools' compliance with regulations implementing Section 504 is directed to contact the Caddo Parish School Board/Office of Special Programs/Section 504/ADA Department.

CADDO PARISH SCHOOL BOARD POLICY MANUAL

File: JFCA – Student Dress Code

It is the responsibility of the Caddo Parish School Board to provide an educational atmosphere conducive to learning. With this responsibility in mind, the board adopts a dress code that meets the following criteria:

1. Assures the basic rights of individuals granted under the Constitution of the United States.
2. Applicable from early childhood education through high school completion.
3. Meets the requirements and guidelines provided by Title IX.
4. Promotes an educational atmosphere conducive to wholesome learning.

Caddo Parish Student Dress Code

DRESS CODE REGULATIONS

The basic responsibility for the appearance of the students of Caddo Parish schools rests with the parents and the students themselves.

Parents have the obligation and, within certain prescribed bounds, the right to determine their students' dress. Students shall wear apparel that is modest and tasteful and that does not interfere with or distract from the educational process or rights of others.

Students and their clothing should be neat, clean, and well-groomed and must meet the following requirements:

1. Attire shall not be destructive to school property.
2. For health reasons, shoes shall be worn. Hosiery shall be required with closed shoes.
3. Only tops designed to be worn outside of pants, shorts, or skirts shall be worn that way.
4. Pants, shorts, and skirts shall be worn at the waist. No "sagging" shall be permitted.
5. Headwear or hair rollers shall be prohibited in any building. Unnatural hair color (green, blue, etc.) shall be prohibited.
6. Body piercing jewelry shall not be worn except in the ears.
7. Shirts, sweaters, jackets, and other tops worn over leggings shall be no shorter than four (4) inches above the knee. Skirt length should be no more than four (4) inches above the knee.
8. Sunglasses shall be prohibited in any building unless they are prescribed.
9. Bare midriffs, see-through garments, white undergarment-type tee shirts, bare backs, halter tops, tank tops, tube tops, and cutoffs shall not be worn. There shall be no holes or tears in clothing on the school campus.
10. Loose-fitting shorts may be worn by students that are no more than four (4) inches above the knee when standing. All shorts shall be hemmed. Cutoff shorts, rolled up jeans, sweats, athletic or spandex shorts shall not be worn. No other article of clothing shall be worn beneath the shorts for viewing.
11. Obscene, profane language or provocative pictures on clothing or jewelry shall be prohibited.
12. Satanic, cult, or gang-related symbolism in any form shall be prohibited on school campuses.
13. Drug-related symbols in any form, including advertisements or promotions of alcohol or tobacco, shall be prohibited on school campuses.
14. Principals, after consulting with their School Improvement Committee, have the discretion to adjust the dress code to fit unique situations as long as the decision does not interfere with Title IX's requirements.

DONNIE BICKHAM ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY 2026-2027

TOPS BY GRADE LEVEL:
PreK-2nd Grade: Navy or Columbia Blue (spirit shirts/polos)
3rd-5th Grade: Grey or White (spirit shirts/polos)
6th-8th Grade: Red or Black (spirit shirts/polos)

Lower-Elementary



Upper-Elementary



Middle School



Students can wear a polo or a spirit shirt in the color assigned to their grade level.
Students can wear a solid-colored sweatshirt or jacket without a hood or writing in the color assigned to their grade level. Spirit sweatshirts are preferred. Students can wear DBEMS spiritwear from previous years as long as it fits their grade-level color.
Hoods are NOT permitted.

DONNIE BICKHAM ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY 2026-2027

BOTTOMS ALLOWED

Pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, athletic shorts, joggers, tennis skirts, or jeans in black, khaki, navy, or gray. Must be no more than 4" above the knee.



NOT PERMITTED: Jeggings, leggings, pajama bottoms, sweatpants, tight-fitting bottoms, bedroom slippers, backless/open-toed shoes, Crocs, headwear, bandanas, hair rollers, sunglasses indoors. Body piercings only in ears. No hoods allowed. Holes in jeans must be below the knee.