2026-2027

Shelby Academy: Cultivate

Handbook for Students and Families

Shelby Academy

Find Your Path

We are responsible.

We are respectful.

We are safe.

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About Us

What is Cultivate?

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<tr><td colspan="5">Shelby Academy</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Ascension</td><td>Cultivate</td></tr>
<tr><td>Alternative School</td><td>Credit Recovery Program</td><td>GED Pathway</td><td>Short-Term Room</td><td>Shelby County Public Schools Virtual Academy</td></tr>
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Cultivate is one of our two “schools” at Shelby Academy that is an independent learning pathway for students enrolled in Shelby County Public Schools. Within Cultivate, your student will be enrolled in their districted “home” school as their primary school and Cultivate Virtual Learning Academy as their secondary school.

Why Cultivate?

At Cultivate, as part of Shelby Academy, we recognize that a traditional school-setting is not for every student learner. Our school community embraces the opportunity to meet each student where they are as an individual in terms of skills related to academics, behaviors, social settings/interactions, and mental health needs. We create an individualized goal-based plan to equip each student with the skills needed to be successful throughout their educational career and beyond.

The purpose of Cultivate is to provide highly motivated, independent working students the opportunity to personalize their learning by continuing and completing their classwork in a virtual setting.

Admission Process

We accept students grades 6 through 12 from SCPS via an online application process.

At Cultivate, we work closely with the “home” school (district-assigned) to create an integration plan as well as a reintegration plan if a student decides to transition back to a traditional school setting.

Meet Our Staff

Kayla Peege	Principal kayla.peege@shelby.kyschools.us
Lindsey Sever	School Counselor lindsey.sever@shelby.kyschools.us
Beth Cathcart	Mental Health Consultant beth.cathcart@shelby.kyschools.us
Catherine Underwood	Teacher, Grade 12 catherine.underwood@shelby.kyschools.us
Caytie Burgin	Teacher, Grade 10-11 caytie.burgin@shelby.kyschools.us
Megan Mattingly	Teacher Grades 6-9 megan.mattingly@shelby.kyschools.us
Brenda Musick	Special Education Teacher, All grades brenda.musick@shelby.kyschools.us
Brittney Money	Building Assessment Coordinator & 504 Coordinator brittney.money@shelby.kyschools.us
Kara Parks	Special Education Teacher, All grades & ARC chair kara.parks@shelby.kyschools.us
Kelly Cable	Math Intervention, All grades kelly.cable@shelby.kyschools.us

FOR ALL SPECIFIC SCHOOL RELATED questions (prom, graduation, sports alerts, class rings, etc.), you will check your district home school's FRYSC emails for alerts AND YOUR STUDENT EMAIL:

- SCHS: Christina.olsson@shelby.kyschools.us
- MLCHS: Jennifer.Thomas-Payton@shelby.kyschools.us
- EMS: Shannon.Kessinger@shelby.kyschools.us
- MCM: Sara.Spry@shelby.kyschools.us
- WMS: Amanda.Davis@shelby.kyschools.us

Mission and Vision

District Mission and Vision

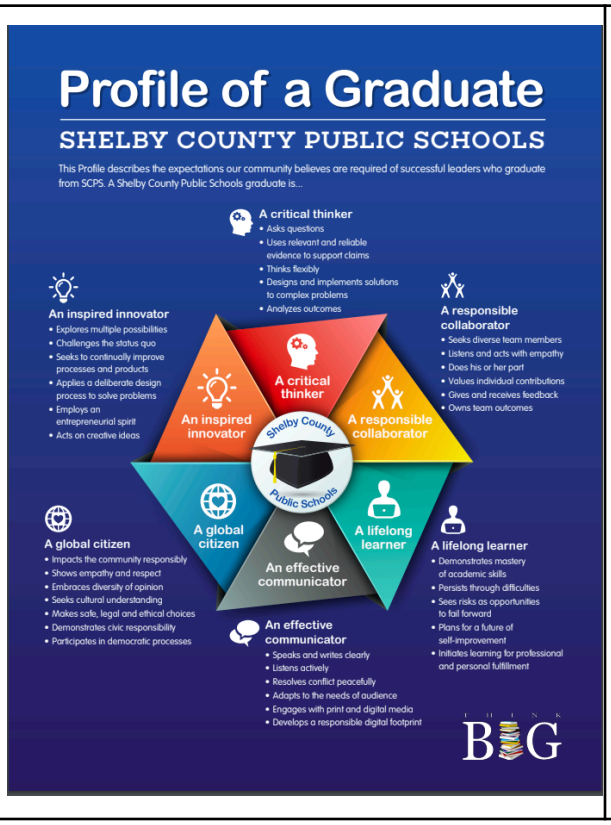
Vision Statement:

Inspired Learning, Leading, and Living

Mission Statement:

Preparing wise students who master standards, lead by example, and embrace social responsibility.

Profile of a Graduate and Core Values





School Mission and Vision

Vision Statement:

Inspired Learning, Leading, and Living

Mission Statement:

To empower students to see their value and potential by meeting them where they are

School Logistics

Cultivate follows SCPS calendar

Teacher Schedules	
Days/Hours	
Underwood	Mondays-Fridays, 8:00am-3:30pm
Mattingly	Mondays-Fridays, 8:00am-3:30pm
Burgin	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00am-3:30pm
Musick	TBD
Parks	TBD

Schedule

	Advisory		Testing Room Open
TUESDAYS	9:20-10:20	6th-8th Grade	**9:20-12:40**
	10:30-11:30	11th Grade	
	11:40-12:40	9th/10th Grade	
THURSDAYS	9:30-10:30	Seniors	**10:30-12:30**

Counseling and Mental Health Support	By appointment with Ms. Sever or Mrs. Cathcart - lindsey.sever@shelby.kyschools.us (School Counselor) - beth.cathcart@shelby.kyschools.us (Mental Health Consultant)

Reliable and consistent access to high-speed Internet and transportation is required for all students.

Testing

Quizzes

As part of the Edmentum curriculum, students will complete quizzes after each lesson to test their understanding of the content presented. These are completed online. Please note, students have 1 attempt to pass each quiz independently, online. If a student fails a quiz, you will need to send/show your guided notes to be reviewed to your Advisor for a retake. This can be done one time. You will be required to have your handwritten notes with you to retake the quiz.

Unit Tests

Each unit in the Edmentum curriculum has a summative assessment in the form of a unit test. Units should be completed in sequential order. These are completed in-person at Cultivate on Tuesdays and Thursdays during one of the open testing session windows. Please note, these are considered "transfer" and independent exams that students must complete on their own and without the assistance of anyone else, including staff. Refer to Personal Telecommunication Devices policy in the discipline section.

When coming IN PERSON to take your unit/cumulative exams, YOU MUST HAVE your notes. These must be handwritten or printed hard copies and must be summarized and in your OWN WORDS. If a student fails a unit test, they may remediate their grade by completing additional activities related to the standards assessed in the unit. If you need help with note taking, please speak with your advisor. Students must use their school issued devices for test taking.

IXL

IXL is used to support student learning. Students are required by the district to take an IXL Diagnostic test each month. Teachers will inform students of the dates of the diagnostic tests. IXL Diagnostic tests must be completed in-person. Failure to complete IXL Diagnostic tests may result in not being allowed to enroll in Cultivate the following semester.

Academic Integrity

At Cultivate, we value honesty, responsibility and integrity. While students may receive appropriate support from teachers, parents, tutors or other approved resources, all submitted work should accurately reflect the students own

knowledge and effort unless otherwise directed by a Shelby Academy staff member.

Cheating and Academic Dishonesty

If a student is found to have engaged in cheating or any other form of academic dishonesty, disciplinary action will be taken. Students and families acknowledge these expectations and understand the consequences by signing the handbook.

1st Offense: The student will meet with an administrator and the incident will be documented in Infinite Campus. Appropriate disciplinary action will be assigned.

2nd Offense: The student will lose the privilege of attending Cultivate and be subject to additional disciplinary action.

State Testing

All students are required to take state exams while enrolled in SCPS. These are completed in-person at Shelby Academy. Tests included: KSA, IXL Diagnostics, Mastery Prep, End of Course Exams, PSAT, SAT or ACT and Civics Test. No cell phones are allowed in the testing room.

ENTERING & EXITING THE BUILDING

All students and visitors **must enter through door 14.** Students and visitors will be required to walk through the metal detection system.

Students who do not follow the established building entry procedures will be subject to the following consequences:

- 1st offense: Verbal warning from a Shelby Academy staff member
- 2nd offense: Conference with an administrator. The incident will be documented, and the student's parent/guardian may be notified.
- 3rd offense: The student may lose the privilege of attending Shelby Academy and be returned to their home school.

Visiting and Supporting Our Students

Guardian/Teacher Conferences

If you would like to set up a guardian/teacher conference, you may contact your student's school counselor or teacher.

Guests and Visitors

All guests and visitors to Cultivate must have a scheduled appointment. If you need to speak with staff, please call and schedule an appointment.

To help ensure the safety and security of our students and staff, all visitors (including parents/guardians/family members, etc.) must follow these procedures:

- All parents/guardians, guests and visitors must press the entry buzzer to request access to the building.
- Before being admitted, visitors must display a valid photo ID to the security camera.
- Upon entering the building, all visitors must report directly to the front office, sign in with the attendance secretary and p[resent a valid photo ID.
- Visitors must wear a school-issued visitor badge at all times while in the building, with the badge clearly visible.
- Parents/guardians who wish to meet with a staff member should call the school in advance to schedule an appointment

Dress Code

Purpose

Cultivate expects that all students will dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day. The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and the guardian(s). The school is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student, and dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group.

Minimum Requirements

Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for the environment.

Clothing must cover all private parts/areas as well as undergarments (including bra straps) and must not be see through.

Clothing may not depict, advertise, or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or other controlled substances.

Clothing may not depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.

Clothing may not contain or imply any hate speech or violence of any kind.

Clothing and shoes must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities and events.

Student Expectations

Academic Expectations	Academics: ➔ Completes lessons, assignments, tasks, and assessment within pacing guidance ➔ Passing all courses Behavior: ➔ Logs in to Edmentum daily ➔ Attends open testing sessions to complete unit assessments ➔ Attends scheduled testing sessions for state and district testing ➔ Advocates for needs ➔ Responds to email and/or phone calls from staff within 24 hours ➔ Attends all scheduled virtual meetings ➔ Attends all scheduled in-person meetings ➔ Attends weekly in-person Advisory class

Probation Status:

Cultivate Probation Letter

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

In order to ensure all students are successful as well as having their individual needs met, we provide continual progress feedback. If you are receiving this letter, your student is **failing two or more classes**- This can include advisory.

As stated in our orientation meeting, Cultivate is a partnership with guardians to ensure success with our students. Please check your students' grades/progress every single day. Scores are live. You will also see the total time spent in each class. The "On-Target Grade" is the actual grade for the class and must be a 60% or higher to be considered passing.

Your student has been placed on academic probation until their grades are passing (61% On-Target Grade or higher).

During this time, the student must show progress toward mastery (passing) in all courses. Continual probation statuses without signs of improvement or action will result in a recommendation to return to "traditional" school. This is not meant to be punitive but rather a way to ensure the student's success.

Next Steps:

- schedule a meeting with your child's advisor to make a plan together
- Schedule 1-2 additional sessions to come in to meet with your advisor to catch up on missing work or remediate activities and/or tests

Note: Please refer to the student and families handbook for specific academic and behavior expectations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cultivate Principal, Kayla Peege.

Kayla Peege, Principal

School-Wide Expectations

At Cultivate...

➔ We are responsible.

➔ We are respectful.

➔ We are safe.

Behavior Expectations + Commitments

Behavior Integrity: As a student at Cultivate, I commit to being accountable for my actions. I will take ownership of my learning and use all digital platforms in a way that demonstrates integrity (doing the right thing and not cheating, looking up answers and/or plagiarism).

I understand in order to be a successful Cultivate Virtual Learning student, I must commit to completing all daily assignments to stay on target (usually 1-2 hours per class, per day).

Academic Expectations + Commitments

Academic Integrity: As a student at Cultivate I commit to acting in an honest and responsible manner when completing all lessons, quizzes, and tests. I will not complete or turn in any work as my own that is not my original work.

I understand in order to be a successful Cultivate Virtual Learning student, I must commit to owning my learning through completing all materials given to me (readings, lessons, etc) not just “taking a quiz”.

Further, I understand that failure to do so will result in a zero for that unit, scheduling an appointment to repeat the assessment with paper/pencil, and a recommendation to return to in person learning.

School Procedures

Our Approach

We employ a supportive discipline model. We focus on identifying student strengths and struggles in order to help them develop the skills needed to be a successful student. Our first step once proactive systems have not worked is to determine the function of behavior in order to best support all students impacted by a behavior. Throughout our processes we emphasize skills related to reflection, growth, and communication. We model the behavior

and actions expected of all students, staff, and community members and see variances as teaching opportunities to better equip students with skill deficits.

District Discipline Policies

District Policy 09.4 - Student Behavior

The Board requires high standards of personal conduct from all pupils and embraces the concept that each pupil shall respect the rights of others and abide by the administrative procedures of the school district and the laws of the community and state.

BEHAVIOR PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Shelby County Public Schools is committed to maintaining a safe, supportive environment for everyone in our community. Every community member is expected to act with integrity in accordance with the principles of responsibility and respect. The focus of our student behavior system is on teaching sound decision making and promoting positive behavior, not on punishing wrongdoers. We highly value truthfulness, taking responsibility for one's actions, and learning from one's mistakes. Our vision is a caring community of self-disciplined students whose words and actions consistently reflect the values of our school community.

Board Policies and Procedures may be viewed on the Shelby County Public Schools website, www.shelby.kyschools.us

Please see the next page for our district's Secondary Behavior Consequence Chart. .

NOTE: Repeated violations may require more severe consequences.

Secondary School Behavior Consequences Chart (Grades 6-12)
Repeated violations may require more severe consequences

Secondary Schools **Responses to Code Violations** **Disciplinary options include both supportive positive interventions and traditional consequences. Each chart includes a range of options that may be used by school personnel to address code violations both initially and upon repeat violations. Using the charts as a guide, SCPS staff retain discretion to consider the totality of the circumstances as they make discipline decisions.**	**Resolution Options** √ Indicates the disciplinary options available to handle a particular behavior violation. Options may be used individually or in combination.								
	Supportive Responses			**Traditional Responses**					
Behavioral Event	Instructional	Reflective	Restorative	In-School Measures	In-School Suspension	Short-Term Suspension 1-5 days	Long-Term Suspension 6-10 days	Referral For Possible Expulsion	Referral to Legal Authority
Disruptive Behavior	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Disorderly Conduct	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√
Display of Affection	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Forgery	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Misuse of Telecommunication Device	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Skipping Class	√	√	√	√					
Leaving School Grounds	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Truancy	√	√	√	√	√				√
Profanity/Vulgarity	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Unexcused Tardies	√	√	√	√	√				√
Defiance of Authority	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Driving Violations	√	√	√	√	√				
Fighting	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Theft	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Vandalism (must pay for damages)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Abuse of School Personnel	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Arson	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Assault	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bullying (Cyberbullying, Hazing, Menacing, Harassment, Harassing Communications & Stalking)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Extortion	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Failure to Report Dangerous Weapon	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
False Fire Alarm/Bomb Threat	√	√	√			√	√	√	√
Harassment/Discrimination	√	√	√		√	√	√	√	√
Dangerous Instrument	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Weapon Distribution Weapon Possession Weapon Use	√	√	√			√	√	√	√
Possession/Setting off Fireworks	√	√	√		√	√	√	√	√
Possess/Use/Under Influence of Alcohol/Drugs	√	√	√			√	√	√	√
Sale/Distribution of Alcohol/Drugs	√	√	√				√	√	√
Sexual Abuse	√	√	√			√	√	√	√
Sexual Harassment	√	√	√		√	√	√	√	√
Threatening Behavior	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Use of Tobacco Products/Possession	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		

Personal Telecommunications Device(s)
All students are required to turn their phone into an assigned area determined by the teacher.

58.165 Possession and use of personal telecommunications device by public school student. (1) (a) The board of education of each school district shall adopt a policy regarding the possession and use of a personal telecommunications device by a student while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or schoolrelated activity on or off school property, and shall include the policy in the district's written standards of student conduct. (b) The policy shall, at a minimum, prohibit a student's use of a personal telecommunications device during instructional time, except during an emergency, if directed to do so by a teacher for an instructional purpose, or if authorized by a teacher. (c) A student who violates the policy shall be subject to discipline as provided by board policy. (2) As used in this section, "personal telecommunications device": (a) Means a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor, including but not limited to a paging device and a cellular telephone; and (b) Does not include any device a student is authorized to use pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. sec. 1400 et seq., the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. sec. 12101 et seq., or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. sec. 701 et seq., or successor acts.

a. School Procedures

Our Approach

We employ a supportive discipline model. We focus on identifying student strengths and struggles in order to help them develop the skills needed to be a successful student. If proactive systems have not worked, our first step is to determine the function of behavior in order to best support all students impacted by a behavior. Throughout our processes we emphasize skills related to reflection, growth, and communication. We model the behavior and actions expected of all students, staff, and community members and see variances as teaching opportunities to better equip students with skill deficits.

Students who do not follow the established cell phone procedures will be subject to the following consequences:

- 1st offense: Cell phone will be turned in to the front office and the student can pick up the cell phone when they leave for the day.

- 2nd offense: Cell phone will be taken to the front office and a guardian will need to pick up the cell phone.
- 3rd offense: Cell phone will be taken to the front office, a guardian will need to pick up the cell phone, and student will not be allowed to bring device to school for the remainder of the school year.

Sports + Extracurricular Activities

District Policy

STUDENTS 09.313 Eligibility (Athletics)

Determination of athletic eligibility shall be made in compliance with applicable administrative regulations and Kentucky High School Athletic Association requirements. Any student who transfers enrollment from a district of residence to a nonresident district shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for one (1) calendar year from the date of transfer.

District standards for playing up from middle school (grades seven and eight [7 & 8]) to high school in sports other than football and soccer may include, but are not limited to, considerations related to safety, physical readiness, use of school space after the school day, transportation, funding, the student's disciplinary status and record, any substance testing restrictions, equitable opportunities for participation, and harmonizing any conflicting school-based decision making ("SBDM") requirements. SBDM Council policies apply to the selection of sports activities, and student participation based on academic qualifications and attendance requirements, program evaluation, and supervision.

To be eligible to try out and participate at the high school level, middle school students must meet all applicable KHSAA, District, and SBDM requirements. The Superintendent/Designee in cooperation with principals, SBDM councils, coaches, and athletic directors, as deemed appropriate, may develop guidelines for Board approval addressing playing up standards.

Procedures

You may attend all after school functions and participate in co-curricular/extra-curricular activities held after school hours with distinct-assigned school principal approval.

Please see district athletic coordinator for any questions regarding school activities, as Shelby Academy does not participate in sports and other extracurricular activities.

District Policies

Grievances

Upon the completion of an investigation, any party may appeal in writing any part of the findings and corrective actions to the Superintendent.
If a supervisor is an alleged party in the harassment/discrimination complaint, procedures shall also provide for addressing the complaint to a higher level of authority.
Failure by employees to report, notify, and/or initiate an investigation of alleged harassment/discrimination as required by this policy, or to take corrective action shall be cause for disciplinary action.
Retaliation Prohibited
No one shall retaliate against an employee or student because s/he submits a grievance, assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing regarding the charge of harassment/discrimination of an individual or because s/he has opposed language or conduct that violates this policy.
Upon the resolution of allegations, the Superintendent shall take steps to protect employees and students against retaliation.
False Complaints
Deliberately false or malicious complaints of harassment/discrimination may result in disciplinary action taken against the complainant.
Other Claims
When a complaint is received that does not appear to be covered by this policy, administrators shall review other policies that may govern the allegations, including but not limited to, 09.422 and/or 09.426.

Statement Rights and Responsibilities

Student Discipline Code

Link can be accessed on the SCPS website. Direct link:https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eLbv1Ai01dhoryqsxrzJAi4en9-ysnHl/view?usp=sharing

Hard copies given upon request

Technology Responsible Use

Full policy can be accessed on the SCPS website. Direct link: https://core-docs.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/4851/SCPS/4330569/Responsible_Use_Policy_REVISED_2018.pdf

Hard copies given upon request.

Abbreviated Policy: RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS IN DEPLOYMENT SCHOOLS

Shelby County Public Schools and its Board of Education (hereafter referred to as “the District”) provides its student, staff and community reasonable access to a variety of “district technological resources” (including, but not limited to, access to the Internet and laptop computers). These resources provide opportunities to enhance learning, improve communication, and connect users to both our local and global community. The access to these resources is permitted when exercised in an appropriate and responsible manner as required by this policy and related procedures, which applies to all parties who use District technology.

The District intends that students and employees benefit from these resources while remaining within the bounds of safe, legal and responsible use. Accordingly, the District establishes this policy to govern student and employee use of school district technological resources. This policy applies regardless of whether such use occurs on or off school district property, and it applies to all school district technological resources, including but not limited to computer networks and connections, the resources, tools and learning environments made available by or on the networks, and all devices that connect to those networks.

E. PRIVACY

No right of privacy exists in the use of technological resources. Users should not assume that files or communications accessed, downloaded, created or transmitted using school district technological resources or stored on services (such as the district’s Google Apps for Education cloud-based Drive) or hard drives of individual computers will be private. School district administrators or individuals designated by the superintendent may review files, monitor all communication and intercept e-mail messages to maintain system integrity and to ensure compliance with board policy and applicable laws and regulations. School district personnel may monitor online activities of individuals who access the Internet via a school-owned computer. Under certain circumstances, the District may be required to disclose such electronic information to law enforcement or other third parties; for example, as a response to a document production request in a lawsuit against the board, as a response to a public records request, or as evidence of illegal activity in a criminal investigation.

F. DISCLAIMER

The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages suffered by any user. Such damages include, but are not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries or service interruptions, whether caused by the school district’s or the user’s negligence, errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user’s own risk. The District specifically disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy or the quality of information obtained through its Internet services.

REFERENCES: 03.1321 03.2321 09.4261 03.23214 03.162 03.26 09.42811 09.14

Technology Support: Staff can submit a work ticket for help at the one-to-one, staff and students can call 502.383.3352 for the technology help desk.

Academics

Grading

Our Instructional Approach

We believe that all students should have access and opportunity to materials and curriculum that aligns to the Kentucky Academic Standards and prepares them for their future paths. We utilize the digital platform, Edmentum, for all core instruction.

Edmentum Sensei & Student Pacing

Edmentum Sensei is the parent portal to see student grades & progress. Guardians are expected to check student progress daily to ensure they are making progress. Each course consists of lessons, readings/resources, quizzes and tests. Students are expected to work through all the material and take notes in their own words as they work through lessons.

We recommend ALL students are approximately one week ahead at all times. We can not stop your individual account from advancing due to illness or unforeseen circumstances. It is the responsibility of the student to look ahead at the calendar and plan accordingly to coordinate due dates with our scheduled testing days and times.

Reporting

Our school year is divided into 2 semesters (about 18 weeks each). At the end of the year, we post a final academic term grade for each course on Infinite Campus. Note, if a high school student changes enrollment to return to in-person before the end of the school year, we post directly to transcripts.

a. Grading

Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, there will be a newly implemented grading scale for the SCPS.

Grading Scale (as entered in IC + on transcripts)	90-100%	A
	80-89%	B
	70-79%	C
	60-69%	D
	0-59%	F

Middle School

Each grade level offers the following courses: grade-level science, social studies, math, and English. Additionally, students will have a weekly advisory class centered around the profile of a graduate.

High School

Credit Requirement for Grade Promotion (HS)

Credits	Grade-Level
0-5	9th / Freshman
6-10	10th / Sophomore
11-15	11th / Junior
16+	12th / Senior

Opportunities

We partner with Area Technology Center to offer students the opportunity to take classes at their location as well as participate in work-based learning.

- ➔ Work Based Learning – denise.rannells@shelby.kyschools.us
- ➔ ATC Classes – Sara.Greene@shelby.kyschools.us
- ➔ Dual Credit Classes – lindsey.sever@shelby.kyschools.us

Graduation Requirements (HS)

Course Subject	Credits Required
English/Language Arts	4
Math	4
Social Studies	3
Science	3
Health	0.5
Physical Education	0.5
Arts + Humanities	1
Other Electives	6
TOTAL	**22**

Defense of Learning

Each student grades 8 and 12 will complete and present a Defense of Learning to a panel of school and community stakeholders in which grade 8 students will demonstrate their readiness to transition to high school, and grade 12 students will demonstrate their readiness to transition to post-secondary endeavors.

Civics Test

KRS 158.141(1) provides that "[b]eginning with the entering ninth grade class of the 2025-2026 school year, and each year thereafter, graduation requirements for each student in every public high school in Kentucky graduating with a regular diploma shall include successful completion of either:

(a) A one-half (1/2) credit course in civic literacy that includes instruction in the areas required in subsection (5) of this section; or

(b) A civics test composed of one hundred (100) questions drawn from those that are set forth within the civics test administered by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to persons seeking to become naturalized citizens."

This requirement also applies to students participating in the Early Graduation Program (EGP) established under KRS 158.142.

To meet the civic literacy requirement, districts shall implement at least one of the following options:

1. A one-half (1/2) civic literacy credit in addition to the existing 3 social studies credits required for graduation;

2. A one-half (1/2) civic literacy credit embedded within the existing 3 social studies credits required for graduation;

3. A civics test composed of one hundred (100) questions drawn from those that are set forth within the civics test administered by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to persons seeking to become naturalized citizens.

Other State Graduation Requirements

Completion of instruction in the following areas: financial literacy, essential workplace ethics, and technology competency. These requirements can be fulfilled via specific courses, subject related courses, during internship/apprenticeship, through work-based learning, or within advisory.

College and/or Career Readiness

College Readiness In Kentucky is achieved at…	• 18 in English, 19 in Math, 20 in Reading on the ACT OR • 490 in Reading, 510 in Math on SAT OR • 1 Qualifying score of a 3, 4, or 5 on ONE AP Exam OR • Earning 3 credit hours of dual credit in a KY BoE course
Career Readiness In Kentucky is achieved by…	• Earning an industry certification • Passing an End of Program (EoP) assessment with two credits • Passing specific CTE dual credit courses • Completing a CTE co-op/internship with 300 working hours.

Cultivate Signature Page ’26-’27

Academic and Behavior Integrity Statements

Behavior Integrity: As a student at Cultivate, I commit to being accountable for my actions. I will take ownership of my learning and use all digital platforms in a way that demonstrates integrity (doing the right thing).

_____ (guardian initial here) _____ (student initial here)

Academic Integrity: As a student at Cultivate I commit to acting in an honest and responsible manner when completing all lessons, quizzes, and tests. I will not complete or turn in any work as my own that is not my original work.

_____ (guardian initial here) _____ (student initial here)

I am committing to focus solely on my assignments from:
_____AM- _____PM each day. _____ (guardian initial here) _____ (student initial here)

Edmentum

I understand Edmentum will be used for core instruction and will show the most current progress/grade of my student. You will be invited to create a Parent Sensei Account to Edmentum and the expectation is to check my student’s Edmentum progress daily. _____ (guardian initial here)

I understand all students are required to complete Edmentum unit tests, district required tests (IXL) AND state testing exams KSA, MAP, MasteryPrep, ACT, End of Course, etc) in-person according to the scheduled dates/times.

_____ (guardian initial here) _____ (student initial here)

Daily Expectations

I understand that if my student is not meeting expectations, they can reintegrate to their district assigned school for in-person instruction
. _____ (guardian initial here) _____ (student initial here)

Transportation

I understand that transportation to in-person activities, such as testing, must be provided by a guardian.

_____ (guardian initial here)

My student will be driving themself to and from in-person activities and meetings.

YES NO _____ (guardian initial here)

Grievances

I understand the grievance process (outlined in policies within the handbook).

_____ (guardian initial here) _____ (student initial here)

Rights + Responsibilities and Student Discipline Code

I know how to access the district’s Statement on Rights and Responsibilities and Student Discipline Code online and/or have been given a physical copy (upon request).

_____ (guardian initial here) _____ (student initial here)

Please flip page for final signatures

Commitments for the ‘26-’27 School Year

As a student of Cultivate, I sign this contract to agree I will abide by the expectations and school/district policies described within this handbook. If I fail to meet these expectations for any reason, I understand I will receive an appropriate consequence for each violation.

As guardian of a student attending Cultivate, I agree to expect my student to meet the expectations and school/district policies contained within this handbook. Furthermore, if problems should arise due to my student’s unwillingness to cooperate, I agree to meet with school personnel in an attempt to resolve the conflict.

By signing this contract, each person acknowledges their part in making Cultivate a school where learning is not only possible, but expected, for all students. Furthermore, each signature below states that the handbook has been read and that each party agrees to abide by the rules and expectations outlined in the handbook.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Administrator Signature: _____ Date: _____