

GRAY'S CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2026-2027

Gray's Creek High School
5301 Celebration Drive
Hope Mills, NC 28348

(910) 424-8589

It is the policy of the Cumberland County Public School System not to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnic origin, sex, or disability in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies.

GRAY'S CREEK HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Gray's Creek High School community is to foster a safe and caring environment, promote high academic standards, while encouraging pride, leadership and respect for all.

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

PERIOD	START	END	TRANSITION
1	8:30 AM	10:08 AM	5 MINUTES
2	10:13 AM	11:43 AM	5 MINUTES
3	11:48 AM	2:05 PM	5 MINUTES
4	2:10 PM	3:40 PM	END OF DAY

**Students will eat lunch in 3rd period

GRAY'S CREEK HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Lisa G. Stewart, Principal

Mrs. Pattsy Drake, Assistant Principal

Ms. Tracy Hill, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Melanie Myrtle, Assistant Principal

Mr. Milton Williams, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

GRAY'S CREEK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SERVICES TEAM

(Counselors are assigned by the Grade Levels)

Ms. Heather Chase, Counselor, 9th grade

Mr. Hurley Williams Jr., Counselor, 10th grade

Mrs. Jerika Rivera, Counselor, 11th grade

Mrs. Alison Boyle, Lead Counselor, 12th grade

Mrs. Allison McDonald, School Social Worker

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ACCIDENTS

All accidents involving any personal injury that occur at school must be reported to the main office, whether the student involved has school insurance or not. An accident report must be completed and filed through the main office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

General announcements will be made once a day. All announcements must be in writing, approved by the sponsor, and submitted via the Google form from Mrs. Harvey by 9:30 am daily. Announcements will be made at the end of 1st period each day.

ATHLETICS

ATHLETIC ELIGIBLITY

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Students must live in the Gray's Creek High School district with their parent/legal guardian that has primary custody.
- Students must be enrolled at the time of participation, no later than the 15th day of the current semester unless transferring, and must be in regular attendance at school.
- Students must be in attendance 51% of the school day on the day of competition.
- Students are required to be in attendance 85% of the scheduled school days of the previous semester
- Students must pass 70% of the courses attempted in the previous semester and be on track to be promoted or graduate within the next calendar year.
- Students cannot participate in any sport with outstanding fees owed
- Students must not have graduated, been eligible for graduation from high school or have exceeded the maximum amount of eight consecutive semesters of attendance
- Students must be under 19 years of age on August 31st of the current school year
- Students must obtain a medical examination by a licensed physician each school year prior to participation being allowed. The physical is valid for one year from the date of the examination. However, if the physical expires prior to the end of the season, the physical is null and void.
- Scholar athlete honors will be bestowed to current student-athletes with a 3.5 cumulative GPA and have lettered in a varsity sport (this will be done at graduation).

ATHLETIC INSURANCE

Athletes must have the proper insurance forms prior to participation. School insurance is available for purchase.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

The GCHS Athletic Booster Club meets the first Monday of every month at 6:30 PM in the media center. Everyone is invited to attend, you do not have to be a member!

ATHLETIC CONDUCT

GCHS athletes are representatives of the school and must conduct themselves appropriately. Athletes must abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the coaching staff of their respective sport as well as the Cumberland County Schools Student Code of Conduct and Gray's Creek High School. All athletes are expected to represent themselves and the school in a positive manner, exhibiting good sportsmanship and respect for all. **Athletes found to be in violation of these measures will face disciplinary action, which may result in suspension from school and/or dismissal from the team.**

FINAL FORMS

Prior to participation in workouts or practices each student-athlete and their parent/guardian are expected to have a completed and up to date Final Forms account. Failure to complete these documents and have an up to date account will result in participation being prevented until such time as the issue is resolved.

If there are any questions please contact Mr. Milton Williams, AP/AD at 910-475-7712 or by email at miltonwilliams@ccs.k12.nc.us

ATTENDANCE POLICY

An attendance policy communicates to all students, parents, and teachers the importance of good attendance in achieving academic success. It supports character education, dependability, and responsibility. Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 115C-378, Gray's Creek High School will adhere to the following attendance policy.

§ 115C-378. Children required to attend.

(a) Every parent, guardian or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child between the ages of seven and 16 years shall cause the child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is assigned shall be in session. Every parent, guardian, or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child under age seven who is enrolled in a public school in grades kindergarten through two shall also cause the child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is assigned shall be in session unless the child has withdrawn from school.

(b) No person shall encourage, entice or counsel any child of compulsory school age to be unlawfully absent from school. The parent, guardian, or custodian of a child shall notify the school of the reason for each known absence of the child, in accordance with local school board policy.

If a student misses 2 or less days, he/she must request make up from their teacher on their first day back.

If a student misses 3 or more days, the parent should contact the registrar in guidance to request make up work. Please allow 48 hours for work to be submitted for parent/student pick up.

- Students have at least 3 school days to make up work after an absence once they return to school.
- Educational field trips do not count as absences.
- Lawful absences include the following:

1. Illness or injury with a doctor's note. Parent noted are not accepted for short term absences .
2. Death of immediate family member
3. Medical/Dental appointments with doctor's note
4. Court proceedings with documentation

All documentation regarding lawful absences must be submitted to the attendance office within 7 days of the first date of absence. If documentation has not been received within the 7 days, those absences will remain unexcused. NO LATE DOCUMENTATION WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Educational opportunity requests need to be submitted 7 days in advance of the absence to Mrs. Stewart.

BUSES

The Board of Education realizes that school buses are a means of transportation provided by the State of North Carolina. Drivers, monitors, and students who ride buses are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner. Therefore, the following regulations have been established by the Cumberland County School Board and Gray's Creek High School to govern student conduct while riding school buses.

- Students must ride their assigned bus and follow the instructions of the bus driver.
- Student must board and dismount the bus at assigned stops and through the designated door.
- Students should arrive at their bus stop 10 minutes prior to the expected arrival of the bus. The bus will not wait for students.
- Students must remain in their seats while the bus is moving and keep their heads and hands inside the bus at all times.
- Students must not throw any object from the school bus or inside the school bus. Students must not eat, drink, curse, and talk loudly while on the bus.
- Students must refrain from doing anything that might be considered dangerous to the safety of others on the bus.
- Students must adhere to all Cumberland County and Gray's Creek High School rules. Students who violate the school bus rules, including fighting, will be subject to immediate suspension and/or bus dismissal. Drivers, monitors, and students assigned to school buses shall be responsible for willful or negligent damage caused by their actions.
- Buses will leave campus 5 minutes after the dismissal bell.

CAFETERIA

STUDENT CONDUCT

- Students are expected to exhibit proper etiquette at all times
- Students must not run to the lunch line
- Students must not break the lunch line
- Students should remove all trays, paper, and other items from the table after eating and place them in the appropriately designated area
- Students may not charge meals
- Students must know their ID number to key in the keypad
- Students are required to eat lunch in the cafeteria; they are not allowed to remain in a teacher's classroom

FREE OR REDUCED INFORMATION

In order to receive free or reduced meals, students must complete the application and receive approval from Child Nutrition Services. The application can be picked up from homeroom teachers, please see the front office with any questions. This application needs to be completed and returned to the main office, for the first 10 days of school, students will maintain their free/reduced status from the previous year while the current application is being processed.

CAFETERIA CONTINUED

GENERAL INFORMATION

Students may pay for meals in advance in the cafeteria before 8:15 AM. These accounts are non-transferable.

MEAL	REDUCED COST	FULL COST	ADULT COST
BREAKFAST	$0.00	$0.00	A LA CARTE
LUNCH	$0.00	$2.75	A LA CARTE

*Prices are subject to change upon notification from Child Nutrition Services.

The Cafeteria Charge Policy, Free or Reduced Meal Benefits Applications, and Pre-pay Options information is available in the Counseling Center.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Any student who changes his or her address or phone number must immediately inform the Counseling Center Data Manager and/or Registrar.

Parents must bring proof of a change in address. Proof of address change includes an electric bill, power bill, water bill, or a deed of trust.

CHECKING IN

ANY STUDENT LATE TO SCHOOL MUST REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE ATTENDANCE WINDOW TO RECEIVE A CLASS ADMISSION SLIP. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

Gray's Creek High School differentiates between Tardy to Class and Tardy to School. Students who are Tardy to Class are those already in the building beyond the foyer and into the Atrium area but not in class. Students that are tardy to class are subject to the disciplinary action as outlined in the GCHS Common Syllabus and listed below:

- FIRST TARDY – VERBAL WARNING FROM THE TEACHER
- SECOND TARDY – VERBAL WARNING AND PHONE CALL HOME FROM THE TEACHER
- THIRD TARDY – TEACHER INTERVENTION AND A PHONE CALL HOME
- FOURTH TARDY – DISCIPLINARY REFERRAL TO ADMINISTRATION

If a student is tardy to school, there are two basic classifications of the tardy: Excused or unexcused.

1. Excused tardy - Student has appropriate documentation.
   a. The student presents a note from a doctor/dentist.
   b. The student presents documentation of court proceedings.
   c. The student is checked in by a parent/guardian.

2. Unexcused tardy – Student does NOT have appropriate documentation.

   These tardies are further broken down into classifications, if the student is a car-rider or walker, but NOT a driver – the student will be subject to the disciplinary action as outlined above and included in the GCHS Common Syllabus. However, if the student is a driver the following will occur:

CHECKING IN – CONTINUED

2. Unexcused Tardy – Continued (Driver specific section)

- FIRST TARDY – VERBAL WARNING
- SECOND TARDY – WRITTEN WARNING (VIA EMAIL) TO STUDENT AND NOTICE SENT TO THE PARENT/GUARDIAN
- THIRD TARDY – PARKING PASS IS SUSPENDED FOR FIVE (5) SCHOOL DAYS
- FOURTH TARDY – RJC WITH PARKING PASS SUSPENDED WHILE IN RJC
- FIFTH TARDY – PARKING PASS SUSPENDED FOR TEN (10) SCHOOL DAYS
- SIXTH TARDY – PARKING PASS REVOKED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEMESTER; ELIGIBLE FOR REINSTATEMENT IN THE NEXT SEMESTER WITH THE APPROVAL FROM THE PRINCIPAL.

CHECKING OUT

If a student must leave after arriving on the Gray's Creek High School campus, the student must check-out through the attendance office. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

Students with a valid parking pass checking out with a note must present the note to the attendance clerk prior to their first class of the day. The early check-out form can be found on the Cumberland County Schools webpage.

While the school will make every effort to verify the check-out note, it is ultimately the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure its verification.

No student will be allowed to check out of school without verification of the note.

Students will be given a check out pass to present to their teachers so that they may report to the office at the appropriate time to check out of school.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- No student will be allowed to check out of school unless the parent/guardian or responsible person on the verification of address form comes to pick the student up.
- Students who become ill during the school day should report to the office, and the parents or guardians will be contacted.
- Under no circumstances will a student be permitted to leave school early without parent/guardian authorization and the principal's or designee's permission.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS – SECTION 504/ADA

No otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, solely by reason of his or her disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination from any program or activity of the school.

Qualified disabled students are entitled to a free appropriate public education.

Disabled persons who believe they have been subjected to discrimination on the basis of their disability may appeal to the school district ADA/Section 504 Coordinator:

Dr. Natasha Scott, MSW Cumberland County Schools

P.O. Box 2357

Fayetteville, NC 28302

COUNSELING CENTER

The Counseling program is an integral part of the educational offering at Gray's Creek High School. The Counseling Department includes counselors who assist students in making educational and vocational plans.

College catalogues, occupational books and pamphlets, and scholarship information are available. Students wishing to have counselors review any applications must be considerate of the staff members and **submit a request 10 school days before deadline dates**. In addition, personal issues may be discussed with counselors. Appointments are required except in emergency situations.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

At Gray's Creek High School, we believe that good discipline is essential to attaining a quality education. Each student has the right to a positive, nurturing interaction with our faculty, staff, and administration as well as the right to be free from distraction caused by the inappropriate behavior of others.

Rules and policies are established to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment. All students are subject to the rules and policies published in the Cumberland County Schools Student Code of Conduct in addition to the rules and policies of Gray's Creek High School.

According to the Cumberland County Schools Student Code of Conduct, students are expected to treat others with respect, behave in a responsible manner, and demonstrate high standards of integrity.

Negative behaviors are detrimental to the educational environment of the school and will not be tolerated. Students who demonstrate these behaviors will be disciplined appropriately according to the CCS Code of Conduct.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

Any organization, company representative, or individual that wishes to place or distribute materials of any nature must adhere to the following

regulations.

1. Contact Mrs. Stewart for permission prior to bringing the materials to the school.
2. Make no effort to distribute or cause to have distributed any materials prior to receiving this permission.

DRESS CODE

Each GCHS student is expected to use good taste in choosing clothing for the school day so as not to present a health hazard, not to draw attention for him/ herself, and not to interfere with the educational process.

- Students must wear shoes at all times. Students cannot wear bedroom slippers.
- No skin more than three (3) inches above the knee may be visible, all the way around the leg, either by length, holes, slits, transparent material or any other insert.
- No tanks tops, belly shirts, spaghetti strap clothing, no off-the-shoulder shirts, muscle shirts or

Backless shirts permitted (Shirts must cover the entire shoulder and back).

- No sagging pants or the appearance of sagging is allowed. Sagging will be defined as; pants low enough to allow whatever is under the pants, regardless of how many layers exist, to be visible.
- No durags, sunglasses, and bandanas or other headgear, to include headphones and ear pods in the classroom, may be worn inside the school building. Students may not possess or display bandanas on GCHS property (includes buses) at any time during any event. All headgear must be on the part of the head with the purpose of holding the hair back.
- No head or neck coverings of any kind are allowed to be worn or possessed, some examples are but not limited to hoodies, bonnets, durags, caps, beanies, gaiters, balaclavas, bandanas of any color etc.
- No attire with messages or illustrations that are lewd, indecent, or vulgar, or advertise any product or service not permitted by law to minors may be worn. This includes offensive words or designs, depictions of controlled substances, confederate flags, or anything obscene or offensive in nature.
- No chains, spikes, locks will be worn at any time in the school building or at any event.
- Jewelry or accessories that could be used as harmful objects may not be worn.
- Although individual school dress codes may contain certain restrictions on head coverings, consistent with Board of Education Policies 1710, 1730, 3510 and 3515, the Cumberland County Schools will allow students to wear head coverings if they are an expression of a sincerely held religious belief or to reasonably accommodate medical or disability-related issues.
- Any masks worn in schools in response to COVID-19 or other health concerns may not contain or depict messages or images that would otherwise be prohibited under Policy Code 4316, "Student Dress Code." Examples of prohibited messages or images are those which are provocative or obscene, substantially disruptive, or which promote or depict illegal activity.

Student Dress Code is available on the Gray's Creek High School Website.

Students who violate the dress code will face the following disciplinary actions:

First offense - Student will be warned and the parent or guardian will be called to provide a change of clothes. The student will remain in RJC until appropriate clothing is provided.

Second offense - Student's parent or guardian will be called to provide a change of clothes.

**Continued issues with dress code could possibly result in student being charged with Insubordination and face disciplinary actions.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

MESSAGE FROM SGA

The GCHS Student Government Association would like to encourage all members of the student body to become involved in the extracurricular activities offered at GCHS. In addition to athletic teams, GCHS offers membership in several clubs and organizations. Meeting dates and times will be announced to all students.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

ATHLETIC TEAMS BY SEASON

FALL SEASON	WINTER SEASON	SPRING SEASON
CHEERLEADING	MEN'S BASKETBALL	BASEBALL
CROSS COUNTRY	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	MEN'S GOLF
FOOTBALL	BOWLING	LACROSSE
MEN'S SOCCER	CHEERLEADING	WOMEN'S SOCCER
VOLLEYBALL	INDOOR TRACK	SOFTBALL
WOMEN'S GOLF	SWIMMING	TRACK & FIELD
WOMEN'S TENNIS	WRESTLING	

*Cross Country, Bowling, Indoor Track, Swimming, Wrestling, & Track and Field offer Men's & Women's teams; GCHS is attempting to field a Women's Lacrosse team.

*Junior Varsity and Varsity level teams are offered in most sports, see the Head Coach or Mr. Williams with questions.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

AOIT

Battle of the Books

Bear with Me

Diversity

Esports

Family, Career & Community Leaders of America

FCA

Future Business Leaders of America

Gamer's Club

Journalism

National FFA Organization

National Honor Society

National Technical Honor Society

NJROTC Drill Lab

Skills USA

Spanish Honor Society

Spectrum

Speech and Debate

Student Government Association

Student 2 Student

Thespian Honor Society

ELECTRONICS

Students may possess or use personal electronic devices on school property, on school buses, or at school sponsored events according to the following guidelines:

- **Students may not use air pods, earbuds or headphones in the hallway during class change or in the classroom.**
- Electronic devices may be used before school until the 8:30 am tardy bell, in the cafeteria, and after school when the bell rings at 3:40 pm. They may not be used in the classroom.
- Bluetooth and external speakers of any kind are not allowed at any time.
- Smartwatches and smart glasses may not be connected via Bluetooth to any device. Student may not record using their glasses.
- Electronic devices may not be used to cause any disruption in the educational process or for unethical or illegal purposes. Prohibited uses include, but are not limited to, cheating on assignments and/or tests, harassing or bullying others, and taking or distributing unauthorized photographs or recordings of other people.
- Electronic devices may not be used to access any obscene, threatening or otherwise inappropriate material via any form of electronic communication.
- Electronic devices may not be used for any activity prohibited by the CCS Code of Conduct, to circumvent CCS network security, or for any unauthorized access to or inappropriate use of the CCS computer network.
- GCHS will not be responsible, or liable for, the theft, loss, data loss, damage, destruction, misuse or vandalism of any student's personal electronic device brought onto CCS/GCHS property.
- The disciplinary process will follow the CCS policy.

ELEVATOR

The elevator may only be used by staff members and specific students who have obtained written authorization from the attendance office.

EXAMS

EOC/CTE Post Assessments are held the last five days of each semester. Parents and students should not make plans that will interfere with exams. The school day for students will be a full day during exam week. There will be no early dismissals.

Each student enrolled in an EOC, CTE course will be required to take the state administered final exam which will count for 20% of the course average.

(NO EXEMPTIONS)

FALSE ALARM

A student will be subject to immediate suspension and/or criminal charges for turning in a false fire alarm, tampering with a fire extinguisher, communicating written or verbal threats of fire, bombs, or other catastrophic events.

See Student Code of Conduct for Class III violation.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act is a federal law that governs the maintenance of student records. Under this law, parents of students or students (if they are at least 18 years of age) have both the right to inspect records kept by the school about the student and the right to correct inaccuracies in the records. Access to the records by persons other then the parents (of the student) is limited and generally requires prior consent by the parents of the student.

Copies of this policy may be found in the office of the Superintendent and in the Principal's office of each school within the Cumberland County School System.

Complaints about noncompliance of school personnel with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act may be made, in writing, to FERPA Office, Federal

Building No. 10,6000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202.

FEES & CHARGES

Charges will be assessed for lost and damaged books, materials, supplies, equipment, and property in accordance with established replacement or repair costs. The power to regulate student fees and charges is vested in the Board of Education by virtue of the State Law, G.S. 115C-47. Pursuant to this power and authority, the Board shall periodically review and approve all system wide student authority and system wide fees. Such fees and charges include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Lost and damaged book fees and charges, lost and damaged materials, supplies and equipment fees.
2. Fees required for services and activities such as musical instrument rental fees, publication fees, student pictures, parking permits, official transcript fees, admission to athletic events, graduation fees (cap and gown), class dues for juniors and seniors, and I.D. cards.
3. Students may be charged for the cost of raw materials in certain occupational courses.

Fees will be carried forward at the end of each school year. If fees or charges are not paid or arrangements have not been made for payment, the principal shall withhold report cards, grades, and diploma until payment is made. If after all of the above steps have been taken and no satisfactory arrangements have been made, the matter shall be referred to the Board attorney. Students/parents are responsible for keeping all receipts.

FIELD TRIPS

A field trip form signed by the student's parent or guardian and each subject teacher must be on file with the office manager prior to any field trip or excursion. **In order to be eligible to participate in a field trip, students must have a 70 average in each class and missing no more than 10% of days in a aclass.** Forms for college visitation for Juniors and Seniors are available in the Counseling Center.

FIGHTING

The administration, faculty, staff, and students of GCHS deserve to work and learn in a safe and orderly environment that is free from disruption.

As a result**, fighting will not be tolerated**. According to the CCS Student Code of Conduct, students who engage in fighting during school, on school premises, at a school-sponsored event, on a school-owned vehicle, or at a bus stop **will face disciplinary action which may include long-term suspension or disciplinary reassignment to an alternative program after the first offense.**

FIRE DRILLS

Evacuation routes are posted in all classrooms. In case of a fire alarm, each class should move at least 300 feet from the building and turn facing the building. Students should refrain from talking, stay in a straight line, and stay with his/her teacher at all times.

An all-clear announcement to re-enter the building will be made.

If the alarm goes off during lunch, students are to exit the cafeteria to the athletic fields area.

If the alarm goes off during a change of class the students should quickly exit the building through the nearest exit. After exiting, students should locate their previous class period teacher.

FIRST AID

The school can help with such things as emergency first aid. If a student is too ill to attend classes, he/she is too ill to remain in school and parents will be notified to come for the student.

All students who have medical problems or physical limitations that require special attention regularly or in an emergency should report these conditions to the office. The appropriate staff will assist students with the medical care. No school employee may administer medication, to include over-the-counter, except those who have been trained to do so.

DELIVERIES

Students will not be permitted to receive items at school, either delivered or brought by another student. This includes flowers, balloons and/or food.

Please see next page for more information.

DELIVERIES TO STUDENT(S) DURING SCHOOL HOURS – REGULATION CODE 5020-R

The paramount concern of the board and administration is to provide a safe and orderly learning environment in which disruptions to instructional time are kept to a minimum. For safety's sake, access to schools during school hours must be carefully regulated. In the interest of security and minimizing disruptions to the instructional environment, only the parents/guardians on file with the school shall be permitted to make deliveries to or for their student(s) only. Commercial deliveries to or for students are not permitted. Deliveries of flowers or balloons are not permit- ted, and deliveries of food shall be limited to lunch items only. Any deliveries of student medications by parents/guardians must conform to the requirements of Policy 6125 and Regulation 6125-R. Cross References: Board Policy Code 5020: Visitors to Schools; Board Policy Code 1510/4200/7270: School Safety. Board Policy Code 6125: Administering Medicines to Students; Regulation 6125-R: Procedures for Administration of Medication in the Schools. Approved By Superintendent: June 26, 2019

GRADES

Grades are assigned on a 10-point scale. Parents will be able to see grades in the Student Information System – Infinite Campus.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from the Cumberland County School system, a student must successfully complete the unit/course requirements for a specific course of study. On a 4 X 4 schedule, students must earn a minimum of 28 credits in their course of study.

Graduation requirements differ depending upon the student's entry date into school.

More information is available in the Counseling Center.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

If at any time, a student or parent has a discrepancy in the student's grade in a particular class, the student and parent should meet with the teacher of that course. If at the conclusion of the meeting, an acceptable resolution is not reached, students and parents should request a meeting with a school administrator. All grading concerns must be addressed in the current semester only.

GUESTS

Visitors are not allowed on the GCHS campus without permission of the principal. All visitors must check in at the main office.

HALL TRAFFIC

Students should walk (not run) on the right side of the halls and stairs and should not block traffic patterns.

Students are not permitted in the hallways during class unless they are accompanied or they have their hallway pass signed by an authorized staff member.

Students should follow the traffic patterns in the atrium and on stairways.

HONOR ROLL

"A" Honor Roll will consist of students making no final grade below an "A".

"B" Honor Roll will consist of students making no final grade below an "B".

HONOR CORDS/STOLE

Students meeting the qualifications will be allowed to wear graduation cords/ stole for the following areas:

AIG

Academy of Information Technology

Academy of Scholars

Career and Technical Education

F.T.C.C.

National Honor Society (stole)

Scholar Athlete

Half-Cap Pin

HONOR GRADUATES

Honor graduates are based on weighted GPA.

Summa Cum Laude (4.25 and higher)

Magna Cum Laude (4.00 - 4.24)

Cum Laude (3.75 - 3.99)

INCLEMENT WEATHER

If school is closed, delayed, or dismissed early due to inclement weather, the local radio and television stations will make an announcement and CCS will send a phone call to students.

I.D. CARDS

The cost of a replacement student ID card is $5.00 and is payable at the time the picture is taken. Students are to have their I.D. cards at all times while at school or at a school function (games/JR-SR Prom, etc.) Requests for a replacement should be made to the Media Center Coordinator. **A Current Year Student ID is Required for Prom and all school events.**

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CENTER

RJC, in some instances, may be offered in lieu of suspension from school.

Students assigned to RJC will be expected to adhere to the

guidelines established by the administration and supervising teacher. The rules governing RJC are listed below.

1. Students must be in assigned seats before the tardy bell rings.
2. Gum, candy, drinks and other food items are not allowed.
3. Students will each lunch in the RJC room.
4. The student must take all textbooks, paper, pencil, pens, etc. when reporting to RJC.
5. There will be no communication of any kind (verbal, written, or sign language) between students assigned to RJC.
6. Regular classroom teachers will send the student's assignments to RJC.
7. The student may check out of RJC for personal illness or a doctor's appointment only. If a student misses time from assigned RJC time, he or she must make it up the following school day.
8. Phones should be turned into the RJC teacher.

INSURANCE

The Board of Education shall require a student in interscholastic sports and in other school activities, as deemed necessary, to participate in the school accident insurance program. Students with private insurance should have a parent/guardian submit a statement to the principal that the student is adequately protected against accidents that may occur while participating in activities.

The Board shall not be liable for any injuries or other form of accidents that may arise out of the course of any student's activities or school-related activities. Packets of information on student insurance will be provided to each student.

JUNIOR-SENIOR PROM

The Junior-Senior Prom, a Junior class sponsored project, is the result of months of planning throughout the year. An elaborate theme, decorations, and popular musical selections are combined to honor the graduating seniors.

All approved guest must be Juniors, Seniors, and/or under the age of 21 to attend Prom. The Prom dress code is formal attire for males and females, to include shoes. In order to attend, all Juniors and Seniors must have a Gray's Creek High School ID. Students will not be allowed to enter Prom without proper identifications. Guests must have filled out an approved application, submitted proper identifications and paid the guest fee to attend Prom. No one can attend that has not earned Junior status.

****Prom dues are $85, prom guest fees are $80 and can be paid online****

LOCKERS

The safe schools coordinator will issue lockers to students. Students will place a school lock on their lockers. For student safety, locks other than school issued will not be allowed. Locks are purchased for $5.00. The school must also have a record of the lock combinations prior to being assigned a locker. **All students requiring a bag for athletic or other after school activities, must utilize a locker to secure these bags during the school day.**

Students are responsible for all contents of their locker!

LOITERING

Students should not loiter on school property after school, before school, or on non-school days. Students should not be in the school building prior to 8:00 AM or after 3:45 PM unless they are under the direct supervision of a staff member.

Students are not to loiter in restrooms or in cars which are parked on campus. Loitering, eating, or socializing in the restroom will not be tolerated.

LOST AND FOUND

Any personal belongings found on school grounds should be turned in to the main office. Any student missing personal belongings should check at the office.

The school is not responsible for money, books, clothing or other items left unattended. At the end of each semester, unclaimed items remaining in lost and found will be discarded.

GCHS strongly recommends all students put their valuables in the valuable box provided by their teacher during their PE or dance class (do not leave any valuables in the locker room.)

MARRIED/INDEPENDENT STUDENTS

Any student who gets married, is emancipated, or registered as an independent student must immediately report this information to the Counseling Center Receptionist.

MAKE UP WORK

The student is responsible for making arrangements with the teacher to make up work.

Teachers may schedule make-up work at their discretion, within 3 school days after the student's return. Work not made up within the 3 day period may result in a loss of credit for the assignment.

If the student is absent five or more days, a longer period may be granted.

MEDIA CENTER

The purpose of the library media center is to provide a welcoming environment where students can study, research, spend time, check out books, utilize the computers, obtain tech support for school devices and more. Students should positively contribute to the environment in the library.

1- Students are welcome in the library throughout the school day. The library opens at 8:05 each morning and closes at 3:50 PM each day.

2- Students must obtain a pass from their current teacher to use the media center during all class periods. Passes must indicate the specific purpose for library use.

3- Students are welcome to come to the library during their scheduled lunch time, however may not bring in food or drinks.

4- Books are due 14 days after check out and lost or damaged books will result in a fine.

5- Chromebooks and chargers must be taken care of and kept clean. Please clean your chromebook at least once a week with a soft cloth and a technology friendly solution. If you notice your chromebook or charger is damaged, please bring it to the media center as soon as possible.

6- Students are not allowed to bring in food or drink into the media center.

7- All students are welcome to utilize games and activities. Please leave it better than you found

Thank you for visiting the library.

Mrs. Harvey

Countywide school policy requires each student to have a permission form signed by a parent or guardian before exploring the Internet.

MEDICATION

It is unlawful for school officials to supply medicine for a student who is ill and does not have the proper documents on file in the school's main office.

Students who need prescribed medication during school must have a "Physicians School Medication" form and/or an "Asthma Self-Medication" (inhalers only) form on file with receptionist in the main office. Prescribed medications must be in the properly labeled prescription package. Over-the-counter medications will not be accepted unless they are prescribed by a physician and carry a prescription label. Students may not carry medication unless it is an inhaler for asthma and the "Asthma Self-Medication" form is on file with receptionist. Form information and prescription must match exactly. The parent or legal guardian must bring in all forms as well as the medications required for the student.

Students are not allowed to transport medication to and from school.

MESSAGES

Messages will not be delivered to students during the instructional day. Should the parent have an emergency and need to leave a message regarding transportation home, we will attempt to deliver it at the end of the school day; however, please know that we will only inform the student to ride his/her assigned school bus home. Under no circumstances will we send a message to wait for a ride after school or to ride home with another student or adult.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

1. The student must meet the basic guidelines for scholarship, leadership, character, and service of the National Honor Society.
2. Student will be invited to join NHS in the fall of their Junior year.
3. Student must have a cumulative grade point average of at least

   3.9 (weighted)
4. Once invited to join, student must complete an application for candidacy that will be read and reviewed by a committee.
5. Any student who has been assigned to RJC more than twice or OSS more than once will not be considered eligible for NHS membership.
6. Club dues are $25 and will be collected after candidate has been admitted.

Membership requirements:

Once inducted, members are expected to attend all meetings and participate in service projects. Students must maintain a minimum 3.9 weighted) GPA and maintain excellent attendance and disciplinary records. Any student found to no longer represent the NHS values of scholarship, leadership, service, and character will be removed from the club.

The NHS member must maintain the standards of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character by which the member was selected.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

The Gray's Creek High School administration and teachers believe that home/school communication is vital to the success of its students. We encourage parents and guardians to contact the school at any time to schedule an appointment to discuss the progress of their child. Teachers may also be contacted via email. School-wide conference times will be scheduled once each semester. These dates and times will be publicized in school to all students and through the phone system to all parents.

Dates are as follows: **September 30, 2026, 5:00pm-7:00pm** and **February 24, 2027, 5:00-7:00pm.**

PARKING (STUDENT) AGREEMENT

DRIVING TO SCHOOL IS A PRIVILEGE. Any violation of parking rules will result in the loss of parking privileges. Any student who leaves campus (or aides other students who leave campus) without complying with GCHS check-out policies will lose his/her parking permit for up to 8 weeks.

A valid parking permit must be displayed. Vehicles without a permit are subject to towing and will be charged $5 a day when parked without a parking pass. The owner of the vehicle is liable for any cost associated with the towing.

Gray's Creek High School is not liable for any damage/vandalism done to any vehicle- campus.

Any student having 3 tardies to school will result in loss of parking permit for 5 school days.

Those with 5 unexcused tardies will lose their parking pass for 10 school days.

Park only in a designated parking spot in the student parking lot. AT NO TIME are students to be parked in front of the building, the teacher's parking lot, or the fire lane. Park within one space, parallel to the painted lines.

Anyone caught speeding or otherwise operating a vehicle in an unsafe manner is subject to loss of parking privilege and/or arrest.

Students must check with the front office before going to their vehicles during the school day for emergencies only.

Student Vehicle must remain in their assigned slot while on campus, to include before and after school activities. All other students must vacate the campus by 3:45 pm.

All CCS and GCHS rules will be enforced in the parking lot. This includes the prohibited use of tobacco products on campus.

The Board of Education authorizes administrative personnel who have a reasonable belief that a student or students are in possession of weapons, illegal drugs, or other substances harmful to the student or students, or the general welfare of the student body, to search the vehicle of student(s).

Keep vehicles locked at all times. Record the serial number of valuable items kept in the vehicle. GCHS is not responsible for items that may be taken from the vehicle.

Your parking privileges will be revoked for the remainder of the school year on your 3rd citation. Any violation of this agreement may result in revocation of your parking privileges

Parking permits cost $50.00 per year. Each vehicle that a student may drive must display a permit.

Parking permits remain the property of Gray's Creek High School. If the permit is taken, there are no refunds.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXEMPTION

Any students who needs to be exempted from physical education for medical reasons must bring a note from their doctor stating the reason for the exemption and the length of time the student should not participate. These notes must be renewed every year unless the doctor states that the student will never be able to participate in physical education classes.

SCHOOL PHONE USE

Students are not permitted to use the school phones except in cases of emergency. If students have an emergency, they should report to the office with a pass. Students should not answer classroom phones.

PREGNANCY

Pregnant students should immediately notify the school social worker.

PROMOTION STANDARDS

1. To be promoted from the ninth grade to the tenth grade, a student must successfully complete six (6) units of course credit. (1 in English)

2. To be promoted from tenth grade to eleventh grade, a student must complete thirteen (13) units of course credit. (2 in English)

3. To be promoted from eleventh grade to twelfth grade, a student must complete twenty (20) units of course credit. (3 in English) In addition to this, the student must be eligible to graduate in order to be promoted.

SAFETY

For the safety of all, students are not to sit, slide, or play on the rails or lockers. Students should not sit on an opened window seal.

SENIOR EARLY RELEASE/REDUCED SCHEDULE

Seniors early release students, or any other student with an alternative schedule away from campus, should leave campus immediately. To be approved for early release, athletes must get permission from Mr. Milton Williams (Athletic Director) and their Counselor.

SKIPPING CLASS

Students must follow their assigned schedule, they may not stay in other teachers' classrooms unless permission is granted by school administration.

SKATES, SKATEBOARDING, BIKES OR E-BIKES ON CAMPUS

For safety reasons, students are not allowed, at any time, to ride, skate or skateboard on school property. A skateboard is a non-educational item and should not be brought to school. **If a student brings his or her skateboard on campus, it will be confiscated and returned to the parent or legal guardian.**

TEXTBOOK DAMAGE FEES

Each student is responsible for any damaged or lost textbooks issued to the student. Damaged or lost books will be assessed a fee of full price for the cost of the book.

Books should never be left any place where someone else may pick them up.

Students are responsible for textbooks issued to them until they are returned to the teacher at the end of the school semester.

If you transfer from one teacher to another, you are to return your text book to the teacher who issued the textbook. You will receive a book from your new teacher. If you stop attending school or transfer to another school, you must return all textbooks to the teacher who issued them to you. Under regular circumstances, all books will be collected at the end of the semester.

Certain materials, which are needed for special courses, are not provided by the state and must be paid for by the individual students enrolled in these courses.

TORNADO DRILL

When the alarm sounds, the teacher and students will proceed to the assigned tornado area in the building and assume protective positions. Students should refrain from talking and proceed in an orderly manner. Teachers must check their roll and remain with their students at all times.

USE OF FACILITIES AFTER SCHOOL

Students will not re-enter the building after the ringing of the 3:40pm dismissal bell. Students who remain on campus for athletic practices will report immediately to the gym or practice area. All dressing will be done in the rooms provided.

Students remaining for club meetings, driver's education, or tutoring should go directly to their assigned area to meet the club advisor or supervising staff member immediately after school.

Students will not be permitted to loiter before or after school in the parking lots.

Any infraction of the aforementioned is a serious violation of school regulations.

UNAUTHORIZED ITEMS

Students may not have blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, gaming devices, and other items not intended for educational purposes.

No alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or harmful drugs are allowed on school grounds at any time. Students exhibiting the symptoms of being under the influence of the above controlled substances will be subject to disciplinary action. Any paraphernalia used in the consumption of controlled substances are also forbidden. These include, but are not limited to roach clips, rolling papers, bongs, pipes, and accessories for cocaine, (ex. spoons, syringes, hypodermic needles), and pills not prescribed by a physician. (Students who have been prescribed medication by a physician should follow all procedures and submit these items to the proper personnel in the main office. At no time should students have any medication on their person or in their belongings.)

Students may not bring items that are hazardous to the health and safety of others or that will interfere in some way with school procedures. According to the Public School Laws of North Carolina and Cumberland County School Board policy, if it is believed that a student has items that are harmful to his/herself or to others, with reasonable suspicion, school administrators are allowed to search the student and his/her belongings. Any sharp or blunt instrument, including knives, guns, explosives, stink bombs, or incendiary device will be confiscated and the responsible person(s) charged under G.S. 14-284.1.

In cooperation with local law enforcement, the GCHS staff frequently allows the K-9 units from the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office to conduct searches of the building, grounds, and all personal property located on the grounds.

Students are responsible for any item on their person, in their vehicle, in their locker, or in their personal belongings.

VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN

These designations shall be made as cited below in partial fulfillment of the system-wide goal for the Cumberland County Schools to give appropriate recognitions to students for academic achievement.

The school principal will name the graduating student(s) ranking highest in scholarship as the valedictorian(s), with the following stipulations:

- To be considered for the Valedictorian, a student must be in membership 150 consecutive days at the school from which he/she will be graduating; however, a student graduating in less than four years or who has been in membership less than four years or who has been in his/her grades are equal to or greater than the student who has attended high school for four years; and

The school principal will name the graduating student(s) ranking second in scholarship as the salutatorian(s), with the following stipulations:

- To be considered for the Salutatorian, a student must be in membership 150 consecutive days at the school from which he/she will be graduating; however, a student graduating in less than four years or who has been in membership less than 150 days may be considered for co-salutatorian if his/her grades are equal to or greater than the student who has attended high school for four years.