Corinth Elementary School



Parent/Student Handbook

2026-2027 School Year

August 2026

Dear Parents and Students,

We are very pleased that you are part of our school. This handbook has been prepared to provide both students and parents with valuable information about Corinth Elementary School. We feel that school should be a place where your child can develop qualities that will help him/her be a successful student.

At Corinth Elementary School, parents, teachers, and staff make every effort to establish an atmosphere that is warm, caring, and emphasizes high educational standards. In an effort to continue this tradition, parents are requested to read through this handbook with their children and to encourage them to always put forth their best effort. We can ask no more of our children or ourselves and should expect no less.

Our responsibilities are many, but together we can work to ensure a successful school year for every child. This handbook has been prepared to help you become more knowledgeable about our school. While such a document could never cover the multitude of questions that will undoubtedly arise, it answers the ones asked most frequently. This handbook is only one method used to develop a closer working relationship between home and school.

I would like to personally welcome you to our school. We are excited and looking forward to another successful year that will be filled with learning and fun. I am honored to be part of this team and together we are looking forward to working with you and your children this year.

We understand that each and every child is special to their family, and I would like to assure you they are special to us as well. We are committed to providing each child with a quality and meaningful education.

Parents, we encourage you to have regular conversations with your child/children about school and their work. Parental involvement shows children that school is important and that you are committed to their success. As a team, we can accomplish great things!

This publication of the Corinth Elementary Student Handbook includes general information regarding the policies and procedures governing the operation of our schools that will be useful to you throughout the school year. Please refer to this handbook for any questions you may have regarding procedures. If you do not find the answer to your question, please do not hesitate to contact our school office at **(864) 206-6600**

Thank you for your cooperation, support, and attention to this publication.
Discuss the Handbook with your child.

This is going to be the best year ever!!

Mrs. Tracy Allison, Principal

Mr. Allen Cobb, Assistant Principal

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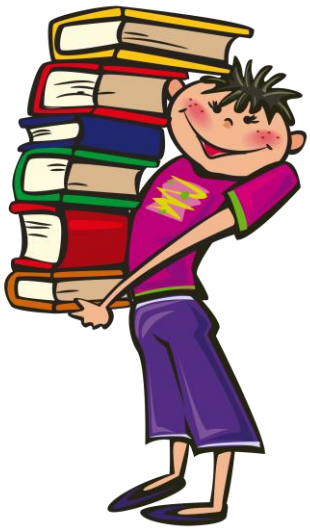
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About Us

Cherokee County Schools Interim Superintendent: Dr. Raashad Fitzpatrick

Important Phone Numbers Area Code (864)

Cherokee County School District

Main Phone Line	206-2201
Transportation (Office)	902-3646
Transportation (if bus is late)	206-2305

Corinth Elementary School

Office	206-6600
Fax	487-7444
Cafeteria	206-6599

School Hours

Office Hours 7:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (Mon. – Friday)
School Hours 7:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m. (Mon. – Friday)



Vision Statement

The vision of Corinth Elementary School is to prepare students academically, socially, and emotionally to transition into higher levels of education. We aim for each student to be able to work both independently and collaboratively with others to solve real-world problems using creativity and critical thinking skills. We aim to model and encourage students to uphold themselves to high moral standards. We strive for each child to receive the interventions and support necessary for them to be able to meet and exceed their individual goals in core academic areas each year.

Mission Statement

The mission of Corinth Elementary School is to create a safe and supportive environment for all students, in order for them to develop a firm foundation for intellectual, academic, and personal growth. All stakeholders collaborate as a team to address the needs of each individual student to ensure they succeed as responsible productive citizens by providing excellent opportunities in academics, athletics, and the arts.

School Spirit

Colors: Blue and Yellow (Gold)
Mascot: "Cory the Corinth Cougar"

Staff Assignments 2026-2027

Office Personnel

Principal	Tracy Allison	tracy.allison@cherokee1.org
Assistant Principal	Allen Cobb	allen.cobb@cherokee1.org
Bookkeeper/Secretary	Rachel Harris	rachel.harris @cherokee1.org
PowerSchool/Secretary	Beverly Ruff	beverly.ruff@cherokee1.org
School Nurse	Kalin Mabry	kalin.mabry@cherokee1.org
4K Kindergarten	Allison Kensler,	allison.kenlser@cherokee1.org
	Caylin St. Cyr	caylin.stcyr@cherokee1.org
	Anna Everhart, Assistant	anna.everhart@cherokee1.org
	MaryAnn Moss, Assistant	maryann.moss@cherokee1.org
	Kaitlin Morris, Assistant	kaitlin.morris@cherokee1.org
5K Kindergarten	Amanda Belue	amanda.belue@cherokee1.org
	Michelle Moss	michelle.moss@cherokee1.org
	Diane Davis, Assistant	diane.davis@cherokee1.org
	April Everhart, Assistant	april.everhart@cherokee1.org
Grade 1	Olivia Moss	olivia.moss@cherokee1.org
	April Mabry	april.smoak@cherokee1.org
Grade 2	Felecia Erwin	felecia.erwin@cherokee1.org
	Laci Harder	laci.harder@cherokee1.org
Grade 3	Lauren Goins	lauren.goins@cherokee1.org
	Hope Owens	hope.owens@cherokee1.org
Grade 4	Amber Bumgarner	amber.bumgarner@cherokee1.org
	Heather Parris	heather.parris@cherokee1.org
Grade 5	Tina Morris	tina.morris@cherokee1.org
	Myra Whitesides	myra.whitesides@cherokee1.org
Developmental Primary	Victoria Fanger	victoria.fanger@cherokee1.org
	Tammy Vazquez	tammy.vazquez@cherokee1.org
	Elizabeth Ruff	elizabeth.ruff@cherokee1.org
Literacy Coach	Madison Wood	madison.wood@cherokee1.org
Julie Reeves	Instructional Coach	julie.reeves@cherokee1.org
Counselor	Kim Reel	kim.reel@cherokee1.org
Gifted & Talented	Carol Cooper	carol.cooper@cherokee1.org
Media Specialist	Darla Scruggs	darla.scruggs@cherokee1.org
Art	Eric Smalley	eric.smalley@cherokee1.org
Music	Sean Smith	sean.smith@cherokee1.org
Physical Education	Morgan Pileggi	morgan.pileggi@cherokee1.org
Multi-Age	Madalyn Sprouse	madalyn.sprouse@cherokee1.org
Speech	Deloris Williams	deloris.williams@cherokee1.org
Technology Assistant	Brooke Helton	brooke.helton@cherokee1.org
Reading Recovery	Tabitha Easler	tabitha.easler@cherokee1.org
Reading Interventionist	Rachel Smoak	rachel.smoak@cherokee1.org
Teacher Assistant	Bri Miller	bri.miller@cherokee1.org
Cafeteria Manager	Debra Ramsey	debra.ramsey@cherokee1.org
Custodian	Paula Ramirez	paula.ramirez@cherokee1.org
Custodian	David Painter	david.painter@cherokee1.org
Custodian	Susan Whelchel	susan.whelchel@cherokee1.org

Corinth Elementary School Parent/Student Handbook
2026-2027

Attendance

Admission Requirements

A child entering kindergarten must be five years of age on or before September 1. Any student entering school is required to be fully immunized in accordance with state health laws. Parents are required to give written proof of immunizations with specific dates signed by a physician. The school nurse will review the health record and notify the parents of any missing data. You will have 7 days to bring your child's Immunization up to standard from the date of the letter sent home.

All children between the ages of 5 and 17 must be in attendance at a public, private school, or kindergarten or in an approved home schooling program in accordance with state compulsory attendance law and regulations. Students are expected to attend school 180 days of each school year for the entire instructional day. Any deviation from these hours is a serious disruption to the student's educational program.

If your child is going to be absent or tardy, a parent or legal guardian is required to call the school as early as possible on the day of the absence. If we receive no parental phone call, school personnel will attempt to call the home to verify the absence. A meeting may be required with the Attendance Clerk and/or administration for students with attendance concerns. If your child is absent during the day he/she may **not** attend afternoon or evening activities.

Students are counted in attendance or present under the following conditions.
They are:

1. At school when they have reported to their classroom.
2. On homebound instruction.
3. Engaged in a school sponsored activity approved by the principal.
4. Assigned to in-school suspension.



Perfect Attendance

Students who have perfect attendance, excluding make up days, each nine weeks will be recognized. To receive perfect attendance for the year, a student must attend school for 180 days.

Absences and Excuses

Any student who is absent from school must present an excuse in compliance with the criteria established by attendance policy if the absence is to be considered lawful.

Lawful Absences

Students will be considered lawfully absent when:

1. They are ill and their attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others.
2. There is a death or serious illness in their immediate family (lawful absences limited to three days per occurrence). Immediate family includes father, mother, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother and in-laws of the same degree or resident of the same household.
3. They have a chronic illness, certified upon diagnosis and at the beginning of every year thereafter by a physician, which causes them to be absent in excess of the number of lawful absences allowed. Students must submit a chronic illness form or statement, completed and

signed by the physician who diagnoses or is treating the condition. Periodic updates, at least every three months, of the chronic illness statements are required.

4. They are out for periods of time for hospitalization or extended medical care by a physician, which are not of sufficient duration to warrant homebound instruction, as approved by the principal.
5. They are absent due to health-related conditions; (i.e., medical, dental clinic appointments). Appointments must be verified by the physician or clinic personnel.
6. The principal must approve other absences not covered above.

Unlawful Absences

Students will be considered unlawfully absent when:

1. They are absent without acceptable cause with or without the knowledge of their parents/guardian.
2. They are suspended from school for violations of the school discipline policy. However suspension days will not be counted as unlawful days for truancy purposes.
3. Any absences not considered as lawful are judged to be unlawful and unexcused.

Lawful Excuses

1. An excuse written and signed by the parent/guardian is required for all absences. The excuse must include the reason for absences and the dates of the absences. A parent/guardian's note will be accepted without physician confirmation for five absences in a school year.
2. A physician's verification of absences due to illness is required for any absences above five days in a school year.
3. A physician or clinic staff verification of absences due to medical, dental or clinic appointment is required in all instances.
4. All excuses must be presented within three days of the absence from school. The principal may make an exception to the three-day time limit for cause.

Review of Absences

The principal or designee will review all absences after a student has been absent five days per semester or 10 days per year. The principal or designee must review each absence to determine whether it is lawful or unlawful.

Truancy Prevention

A student ages six to seventeen who has three (3) consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five (5) unlawful absences is considered truant as defined by state board of education regulations. When a student is unlawfully absent for three consecutive days or a cumulative total of five (5) days, the building administration will take steps to intervene in order to prevent truant behavior and to improve future attendance. Days absent due to suspension are not considered a part of the total for a truancy referral.

When a student is unlawfully absent for four consecutive days or six cumulative days, the attendance supervisor will be notified and will contact the parent/guardian. If a student and family do not respond and participate in the student's intervention plan to end the pattern of unlawful absences, then the student and family will be referred to the department of juvenile justice and/or the department of social services for violation of the compulsory school attendance law.

Make-up Work

If a child is going to be absent for an extended length of time, please call the school to make arrangements for any missed work that can be done at home. These assignments can usually be picked up at the end of the school day with the request being made prior to 9:00 a.m. Teachers will make every effort to assist students who need extra help in making up work due to illness. Students will have one day beyond the number of days they were absent to complete make-up work.

Tardiness

We encourage and expect our students and parent(s)/guardian(s) to understand how important it is to attend school each day and be on time to school. Tardies and Early sign Outs interrupt our classroom routines and will result in loss of learning. Our school day begins at 7:45 am at each of our elementary schools.

1. All students entering the building **after 7:45 a.m.** must be signed in at the front office by a parent/guardian. They **will be issued a class admission slip**. A**t the sound of the 7:35 a.m. bell, the Corinth Road door is locked. Students may enter the building ONLY through the office door.** Tardies from unusual weather conditions or late bus are excused.

2. District-wide consequence for Tardies or Early Sign-Outs are as follows:
   1st Tardy & Early Sign Out - Verbal Warning
   2nd Tardy & Early Sign Out - Reminder of Tardy Policy
   5th Tardy & Early Sign Out - Parent Contact with Principal/Office Staff
   10th Tardy & Early Sign Out – Formal Letter to Parents/Guardian
   12th Tardy & Early Sign Out – Attend Conference with School Officials
   15th Tardy & Early Sign Out – Referral to Director of Attendance (DSS)

   The Attendance Director will verify referrals and refer them to the proper authorities.

Transfers/Withdrawals

Pupils shall attend the school located in the attendance area where their parents/ guardians reside. Unless the enrollment was based on false information, a student whose residence changes during the year may complete the year at their present school. Parents/ guardians are responsible for the transportation of pupils attending a school out of their attendance area because of a change of residence. Parents are asked to notify the school as soon as possible if they will be withdrawing their child from school. Records will be mailed to the receiving school.

Academics

Academically Gifted and Talented Students

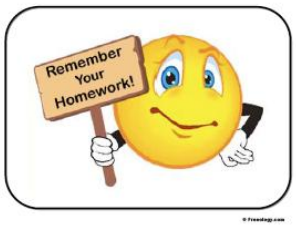
Students identified as academically gifted and talented in grades 3-5 are served through the Gifted and Talented program. Classes meet once a week for the majority of the school day. Students qualify for this program based on South Carolina State Department of Education guidelines. Qualification for the program is based on aptitude scores and achievement scores.

Awards Day Procedures

Parents are invited to attend awards recognition programs each nine weeks. These will be held in the gym. Parents are asked to go directly to the gym upon arrival.

Field Trips

Field trips have an educational value and, therefore, every student is encouraged to participate in them. Parents will be informed well in advance of an upcoming field trip. ***All students are required to have a signed permission slip on file with the classroom teacher at least 48 hours before the scheduled field trip***. Parents are may be asked to participate in field trips as chaperones who have completed Volunteer Training and passed a SLED check that is given by the district.



Homework

According to the U.S. Department of Education, "the major purposes of homework are to help students review and practice what they have learned, prepare for the next day's class, learn to use resources such as libraries and reference materials, and explore subjects more fully than time permits in the classroom. All assignments must have relevance to students. In recognition of the value of recreational activities, family activities and other avenues for family learning, the following homework guidelines suggest maximums. Parental involvement in the completion of assignments should be minimal."

Elementary Guidelines - Suggested amounts of time:
K/1st – not to exceed 30 minutes per day
2nd/3rd grade – not to exceed 45 minutes per day
4th/5th grade – not to exceed 60 minutes per day

Suggested activities: Reading, unfinished homework, interviews, math facts, review for test, research and preparation, sight words

Promotion-Retention

The teacher(s) and principal of a school should know by the end of the first semester those students who are not making satisfactory progress. In cases when students are not progressing satisfactorily, the procedures below will be followed:

1. At the end of the first semester, the teacher will indicate in a letter or progress report all subjects a child is in danger of failing at this time.
2. A conference with the parent(s) must be scheduled by the teacher at this time to discuss the student's program and progress.
3. During the conference, the following areas should be included in the discussion:
   a. the student's present level of attainment.
   b. the level of attainment required for promotion.
   c. specific problems the student is encountering.
   d. suggestions to the parent(s) of ways in which they can assist the student.
4. Final *retention* conferences will be held during the fourth nine weeks grading period.

Recess

All classes will have a twenty (20) minute recess. Whenever it is possible, and in the best judgment of the administrator, recess time will be spent outside the building. Of course, when conditions such as extreme cold or soaking rains are evident, recess will be held inside.

Student Progress

It is our intent to convey an accurate report of children's progress during their stay at Corinth Elementary. Student progress is evaluated and recorded on report cards, which are issued every nine weeks. Report cards must be signed by the parent or guardian and returned to school. Other reports concerning individual student progress may also be issued. Parents are urged to initiate conferences at any time by writing a note or calling the teacher. Teachers may request that parents attend special conferences. The Uniform Grading Scale is:

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



Student Records

(Annual Notice required by Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act)
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 education records. They 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 a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal 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 or misleading.** Parents/legal guardians or eligible students may ask the school to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parents/legal guardians, or eligible student, the school will notify the parents/legal guardians 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 parents/legal guardians or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) **The right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that 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 outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent/legal guardian or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or a parent/legal guardian, student or other volunteer 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, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the students enrollment or transfer. NOTE: FERPA requires a school to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent/legal guardian or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notifications 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 to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-8520

School Supplies

Corinth Elementary School has developed a supply list by grade level. The list was sent home with the 4th nine weeks report card. If you need an additional copy of the list, please call the school office. It is the parents' responsibility to see that items on the list are provided **in quantity to last all year.** ***Note: No rolling book bags.** If a student has a medical condition that requires a rolling book bag, a note from the doctor should verify the need. This request must be updated yearly.

Special Services

Special services are available for children with special needs. Itinerant teachers provide help in the areas of Speech Therapy, Visually Impaired, Hearing Impaired, emotionally handicapped, learning disabled, educable mentally handicapped, trainable mentally handicapped, and/or orthopedically handicapped. Parents who have questions concerning these programs may call the office.

Textbooks



Each child is responsible for his/her textbooks, school equipment, and borrowed school library books. All textbooks are barcoded, scanned, and assigned to individual students. Any lost or damaged books and equipment must be replaced. The student must pay for books that are lost or damaged beyond further use. The principal will determine the cost according to the amount of damage and the age of the book. If a library book has been lost and payment has not been forthcoming, the student will not be permitted to borrow additional materials. Textbooks are to be returned before a student is withdrawn or transferred to another school.

Daily Procedures

Car Riders Arrival to School

The doors open for students at 7:00am. Parents should <u>not</u> leave students at school before that time. Students will be supervised in waiting areas. Students are expected to study, read, or complete assignments quietly during this time.

All students are to be dropped at the **cafeteria side (Corinth Road)** with staff member supervision.

Please remain in your car and allow the staff members on duty to assist your child in getting out of the car. Parents are reminded to be alert and respectful of other parents who are dropping off their children. **For safety reasons, please use only <u>one</u> lane of traffic when dropping off students.**

After 7:35am, all students should be dropped off at the front entrance of the school. A grab and go breakfast will be available for students.

Bus Transportation

No pupil may ride a bus, other than their regularly designated bus, without written permission of the principal. No pupil will be allowed to enter or leave a bus while it is in motion. No pupil will be allowed to enter or leave a school bus at any place other than at the home stop or at the school except by special permission of the principal. It will be the duty of the bus driver to report to the principal any student who gets off the bus at any place other than the designed stop. Each principal will be responsible for the safe and orderly loading and unloading of all transported pupils. Students who ride buses will be picked up and dropped off at designated bus stops. Pick up or intermediate drop off at places other than their designated stop may be made with a request from a parent and only with authorization from the principal and director of transportation.

Because student safety is a priority, students will only be allowed to ride their regularly scheduled bus unless they have a written permission from the parent/guardian. This permission must be approved by the principal who will notify the bus driver. When possible, parents should give advance notice in writing to make arrangements. **Only emergency phone calls will be accepted after 2:00 p.m.**



Dismissal Method

No student will be allowed to go home a different way from his regular travel unless permission is requested by a parent/guardian in writing. Due to concerns regarding student safety, school personnel prefer not to accept messages over the telephone requesting that the child's mode of transportation to go home be changed.

The normal mode of transportation can be altered under the following conditions:

1. The child comes to school with a signed and dated note from the parent. The note would be given to the classroom teacher, who would then forward it to the office.
2. The parent personally comes into the school office and makes the request. The office will call the child so the message can be relayed to him/her. The parent will also be asked to put the request in writing.
3. A parent calls the office **prior to 2:00** and request the child's mode of transportation be changed. (A written note signed by parent is preferred. Please only call the office in an emergency situation to change transportation method.)

IF ONE OF THE ABOVE ARRANGEMENTS HAS NOT BEEN MADE, YOUR CHILD WILL BE SENT HOME ACCORDING TO THEIR USUAL MODE OF TRANSPORTATION.

Dismissal Times

Parents who come for their children should pick them up promptly at dismissal time. The dismissal schedule is as follows:

2:15 p.m. Buses riders are dismissed at the front of the building
2:20 p.m. Car riders are dismissed to their areas
2:45 p.m. Remaining students are brought to the office to wait for ride.

*Parents are asked to come only at the scheduled times. *If students are left at school after 3:15 PM without contact from the parent/guardian, local agencies will be contacted for assistance.

Early Dismissal

For the safety of all students, no student will be dismissed early without a parent or legal guardian coming to the Main Office to sign the student out. You will be required to provide identification to school authorities. Should there be a need for someone other than a parent or legal guardian to pick up a student early, please notify the office. Only the names appearing on the student's emergency form will be allowed access to the student. **If your contacts change, it is your responsibility to alert the office immediately.**

Early dismissals will appear on the student's school attendance records. They are also counted when the classroom attendance is calculated to determine the winner for each month's highest attendance.

Car Riders

School personnel will accompany students being transported by car to the parent pick-up line at the various dismissal areas of the school. Please follow the signs for parent pick up. Parents are required to wait in their vehicle to pick up children. School issued tag with child's name must be displayed in front vehicle window. **NO PARENTS ARE ALLOWED TO PICK UP STUDENTS AT THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE PRINCIPAL**. State law requires bus pick-up and car pick-up to be in separate areas. Handicap pick-up will remain at the front of the building due to handicap ramp.

Library

Students are encouraged to use the library resources for reference work, pleasure reading, viewing, and listening. Books may be checked out for one week and may be renewed for an additional week if a student desires. There are no fines for overdue books. Students are requested, however, to properly care for books in their charge and to return books when due. Parents can help their children develop a genuine love for books and reading by encouraging them to read and by reading to them at home. As in any library, parents are responsible for books lost or damaged by students.

Lost and Found

Articles that have been found in the school building, on school grounds, or on school buses are placed in the Lost and Found area where their owners may claim them. At the end of each month, unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity. Parents are requested to label all removable articles of clothing, lunch boxes, and important school supplies with the child's first and last name.

Lunch and Breakfast Programs

The school cafeteria is operated under the School Lunch Act with a balanced diet presented each day. Hot lunch and breakfast are served daily.

All students will eat free during the 2026-2027 school year. Snacks will be sold throughout the school year, and students will bring cash to pay for these. Adult lunch is $4.50. Adult Breakfast is $2.75.

Applications for Free and Reduced Lunches

It is not required for families to complete a Free/Reduced Lunch form for the 2026-2027 school year.

Lunch Procedures

Students are encouraged to participate in the school lunch program. but lunches brought from home are allowed. Students bringing their lunches should not bring food that has to be heated in the microwave. Our lunch schedules do not permit time for microwaving students' foods. If a student has a particular health need concerning lunch food, please contact the principal. Beverages brought from home must be brought in a thermos or carton. **No carbonated beverages are allowed**.
Tea is provided for adults only ($.75 without meal)

Students must help keep their cafeteria neat and clean by cleaning napkins, straws, or milk cartons from the table. Students are **not** allowed to take any food or drink from the cafeteria to eat on school grounds or in the

Telephone Calls for Teachers

We encourage communication between parents and teachers. However, because of their teaching responsibilities, teachers will not be called to the phone during instructional hours (7:45am-2:30pm). If you would like to talk with the teacher about your child, we will write a message and you will receive a call back from the teacher when his/her teaching responsibilities are concluded for the day. Parents may also e-mail teachers.

If at any time you have a concern regarding your child's education or school procedures, **PLEASE BEGIN WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.** If after talking to the teacher you still feel concerned, please call the principal at 864-206-6600. Your concerns are our concerns - please feel comfortable in sharing them. A resolution will be worked out with team effort if need be.



Student Conduct

Behavior Expectations

1. Students are responsible for their actions and must accept the consequences of their behavior.
2. Students are expected to respect the rights and properties of others and themselves.
3. Students will listen and follow directions.
4. Students are expected to use self-control and behavior appropriate to a school setting.
5. Rude or abusive language or behavior will not be tolerated.
6. Students will be held responsible for any damage done by them to any part of the school building.
7. Students will not be allowed to possess anything that could harm themselves or others.
8. Intentional physical contact, which causes pain and suffering, is not allowed.
9. Toys, collectables, etc. are not allowed in school unless they have been brought with teacher permission for a school project.
10. Students are expected to dress appropriately for school.

All Cherokee County School District Board of Education policies, student expectations, and the Code of Conduct are fully in effect during any school-sponsored or school-related activity. This includes, but is not limited to, field trips, extracurricular activities, athletic events, competitions, performances, end of year activities, and any event held on or off school grounds that is organized, supervised, or sanctioned by the school district.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with district standards at all times during these activities. Any behavior that violates school policies or the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, regardless of the location of the event.

Participation in school-sponsored activities is a privilege, and students are expected to demonstrate responsibility, respect, and appropriate behavior while representing the school district.

Behavior Support and PBIS

What is PBIS?

Positive behavioral interventions and supports **(PBIS)** is an approach for schools to improve school safety and promote positive behavior. With PBIS, kids learn about behavior, just as they learn other subjects like math or science. The key to PBIS is prevention, not punishment.

PBIS has a few important principles:

- Every child can learn proper behavior.
- Stepping in early can prevent more serious behavior problems.
- Each child is different and schools need to provide many kinds of behavior support.
- How schools teach behavior should be based on research and science.
- Following a child's behavioral progress is important.
- Schools must gather and use data to make decisions about behavior problems.

PBIS is not a treatment or therapy. It's more like a framework for teachers, administrators and parents. It is used with all students of all ages in the school. According to several studies, PBIS leads to better student behavior. In schools that use PBIS, students receive fewer detentions and suspensions. Students also have better grades.

Bus Conduct



Pupil transportation is a privilege dependent on good behavior on the bus. All students who ride the school buses shall and are expected to comply with the rules of behavior or may forfeit their privilege of riding the bus for a specified time.

1. Students are to wait for the bus on the sidewalk/side of the road until the bus comes to a complete stop.
2. Students are to board and leave the bus in a single file, walking, as directed by the driver.
3. Students are to remain seated until they reach their destination and the bus stops.
4. Students are not to put any part of their body out of the bus window.
5. Students are not to eat or drink on the bus. The bus must be kept clean at all times.
6. Bus windows will be opened by permission of the driver.
7. No objects are to be thrown on/off or within the bus or extended out of it.
8. Students are not to damage the bus in any way.
9. Fighting, vulgarity, loud noise, and other aggressive behavior is not permitted on the bus.

Harassment

Harassment based on a student's gender, race, national origin or disability is a violation of State and Federal law as well as Cherokee County District policy. Harassment can take the form of verbal, physical, or electronic threats or conduct. Such behavior will not be tolerated. Incidents of harassment are taken very seriously. Disciplinary action will follow and measures will be taken to prevent future occurrences.

Holiday Celebrations

Only Christmas and Valentine's Day class parties will be held during the school year. Other holiday celebrations are scheduled throughout the school year and will be arranged by the classroom teacher.

Birthdays

Birthday parties at school are not allowed. Parents may bring store bought cupcakes or cookies during the regular lunch time when scheduled with the teacher. Teachers are not to be asked to distribute private party invitations- unless there is an invitation for each student in the class. If you do not wish to include all class members, you must send the invitations in the mail.

Student Dress

The responsibility for the dress and appearance of the students shall rest with individual students and parents. The administration is authorized to take action in instances where individual dress is determined to be disruptive to instruction or the orderly operation of the school or school events.

The following, while not an exhaustive list, are examples of inappropriate dress and will not be permitted in classes in Cherokee County Schools:

1. Tight fitting and/or revealing clothing, includes clothing usually worn in aerobic workouts.
2. Tank tops with straps less than the width of the child's three fingers.
3. Clothing which reveals the midriff or undergarments.
4. Clothing with obscene or suggestive language; any clothing or jewelry with advertisements or symbols of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, sex or violence.
5. See through clothing.
6. Dark glasses.
7. Hats, bandanas, head bands, or any garments which cover the head.
8. Pants, shorts or trousers worn below the student's natural waistline.
9. Shorts that are less than the "finger-tip" length.
10. Pajamas/nightwear/bedroom/house slippers

Students violating the dress code will not be allowed in class and will either be sent home to change, or remain in the office until parents can bring appropriate attire.

Money and Valuables

Children are discouraged from bringing money to school except for specific purposes. Any money brought to school will be more efficiently handled if the exact amount is placed in an envelope, labeled with the child's name and the purpose for which the money is to be used. ***Students are cautioned never to leave money or other possessions in the classroom unprotected.*** Students are advised not to bring valuable items to school for there is a possibility that they may be broken, damaged, or stolen.

Cell Phone Use

All student use of mobile phones must comply with administrative rule JCDA-R (Student Conduct/Discipline Regulations). The district is **not** responsible for the loss, damage and/or theft of any of these types of devices.

Privately-owned devices may not be connected to the district's network or internet services. Phones must be in the "off" position and not be displayed for use during the school day. Abuse of this policy will result in the phone being taken and must be picked up in the office by a parent.

Parent and Community Involvement

Communication to Non-Custodial Parents

Non-custodial parents may contact the school office to receive copies of school communications. We encourage non-custodial parents to stay involved in their children's education and to focus on the needs and progress of their children through opportunities like Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Written Communications

- Monthly School Newsletter
- KinVo Text Messages and Emails
- Class Dojo Messages
- Weekly parent communication folder from classroom teacher
- School handbook for parents and students (outlining school policies and procedures)
- School web site (updated with calendar of events and school information)
- School Facebook page
- Web Address: http://www.cherokee1.org (click on elementary schools and then Corinth Elementary)
- Articles in newspapers (Gaffney Ledger and Cherokee Chronicle)
- School marquee (displays upcoming events)
- School yearbook
- Personnel email



School Programs/Meetings

- Back to School Open House
- PTO Meetings
- Title One Meetings
- SIC Meetings
- Student Awards Programs
- Field Day
- Grandparents' Day
- Veterans' Day
- Book Fairs
- Scheduled Parent Conference Days

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parents are invited, on a scheduled basis, to meet with teachers to discuss their child's school progress. The Parent-Teacher Conference offers the opportunity to ask questions relative to your child, and to build an avenue of communication between home and school to better assist your child's progress. Throughout the school year, parents are encouraged to communicate with their child's teacher whenever necessary. Conferences should be arranged by sending a note to the teacher or the school office. Teachers are usually available from 2:30pm to 3:00pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. District scheduled conferences will be held throughout the school year.

PTO and Parent Volunteers/Chaperones

We welcome parents' help as volunteers/chaperones and will assist parents in choosing an area in which to participate. Cherokee County School District requires a (SLED) background check for all Volunteers/ Chaperones.

Students are more successful in school when parents are interested and involved in education and school activities. We invite and encourage you to become an active member of our school's PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization).

Service Projects

As part of the character education program, the entire student body is invited to participate in a variety of school-wide service projects supporting very worthy causes.

Visitors

Everyone coming into Corinth Elementary must first check in at the Main Office and scan current Driver's License. Visitors will be given a visitor's pass to wear. Before leaving the school, visitors are asked to stop at the main office and check out.

Title I

Please be aware that Corinth Elementary School receives funds from Title 1. Our Title 1 plan has been approved this year and is available for review in the main office. The Title 1 Planning Team involves parents, school staff, and community members in the planning, review, and development of the school's Title 1 programs.

Purpose of Title 1

- Title 1 is a federal program that provides opportunities for the children served to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to meet challenging state and national content standards.
- Title 1 resources are distributed to schools where needs are the greatest, in amounts sufficient to make a difference in the improvement of instruction.
- Title 1 coordinates services with other educational services and, to the degree possible, with health and social services programs.
- Title 1 provides greater decision-making authority and flexibility within the schools and for teachers. However, greater responsibility for student performance is the exchange made for this flexibility.

Parent Involvement Expenditures

A portion of the Title 1 funds is used to support parent involvement. Money is allocated for parent meeting supplies, brochures for parenting, books, refreshments for meetings, and materials for parents.

Parent Involvement Policy and Parent Compact

Each Title 1 school receives input from parents for the development of a parent involvement policy and school-parent compact.

The parent involvement policy explains how the school works with parents to review and improve parent programs and describes how parents can participate in planning these programs.

The school-parent compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the way in which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

Safety and Medical Attention

Emergency Form

An "Emergency Form" for each student, completed by parents, will be on file in the Nurse's Office and the Main Office. It needs to be filled out at the beginning of each school year and returned to school within the first week of school. This form must be kept up to date. It should include the following information:

1. Parent(s) or guardian(s) name(s)
2. Complete and up-to-date address and **phone numbers**
3. Home phone and parent(s) work phone, cell numbers, pagers
4. Emergency phone numbers of friends or relatives cell numbers
5. Physician's name and phone
6. Medical alert information
7. If your child takes medication please inform the nurse of the type and dosage

Please inform the office of any changes that occur during the year relative to the information on the emergency form. It is very important that emergency forms be filled out completely and updated as needed by the parent or guardian.

Emergency Procedures (fire, tornado, weather)

Fire and tornado drills are held monthly throughout the year so that our students will understand what is expected of them in case of an emergency. Every precaution is taken to ensure the safety of your children. Evacuation routes are posted in each room.

Please do not call school during severe weather unless it is an emergency. School lines must remain open to receive incoming messages. All staff will be available to assist students. Only parents, guardians, and pre-designated adults may pick up students at school during any severe weather. All students must be signed out at the office.

Emergency Procedures (illness or accident)

Every effort is made to prevent accidents. If a student becomes ill or is injured during school hours, the School Nurse is contacted. The School Nurse will determine the seriousness of the illness or injury and upon her determination, a parent, or legal guardian will be contacted. If neither parent nor legal guardian can be contacted, those persons listed on the emergency form will be contacted and, if warranted, the family physician. In emergencies, it may become necessary to transport your child by ambulance to an emergency care facility.

IMPORTANT NOTE**:** ***No treatment other than first aid will be administered by school personnel. Please keep the school informed with the most up-to-date information concerning:***

a. Changes in name, phone number, home address, work phone number, or family doctor
b. Names of alternate contacts in the event parents cannot be reached.

School Nurse Services

Any student who is not feeling well or has been hurt will be sent or taken to the school nurse by his teacher. If a child is too ill or too uncomfortable to remain at school, parents will be notified to come for the child. Parents will be contacted if the child has a fever.

Sickness

- Children with temperatures of 100 degrees or higher should stay home. They should not return to school until they have had a normal temperature for 24 hours without the help of medication.
- Prescribed antibiotics should be taken for 24 hours before your child returns to school.
- Children with vomiting or diarrhea should not return to school until they have been free of symptoms for at least 24 hours.
- Children complaining, but without any symptoms, should be sent to school. They will be sent home if they become sick during the day.

Medicines Policy

Prescription or nonprescription medications required by a student should be administered by a parent or by the student's medical provider. Parents should use every effort to have medication times set for time periods other than school hours. When this is not possible, the Cherokee County School District staff may assist in the administration of medication during school hours, subject to the following rules:

1. ADMINISTERING MEDICATION: The principal or his/her designee is authorized to assist a student with oral medication if the student has a physician's statement on file. The designee must be a nurse or a person trained in procedures for assisting the medications by a nurse.
2. PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT OF MEDICATION NEED: A completed Statement of Medication Need from the student's physician (including a dentist) relating to each medication must be on file. The note must state that a valid health reason exists that makes administration of such medication necessary during school hours or when the student is under the supervision of school officials. The physician's statement must indicate the student's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, the time and dates to be given, possible side effects, special care needed for the medication (e.g., refrigeration), the termination date for administering the medication, and the physician's signature. This request is valid for a period of one year.
3. PARENT'S AUTHORIZATION: The parent or legal guardian must also sign the statement of medication need giving permission to have the school administer the medication. The school district retains the discretion to reject requests for assisting students with medicine.
4. RESPONSIBLE ADULT MUST BRING MEDICATION TO SCHOOL: All medication shall be brought to school by a responsible adult.
5. CHECK-IN PROCEDURE: The school nurse/designee shall record the date medication is brought in, ensure that the required authorization is on file, and count and record the number or amount of medication in the presence of the person who deposited it.
6. ORIGINAL CONTAINER: All medication must be in the original labeled container and be labeled with the student's name. The school shall accept no more than a 30-day supply. The school shall not administer expired medications.
7. CHANGES TO PRESCRIPTION: It is the responsibility of the parents to notify the school of any changes to the original prescription, and a new pharmacy label and container must be submitted with any change.
8. STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY: It shall be the student's responsibility to come to the office at the appropriate times for medication unless a physician or dentist indicates in writing that the student cannot do this.
9. DOSAGE: To protect students, staff shall not administer medication in a dosage that exceeds the recommended maximum in the Physicians' Desk Reference. The district school personnel will not be responsible for any adverse drug reaction when the student has been assisted in taking medication in the manner prescribed.
10. UNUSED MEDICATION: Parents must reclaim any unused medications within one week of the termination or within one week of the last day of school. The school will destroy any unused medications after this time.

Screenings

During the 2026-2027, **as recommended by South Carolina DHEC**, the school staff will be conducting health screenings. Health screenings include: vision, hearing, and oral/dental. Blood pressure and Body Mass Index (BMI) calculations will be done for appropriate grade levels. The nurses will do all grades in the elementary schools as time permits.

If you do not want your child to participate in the screening, **YOU MUST go to the school and sign a waiver, which will exclude your child from participation.** If you have any questions or concerns about the screening program, you may contact your child's principal or the school nurse.

Guidance Services

The guidance program is an important part of the overall educational process. The guidance counselor provides developmental appropriate information and instruction in the following areas: learning to live, learning to work, and learning to learn. The counselor helps students adjust to new in-school and out of school situations through counseling and support and/or referral to outside agencies. Students may request or be referred by the teacher to meet with the counselor.

Legal Child Custody/Restraining Orders

Should there be a change in normal custodial arrangements for your child/children, it is imperative the Principal be informed as soon as possible. A letter specifying such from the adult with custodial rights and a copy of the corresponding legal documentation are required to be sent to the Principal for adherence. A copy will be placed on file, and associated personnel will be informed of the change.

The same procedure is required should there be a restraining order in effect relative to the child. Each time there is an extension or alteration to such order, the legal documentation verifying such must be provided to the Principal for adherence to it. The latest orders from the courts are the one that will be followed.

