



Macon County Schools

Shawn Carter, Director of Schools

2023-24 School Calendar

Registration Day 8:00-10:00am-----	August 1 st 2023
First Day of Fall Semester-----	August 3 rd 2023
Labor Day (No School) -----	September 4 th 2023
1 st Parent/Teacher Conference-----	September 13 th 2023*
Professional Development (1) -----	September 25 th 2023*
Fall Break-----	October 9 th -13 th 2023
Thanksgiving Break-----	November 20 th -24 th 2023
Last Day Fall Semester (86 days) -----	December 15 th 2023
Professional Development (2) -----	January 3 rd 2024*
1 st Day Spring Semester-----	January 4 th 2024
MLK Day (No School) -----	January 15 th 2024
President's Day (No School) -----	February 19 th 2024
2 nd Parent/Teacher Conference-----	February 21 st 2024*
Election Day (No School) -----	March 5 th 2024
Spring Break-----	March 25-28 th 2024
Good Friday (No School) -----	March 29 th 2024
Last Day Spring Semester (94 Days) -----	May 24 th 2024
RBS Graduation -----	May 23 rd 2024
MCHS Graduation -----	May 24 th 2024

***No School for Students**

Inspiring and Empowering Students

Macon County Board of Education, 501 College Street, Lafayette, TN 37083
Phone: 615-666-2125 Fax: 615-666-7878 or 615-666-3280 Special Education: 615-666-2685

Administration

Chelsea Workman, Principal
Tiffany Clariday, Assistant Principal
Dawn Towns, Assistant Principal

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MACON COUNTY JUNIOR HIGH
1003 HWY 52 BYPASS EAST
LAFAYETTE, TN 37083
(615) 666-7545

MISSION

The Macon County Junior High School inspires and empowers students to meet high academic standards, lead ethical lives, and demonstrate responsible citizenship.

VISION

It is the vision of the Macon County School System to provide all children with a safe and inviting environment to ensure their success. We want to instill in each student high expectations, morals, and respect, enabling them to graduate with the knowledge and skills to become productive and responsible citizens.

BELIEFS

Education, which is an on-going process that begins at birth and continues throughout the adult years, is the responsibility of educators, parents, businesses, and community populations.

All students have the right to educational opportunities that will provide them with the skills, knowledge, and resources which enable them to become healthy, successful, productive citizens.

Student achievement is directly related, but not limited to, a high degree of parental and community involvement through meaningful communication in planning and implementing educational programs and opportunities. Our system maintains a high focus on improving the achievement of all students.

INTRODUCTION

This handbook is designed to help you, as students and parents, prepare for the year. We believe that your full potential can only be realized in an environment that is safe and orderly with each student taking responsibility for his or her actions. We expect only the best from our students, and we will continue to strive for excellence in all our programs. Please read this handbook carefully, and if you have any questions concerning rules and policies, do not hesitate to discuss them with your teacher or the administration. Some of the policies and procedures are abbreviated for convenience and are subject to change at any time. For a full explanation, please refer to the Macon County Board of Education's policies and procedures.

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Students shall be provided a learning environment free from sexual, racial, ethnic and religious discrimination/harassment. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee or any student to discriminate against or harass a student through disparaging conduct or communication that is sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious in nature. The following guidelines are set forth to protect students from discrimination/harassment. Student discrimination/harassment will not be tolerated. Discrimination/harassment is defined as conduct advances, gestures or words either written or spoken of a sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious nature which:

1. Unreasonably interfere with the student's work or educational opportunities; or
2. Create an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment; or
3. Imply that submission to such conduct is made an explicit or implicit term of receiving grades or credit; or
4. Imply that submission to or rejection of such conduct will be used as a basis for determining the student's grades and/or participation in a student activity.

Alleged victims of sexual, racial, ethnic, and religious discrimination/harassment shall report these incidents immediately to a teacher, counselor, or building administrator. Allegations of discrimination/harassment shall be fully investigated by a complaint manager (as set forth in *Complaints and Grievances 6.305*).

The privacy and anonymity of all parties and witnesses to the complaints will be respected. However, because an individual's need for confidentiality must be balanced with obligations to cooperate with police investigation or take necessary action to resolve a complaint, the identity of parties and witnesses may be disclosed in appropriate circumstances to individuals with need to know. A substantiated charge against an employee shall result in disciplinary action up to and including termination. A substantiated charge against a student may result in corrective or disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES: The Macon County Board of Education takes Complaints and Grievances very seriously. The Board believes very strongly that everyone should follow the Proper Chain of Command when dealing with complaints and grievances. At Macon County Junior High, we have 3 complaint Managers to assist in this process. Principal, Chelsea Workman, Assistant Principal Tiffany Clariday, and Guidance Counselor Terri Pardue. Each can be contacted by calling MCJH at (615) 666-7545. The complete policy on Complaints and Grievances can be found on the Macon County Schools website under Policy 5.501.

There will be no retaliation against any person who reports harassment or participates in an investigation. However, any employee who refuses to cooperate or gives false information during the course of any investigation may be subject to disciplinary action. The willful filing of a false report will itself be considered harassment and will be treated as such.

Any employee disciplined for violation of this policy may appeal the decision by contacting the Federal Rights Coordinator. Any student filing a false report will itself be considered harassment and will be treated as such. This policy shall be published in the parent/student handbook distributed annually to every student. Building administrators are responsible for education and training their perspective staff and students as to the definition and recognition of discrimination/harassment.

OTHER POLICIES: Macon County Junior High uses and enforces the policies outlined by the Macon County Board of Education. All policies concerning the education of the children of Macon County Schools can be found on the Macon County School System's website: www.maconcountyschools.com and are subject to change during the school year. Once arriving at the website, click *POLICIES* tab, then click the tab below labeled *ON-LINE POLICIES*. From there, you can view all the most recent policies of the Macon County School System.

SAFE SCHOOL CHOICE

At Macon County Junior High, every measure is taken to ensure that each child is safe from harm. At any time, should your child become a victim of a violent crime at school, your child has the right to attend another grade-appropriate public school in the school district. For a full description of this policy developed by the state of Tennessee, please log onto the website for the Macon County School System's website: www.maconcountyschools.com and click on *Policies*. A full description of the Tennessee Department of Education Unsafe School Choice policy can be downloaded from this website. If you do not have internet access available to you to view these policies, please contact the school and copies will be made available.

POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Tennessee Department of Education and the Macon County Board of Education not to discriminate against any student, employee, or applicant on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, or veteran status.

The Macon County Board of Education will take all necessary steps to ensure that each employee's work environment is free of unlawful discrimination. No office, officer, or employee of the Board of Education shall intimidate, threaten, harass, coerce, discriminate against, or commit or seek reprisal against anyone who participates in any aspect of the discrimination complaint process associated with this policy.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

If you have any questions concerning the Macon County School System's homeless policy, please contact Cindy Gammons at 615-666-2125.

The following information may be obtained at our local school system's website, www.maconcountyschools.com. School policies, state assignment results for the school, system and state, safe school choice policy, parent involvement policy, and teacher certification information. Parents who do not have access to the web may contact the school principal or Cindy Gammons at the board of education for any of this information. You may also access information on child advocacy group and information on student rights and services from <http://www.state.tn.us/education>.

TELEPHONE

There is a telephone located in the office. This phone is for emergency use only. Students will not be allowed to call home for forgotten items, permission to go home with someone, etc.

TEXTBOOKS

Any student who damages or loses a textbook will be required to pay its **full replacement cost**. Students are responsible for using textbooks appropriately. Textbooks that are left in inappropriate places, become damaged, or are lost are considered the responsibility of the student to whom they were issued.

FIELD TRIP/EVENT POLICY

Each year, classes may take school trips for educational purposes or rewards. Once payment for a trip is made, refunds will be given only when sickness arises. If a student decides he/she does not wish to attend on the day of the trip, **NO REFUND WILL BE GIVEN**.

Students will be disqualified from end of semester field trips if they have 5 or more days of unexcused absences, 5 or more days of BI, 5 or more days of after school detention, or any days of ALC or suspension. This will reset at the end of each semester. Any participation in school-related trips is always left to the discretion of the administration of MCJH.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

When severe weather creates hazardous conditions, the regular school schedule may be suspended to ensure students' safety. Please monitor the local radio and television stations or any of the district's social media apps for up-to-date school closings/cancellations information. Please provide the school with 2 alternate telephone numbers and addresses for places your child may go should school be dismissed early. Please discuss such possibilities with your child in advance so that students are not frightened by a change in the daily schedule.

DRESS CODE POLICY

Students shall dress and groom in a clean, neat, and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the operation of the school. When a student is attired in a manner which is likely to cause disruption or interfere with the operation of the school, the principal shall take appropriate action. School clothing and individual grooming must not distract from the learning environment or jeopardize health or safety of others.

REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT DRESS:

All apparel or accessories worn or brought to school may not display or advertise the following:

Gang affiliation or gang sign	Sexual themes
Tobacco products	Racist overtures
Profanity	Suggestive/offensive graphics
Alcoholic products	Drugs or drug paraphernalia

1. Shorts may be worn as long as they are to the top of knee while standing. Athletic shorts are not to be rolled up to decrease length.
2. Skirts, dresses, and jumpers may be no shorter than to top of knee while standing.
3. Leggings may be worn as long as they are covered to top of knee.
4. Jeans and pants:
 - a. Should be size appropriate and properly fitted at the waist
 - b. Should not be too form-fitting or too baggy
 - c. Should not contain holes or tears above the knee
 - d. Patches must be sewn in.
 - e. Pajamas are not acceptable.
5. Apparel considered too revealing will not be permitted. Clothing may not reveal cleavage or midriff. Undergarments must not be visible. See-through clothing below shoulder is prohibited.
6. All shirts must have sleeves fully covering shoulders and underarms.
7. Pierced ears with appropriate jewelry are acceptable. No facial jewelry or tongue rings are allowed; however, clear spacers may be used in pierced holes.
8. No unnatural shades of hair coloring or disruptive hair styles are allowed. No high spiked or Mohawk hairstyles are allowed.
9. No head coverings of any kind or sunglasses shall be worn inside the building (except for religious or medical reasons with prior administrative approval).
10. Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. No house shoes or house slippers are allowed.
11. All makeup must be of natural color and moderately applied.

Principals and teachers are responsible for enforcing the dress code.

Discipline will be as follows:

- a. First Offense: Written warning or BI rest of day if infraction cannot be corrected.
- b. Second Offense: Up to 3 days BI.
- c. Third Offense: Up to 5 days BI.
- d. Any offense thereafter could result in BI or ALC.

***Any student who refuses to adhere to the dress code will be suspended until he/she can conform to the rules. **Allowances may be made for special events with principal approval.**

TARDIES TO CLASS

Preparation time will begin at 7:45 a.m. Students will go to lockers and gather all the materials for their first class period. Students are to be seated and ready to work at 7:55 a.m. When a student receives his/her 5th unexcused tardy to class during the school day (per semester), he/she will be assigned one day of after school detention.

ENROLLMENT OF NEW STUDENTS

1. Go through office for enrollment.
2. Contact previous school for information concerning transfer:
 - A. Good standing --enroll.

- B. Suspended--30 days probation. He/she will serve previous assigned punishment. If the student violates any rule that is listed in the disciplinary handbook such as fighting, smoking, threatening, etc. during the 30-day probation, he/she will be suspended until a hearing before the board of education.
- C. Debts—Bills from a previous school must be paid before enrollment so that we can receive the student school records.
- D. Legal Custody--We must have documents if there is anyone that the child is not allowed to leave with, or there are problems with custody of the child.
- E. Special Education

PARENT –TEACHER CONFERENCES

There will be two parent-teacher conferences. They will be announced publicly for all parents. Parents are encouraged to visit their child’s school and confer with the teachers. Please feel free to visit the school and your child’s teachers at any time during the year. However, please call the school and set up an appointment if you plan to visit on a day other than the scheduled conferences.

REPORT CARDS AND PROGRESS REPORTS

Report cards are issued every nine weeks, and progress reports are given every 4 ½ weeks. It can be helpful to both the student and parents when progress is checked regularly. All teachers return graded work on a regular basis. Ask your child to see his/her work, and/or check Skyward regularly. Based on the performance over the grading period, each student will receive a numerical grade in each course.

Description	Percentage	Grade equivalent
Excellent	90-100%	A
Above average work	80-89%	B
Average work	70-79%	C
Poor Quality Work	60-69%	D
Achievement Too Limited for Credit	0-59%	F

To earn *A Honor Roll* for a term and/or at the end of a school year, students must have an *A* in each subject for each 9 weeks. To earn *AB Honor Roll* for a term and/or at the end of a school year, students must have an *A* or *B* in each subject for each 9 weeks.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Students shall have mastered essential skills sufficiently to ensure a likelihood of success at the next grade level. For grades K-8, students shall have demonstrated mastery of the essential skills in a minimum of 75% of the core subject areas and satisfactory participation in non-core subject areas to ensure a likelihood of success and promotion to the next grade level. (Core subject areas include: Reading, English, Math, Science, and Social Studies.) Decisions to retain are subject to review and approval of the principal after consultation with the teacher/s. When a student is retained, MCJH will follow the procedure given by the board policy.

The following are some of the factors that shall be considered in making a decision on promotion and retention:

Mastery of essential competencies	Special procedures for special students
Flexible placement	Attendance
Conduct	Previous retention
Grade level	Administrative discretion

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Any personal property brought to school which causes a disruption will be taken and returned at the end of the school year. Students should only bring money needed for lunch or special projects. The school will not accept responsibility for replacing items which are lost, stolen, or damaged.

OPEN CONTAINER POLICY

Beverages that are brought from home into the building during school hours cannot be made of glass and must be sealed (unopened). Clear, empty, refillable containers (excluding glass) that can be securely closed may also be brought to school for the purpose of hydration but must have administrative approval.

Beverages brought into the school in open containers will not be allowed during regular school hours. An “open container” may include, but is not limited to the following items: tumblers, beverage cups, restaurant drinks, any opened bottles, cans, drink pouches, thermos, or other storage-type containers for liquid drinks.

CAFETERIA

1. Lunch time will last 25 minutes.
2. Students have designated seating areas and must sit in that area. When finished eating, students will empty their tray and return to the assigned table or seat.

3. Students may not leave the eating area except by permission from the person/s in charge.
4. No food or drinks will be taken from the eating area.
5. This school currently qualifies for free meals for all students. Extra food, snacks, ice cream, etc. must be purchased separately or through funds kept in the student's account.

HYGIENE

Students at this age tend to have problems with body order. Please make sure your child bathes each day, wears clean clothing, and uses hygiene products each day. If the odor becomes offensive to other students and teachers, the student will be sent home. Perfume and cologne can be worn to school each day, but because of allergy problems for some students, we ask that you do not bring perfume or cologne to school to be reapplied.

MACON COUNTY TRUANCY PLAN

Tier 1: According to T.C.A., 49-6-3007, a student who has been absent three (3) days without adequate excuses throughout the school year may be deemed habitually truant. A truancy plan notification letter will be sent home with all students at the start of the school year to serve as a notice of attendance procedures. **Macon County School System will no longer accept parent notes to excuse absences.**

Tier 2: After 3 unexcused absences or 7 excused absences, the student and parents will be required to meet with the school Truancy Board to discuss reasons for student absences. The board will vary between schools, but will include, as many of the following as possible, student, parents, administrator, counselors, teachers, attendance coordinator for school, graduation coach and attendance supervisor. Student and parents will be required to sign an attendance contract that includes attendance expectations and interventions for continued absences. Interventions may include:

- Documented conversation with school designee
- Referral to an at-risk designee
- Referral to after or before school tutoring/detention
- Notification of truancy court referral if absences continue.

Tier 3: At 5 unexcused absences or 10 excused absences and failure to respond to interventions and recommendations of the Truancy Board, the parent/guardian and student will be petitioned to court for "truancy."

CELL PHONES/SMART WATCHES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students may possess personal communication devices, such as cell phones/smart watches, while on school property. However, the personal communication device must be in the *off mode* and must be kept in a backpack, locker, locker room, or vehicle and may not be used without permission. The principal or his/her designee may grant a student permission to use a personal communication device at his/her discretion. A device used outside these parameters shall result in confiscation of the device until such time as it may be released to the student's parent or guardian. A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action.

Personal electronic devices such as CD players, iPods, or MP3 players may be stored in backpacks, purses or personal carry-alls. However, the use of the devices during school hours is strictly forbidden. Use or improper storage of the personal electronic device will result in confiscation of the device until such time as it may be released to the student's parents or guardian. A student in violation of this policy is subject to disciplinary action.

- 1st Offense – Warning and confiscated until end of day
- 2nd Offense – 3 days BI, device confiscated, and allow parents/guardians to pick up
- 3rd Offense – 5 days BI, device confiscated, and allow parents/guardians to pick up

UNAUTHORIZED PHOTOGRAPHING AND/OR VIDEOING

Unauthorized use of a cell phone or other device for photographing and/or videoing during the school day, on school property (including school buses), shall result in the following discipline:

- 1st Offense - Up to 5 Days B.I.
- 2nd Offense - Up to 10 Days B.I.
- 3rd & Repeat Offenses - Up to 5 Days A.L.C.

INTERNET/COMPUTER USAGE, POLICY 6.313

Damaging/defacing school electronic devices.

- Vandalism (minor) - Level I - Page 4, Lines 5-8. All of student's teachers are notified by administration when an infraction has occurred on every offense.
 - 1st offense - up to 5 days BI
 - 2nd offense - up to 10 days BI or up to 10 days ALC
 - 3rd and repeat offenses - 5 days suspension

- Vandalism (major) - Level III - Page 7, Lines 9 and 15-18. All of student's teachers are notified by administration when an infraction has occurred on every offense.
 - 1st Offense - 10 days ALC; loss of privilege at principal's discretion
 - 2nd Offense - 20 days ALC; loss of privilege at principal's discretion
 - 3rd & repeat Offenses - Up to 10 days suspension; loss of privilege at principal's discretion
 - Student will always be responsible for any monetary damages.

Unauthorized entry to websites/emails/non-school user accounts during school day - Level I - Page 1, Lines 22-25.

- 1st Offense - Disciplinary Options to be used at administrator's discretion:
Verbal reprimand, special assignment, restricting activities, counseling, withdrawal of privileges, issuance of demerits which might affect citizenship or deportment grades, strict supervised study, detention, corporal punishment at principal's discretion for 1st and 2nd offense, school suspension (only on 2nd or 3rd offense)
- 2nd Offense - Up to 3 days BI
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - Up to 5 days BI - All of student's teachers are notified by administration when an infraction has occurred on 3rd and repeat offenses.

Unauthorized entry to websites/emails/non-school user accounts with profane, pornographic, or sexually explicit material during the school day. Possession of sexually explicit and/or pornographic items on school property - Level III - Page 4, Lines 30-34 - All of student's teachers are notified by administration when an infraction has occurred on every offense.

- 1st Offense - Up to 5 days BI
- 2nd Offense - Up to 10 days BI
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - 5 days ALC or suspension

ZERO TOLERANCE

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

The Macon County Board of Education has zero tolerance for weapons. Any student found to have brought a weapon on school property shall be immediately removed from the general population at the discretion of the administration and could be subject to expulsion from Macon County Schools for a period of one calendar year. The Director of Schools may modify the suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis where appropriate. Where appropriate, criminal charges may be brought.

Dangerous weapons and instruments for the purpose of this policy shall include, but are not limited to a firearm or anything manifestly designed, made or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or serious bodily injury or anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious bodily injury. Any student who brings to school or who is found in possession, on school property, on a school bus, or at any school-sponsored activity on or off campus, of any weapon or dangerous instrument will be immediately removed from the general student population at the discretion of the administration. Toy weapons or facsimiles will not be permitted on school grounds. Students who possess toy weapons or facsimiles of weapons including water guns may be suspended as determined by the principal. The principal shall report his/her action to the Director. Each case, regardless of the circumstances, must be reported to the Director of Schools. The principal shall notify the parents or legal guardian of any student found in violation of this policy. The use of weapons and dangerous instruments in school plays, school bands, or any other school activity is prohibited unless sanctioned in advance and in writing by the Director of Schools.

FIREARMS (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921) In accordance with state law, any student who brings or possess a firearm on school property shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by case basis.

DRUGS

In accordance with state law, any student who unlawfully possesses any drug including any controlled substance or legend drug shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The Director of Schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

ASSAULT

In accordance with state law, any student who commits battery upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of the school or school resource officer shall be expelled for a period of not less than (1) calendar year. The Director of Schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

ELECTRONIC THREATS

In accordance with state law, any student who transmits by an electronic device any communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee and the transmission of such threat creates actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative intervention shall be expelled for a period of not less than that of one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

NOTIFICATION

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal of the school shall notify the student's parent or guardian and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES FOR GRADES 6-8, POLICY 6.313

MISBEHAVIORS: Level I

Minor misbehavior on the part of the student which impedes orderly classroom procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the school, but which can usually be handled by an individual staff member.

Examples (not an exclusive listing):

- Classroom disturbances, classroom tardiness, cheating and lying, abusive language toward another student, non-defiant failure to do assignments or carry out directions, wearing while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent manner that disrupts the learning environment, harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious).

Disciplinary Procedures:

- Immediate intervention by the staff member
- Determine what offense was committed and its severity
- Determine offender and that he/she understands the nature of the offense
- Employ appropriate disciplinary options
- Record of the offense and disciplinary action maintained by staff member.
 - 1st Offense - See Disciplinary Options below
 - 2nd Offense - Up to 3 days BI
 - 3rd & repeat Offenses - Up to 5 days BI

**5 lunch detention
referrals result in
1 day of after
school detention.**

Disciplinary Options: To be used at administrator's discretion

- Verbal reprimand, special assignment, restricting activities, counseling, withdrawal of privileges, issuance of demerits which might affect citizenship or department grades, strict supervised study, detention, corporal punishment at principal's discretion for 1st and 2nd offense, in-school suspension only on 2nd or 3rd offense

MISBEHAVIORS: Level II

Misbehavior whose frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school. Included in this level are misbehaviors which do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but whose educational consequences are serious enough to require corrective action on the part of administrative personnel.

Examples (not an exclusive listing):

- Continuation of unmodified Level I behaviors, school or class tardiness, school or class truancy, using forged notes or excuses, disruptive classroom behavior
- The offenses listed above shall receive the following:
 - 1st Offense – See Disciplinary Options below or Up to 3 days BI
 - 2nd Offense - Up to 5 days BI
 - 3rd & repeat Offenses - 3 days ALC or corporal punishment - at principal's discretion
- Water guns and balloons, skates, rollerblades, skateboards, hover boards, etc. hacky sacks, playing card trading cards or any item that could cause a distraction during the school day are not allowed
 - 1st Offense – Verbal warning, confiscate until end of day
 - 2nd Offense -3 days BI, confiscate until end of term
 - 3rd & repeat Offenses – Up to 5 days BI and confiscate until end of school year (parents must pick up confiscated item)
- Public display of affection
 - 1st Offense – Counseled by guidance or administrator and parent notification
 - 2nd Offense - Up to 3 days BI
 - 3rd & repeat Offenses – Up to 5 days BI

POSSESSION OF A KNIFE

Students found to be in possession of a knife, without the intent to go armed, shall be given the following punishment

- 1st Offense – Up to 3 days BI
- 2nd Offense – Up to 5 days BI
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – Up to 5 days ALC

Disciplinary Procedures:

- Student is referred to principal for appropriate disciplinary action.
- Principal meets with student and teacher.
- Principal hears accusation made by teacher, permits student the opportunity to explain his/her conducts, denying it or explaining any mitigating circumstances.
- Principal takes appropriate disciplinary action and notifies teacher of action.
- Record of offense and disciplinary action maintained by principal.

Disciplinary Options: To be used at administrator's discretion

- Teacher/schedule change, modified probation, behavior modification, social probation, peer counseling, referral to outside agency, in-school suspension, transfer, detention, suspension from school-sponsored activities or from riding school bus, corporal punishment, restricting school-related honors student is otherwise due.

MISBEHAVIORS: Level III

Acts directly against persons or property but whose consequences do not seriously endanger the health or safety of others in the school.

Examples (not an exclusive listing):

Continuation of unmodified Level I and II behaviors

Fighting

- 1st Offense - Up to 10 days ALC or suspension up to 10 days
- 2nd Offense - Up to 20 days ALC or suspension up to 20 days
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - Suspension for 45 days

Students that instigate, promote or incite others to violence will receive:

- 1st Offense - Up to 5 days BI
- 2nd Offense - Up to 10 days BI or up to 10 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - 5 days suspension

Vandalism (minor)

- 1st Offense - Up to 5 days BI
- 2nd Offense - Up to 10 days BI or up to 10 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - 5 days suspension

Stealing- from faculty, students, or school

- 1st Offense – 10 days BI
- 2nd Offense – 5 days ALC or suspension
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 10 days ALC or suspension

Threats to others

- 1st Offense - Up to 5 days BI
- 2nd Offense – Up to 10 days BI
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 5 days ALC or suspension

Victimization of any student [Harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious), Bullying, Cyber-bullying, and/or Hazing]

- 1st Offense - Up to 10 days ALC or suspension
- 2nd Offense - Up to 20 days ALC or suspension
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - 30 days ALC or suspension

Indecent Exposure (as defined by state law)

- 1st Offense – Up to 20 days suspension
- 2nd Offense – Up to 45 days suspension
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – Up to 90 days suspension

Possession of sexually explicit and/or pornographic items on school property or at school sponsored activity

- 1st Offense - Up to 5 days BI
- 2nd Offense – Up to 10 days BI
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 5 days ALC or suspension

Gambling – no student shall participate in gambling of any form on school property

- 1st Offense - Up to 3 days BI
- 2nd Offense - Up to 5 days BI
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - 5 days ALC and/or suspension

Use, possession, and/or distribution of tobacco, drugs, and/or alcohol on school property including school bus or at any school sponsored event

TOBACCO

- 1st Offense - 3 days BI and cited to Juvenile Court
- 2nd Offense - 5 days BI and cited to Juvenile Court
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - 5 days ALC or suspension and cited to Juvenile Court

DISTRIBUTION OF TOBACCO

- 1st Offense – 5 days BI
- 2nd Offense – 10 days BI
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 5 days ALC

ALCOHOL - No student is to possess, use or be under the influence of alcohol on school property, a school bus, or at any school sponsored event.

- 1st Offense - 45 days ALC
- 2nd Offense - 90 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - Expulsion for up to one calendar year

DISTRIBUTION of ALCOHOL - Any student that distributes alcohol to another student shall receive:

- 1st Offense - 90 days ALC
- 2nd Offense – 120 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 180 days ALC

ILLEGAL DRUGS

Students who possess illegal or legend drugs will be punished under MCBOE Policy 6.309 Zero Tolerance.

Students who are found to be under the influence of illegal or legend drugs will receive the following punishment:

- 1st Offense - 45 days ALC
- 2nd Offense - 90 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses - Expulsion for up to one calendar year

DRUGS OR DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

A student that possesses an over-the-counter drug or prescription drug and does not turn it in to the school nurse shall receive:

- 1st Offense – Up to 15 days ALC
- 2nd Offense – Up to 30 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – Up to 45 days ALC

If a student buys, sells, trades, or gives over-the-counter or prescription drug to another student, the following punishment will be given:

- 1st Offense – 90 days ALC
- 2nd Offense – 120 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 180 days ALC

In addition to punishment as outlined in policy and during the time punishment is being served, any student found with alcohol or an illegal drug or found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs on school property, at a school function, school bus, or on a school sponsored trip shall forfeit ALL RIGHTS to any and all extracurricular activities. This punishment will preclude participation in all school-related athletic teams, club trips, pageants, dances, and social functions including proms and school trips. They will also be ineligible for election to class officers and yearbook superlatives. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Disrespectful, offensive, or abusive language or gestures toward faculty or staff shall result in:

- 1st Offense – Up to 5 days ALC
- 2nd Offense – Up to 10 days ALC
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 5 days suspension

Disciplinary Procedures:

- Student is referred to principal for appropriate disciplinary action.
- Principal meets with student and teacher.
- Principal hears accusation by accusing party and permits offender the opportunity of explaining conduct.
- Principal takes appropriate disciplinary action.
- Principal may refer incident to director of schools and make recommendations for consequences.
- If student's program is to be changed, adequate notice shall be given to the student and his/her parents of the charges against him, his/her right to appear at a hearing and to be represented by a person of his/her choosing.
- Any change in school assignment is appealable to the Board.
- Record of offense and disciplinary action maintained by principal or director of schools.

Disciplinary Options: To be used at administrator's discretion

- In-school suspension, detention, corporal punishment, restitution from loss, damaged or stolen property, out-of-school suspension as stated above, social adjustment classes, transfer, expulsion

MISBEHAVIORS: Level IV

Acts which result in violence to another's person or property or which pose a threat to the safety of others in the school. These acts are so serious that they usually require administrative actions which result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the Board.

Examples (not an exclusive listing): Unmodified Level I, II and III behaviors, death threat (hit list), extortion, bomb threat*, possession/use/transfer of dangerous weapons *, Assault * - Assault that results in bodily injury upon any teacher, principal, administrator, or any other employee of the school or a school resource officer, vandalism, intentional possession or sale of stolen property, possession of unauthorized substances *, use/transfer of unauthorized substances not otherwise addressed, Victimization of any student [Harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious), Bullying, Cyber-bullying and/or Hazing]

Punishment for Level IV Behaviors without *

- 1st Offense – Up to 10 days ALC or suspension
- 2nd Offense – Up to 20 days ALC or suspension
- 3rd & repeat Offenses – 30 days ALC or suspension

Disciplinary Procedures:

- Principal confers with appropriate staff members and with the student.
- Principal hears accusations and permits offender opportunity to explain conduct.
- Parents are notified.
- Law enforcement officials are contacted.
- Incident is reported and recommendations made to the director of schools.
- Complete and accurate reports are submitted to the director of schools.
- Student is given hearing before disciplinary hearing authority.

Disciplinary Options

- Expulsion, alternative schools, other hearing authority or Board action which results in appropriate placement

*Expulsion/Remand for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year, subject to modification by the director of schools on a case-by-case basis.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES:

- A student shall not be suspended solely because charges are pending against him/her in juvenile or other court.
- A principal shall not impose successive short term suspensions that cumulatively exceed ten (10) days for the same offense.
- A teacher or other school official shall not reduce or authorize the reduction of a student's grade because of discipline problems except in deportment or citizenship.
- A student shall not be denied the passing of a course or grade promotion solely on the basis of absences except as provided by board policy.
- A student shall not be denied the passing of a course or grade promotion solely on the basis of failure to pay any activity fee, pay a library or other school fine, or make restitution for lost or damaged school property.

SCHOOL BUS DISCIPLINARY CODE AND BUS SAFETY



Level I Violations:

- Failure to obey the driver
- Failure to remain seated on the bus
- Eating or drinking on the bus
- Loud, rude, or abusive behavior
- Profane language/obscene gestures toward another student
- Improper boarding/departing procedures
- Any behavior jeopardizing safety of others

Level II Violations:

- Third violation of Level I rules
- Tampering with bus equipment
- Fighting/pushing/tripping
- Destruction of property
- Possession and/or use of tobacco in any form
- Throwing objects in or out of the bus
- Profane language, obscene gestures toward driver
- Putting head or hands out the window
- Bringing articles aboard the bus of injurious or objectionable nature

Student Responsibilities

1. Always cross the street in front of the bus. Never go behind the bus.
2. If crossing a road or street is necessary when boarding or departing the bus, wait for the bus drivers signal before crossing.
3. Stay 10' in front of the bus when crossing.
4. Never crawl under the bus to pick up papers or other items.
5. Arrive at the bus stop about 5 minutes early.
6. Stay out of the road at bus stops.
7. Help protect the property where stops are located.
8. Never get in a car with a stranger.
9. Report any inappropriate behavior on the bus or near a stop to the driver and principal.
10. If student wishes to ride a bus other than the one normally ridden, a signed parent note must be provided or have parent call principal and obtain a **Bus Pass** from principal.
11. Be courteous to the driver.

Bus Driver Responsibilities

1. Perform pre-trip inspections daily.
2. Operate bus safely.
3. Arrive at bus stop within 5 minutes before or after designated time.
4. Remind students of safety and conduct expectations.
5. Be considerate of other vehicles.
6. Do not allow unauthorized people on the bus.
7. Report any suspicious activity or individuals near bus stops.
8. Report any misconduct or safety violations to the principal or designee.
9. Maintain operation of bus video equipment.
10. Be courteous to students, parents, and school personnel.

Level III Violations:

- Third violation of Level II rules
- Physical assault/verbal threat directed to driver
- Possession and/or use of illegal substances
- Second violation of possession of tobacco in any form
- Possession of a weapon
- Attempting to set fire to hair, clothes, or property
- Lewd behavior (See MBOE discipline policy)

Consequences of violations may be:

Level I: 1st Offense - 3-5 Days Bus Suspension

2nd Offense - 10 Days Bus Suspension

Level II: 1st Offense - Minimum of 10 Days Bus Suspension

2nd Offense - Minimum of 20 Days Bus Suspension
for repeat occurrence of Level II violation

Level III: 1st Offense - Minimum of 30/ Maximum of 180 Days Bus Suspension

Parent Responsibilities

1. Review bus rules and conduct expectations with your child.
2. Instruct child to be 5 minutes early to the bus stop.
3. Monitor conduct and safety of your child before the bus arrives each morning.
4. Monitor conduct and safety of your child after the bus departs each afternoon.
5. If necessary, go over the route your child is to take between home and bus stop.
6. Encourage appropriate dress for inclement weather.
7. Provide a note to the Principal's office to obtain an official **Bus Pass** if you wish your child to ride a different bus or get off at a different stop.
8. Be courteous to the driver.

****Please report any concerns involving your child and the school bus to the Macon County Transportation Supervisor.****

Follow These Bus Rules:

1. Obey the bus driver; follow the driver's first request.
2. The bus driver may assign seats.
3. Do not eat or drink on the bus; keep the bus clean.
4. Loud, rude, abusive, or profane language is not permitted.
5. Possession and/or use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs in any form are prohibited.
6. Keep hands and head inside the bus.
7. Remain seated.
8. Never throw items inside the bus or out the windows.
9. Keep the bus aisle clear of feet and property.
10. For everyone's safety, do not distract the driver through misbehavior.
11. Do not destroy property. Parents will be financially responsible for any act of vandalism. Students will remain suspended from riding the bus until damages are paid.
12. Do not use emergency exits of bus unless authorized to do so.

Notice: Video recording devices are used on Macon County buses and are pulled randomly to check for bus safety and discipline violations. Bus drivers will make a written report of violations to the principal or his/her designee. The Principal (or designee) will investigate and determine appropriate consequences.

~ A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS~

We are dedicated to providing safe and dependable bus transportation for your child. Safety is our highest priority. School bus drivers are required to maintain training standards and procedures for operating the bus safely. Students who ride the buses daily or on occasional field trips are also required to abide by rules of conduct that emphasize safety. These rules and the disciplinary code that supports them are contained in this handbook.

Bus transportation provided by the Macon County Board of Education is a privilege, not a right. Time on the bus is considered to be an extension of the school day. Therefore, just as we expect appropriate behavior in the classroom, we expect appropriate behavior on the bus.

Please discuss this information with your child. Your cooperation will help all of us work together to provide the safest environment possible for the students of Macon County Schools.



Macon County School Health Services

Director – Casey Brawner, RN



Dear parents/guardians,

School Health Services would like to remind parents of Macon County School children and also inform our new families of the county-wide school guidelines used for assessing sick children. It is our goal to keep the school environment as healthy as possible for all children.

A child **will be sent home** if he or she has:

- 1) a temperature of 100 degrees or higher
- 2) a rash/skin eruption, with or without drainage, of unknown origin
- 3) active vomiting or diarrhea
- 4) suspected contagious illness
- 5) a serious injury or appears obviously ill
- 6) head lice or nits
- 7) flea(s) or bedbug(s)



Please be aware that we encourage students to stay in class when possible.

The nurses do not routinely notify parents of minor illness or injury.

Guidelines for parents to follow to avoid exposing other children to possibly contagious illness and to help prevent excessive clinic visits in school are as follows:

- 1) Children with a temperature above 100 degrees must be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. Please do not give your child a dose of fever medication and then send them to school.
- 2) Injuries that happen at home or over the weekend should be taken care of prior to returning to school.
- 3) A.) If a child vomits or has diarrhea during the night or in the morning before school, child should be kept at home for 24 hours from the last episode.
B.) If a child vomits or has diarrhea while at school, they must be picked up from school and cannot return until 24 hours after the last episode.
- 4) If a parent or guardian is called by the school nurse, please pick up your child in a timely manner. The nurse will only call home if she feels the child really needs to leave school.
- 5) Encourage your child to eat a nutritious breakfast and lunch as this prevents many stomachaches, headaches, poor concentration, and fatigue.
- 6) Encourage your child to get adequate rest.
- 7) Teach your child to wash their hands frequently-before and after meals, after using the bathroom, etc.
- 8) Children sent home due to head lice/nits must be checked by the nurse before returning to class. They must be brought back to school by a parent/guardian and **are not** to ride the bus until rechecked.

Parents will be notified if a child is seen frequently in the clinic with minor complaints of illness or injury that tend to be chronic and contributes to a lot of missed class time.

Please update your emergency card throughout the school year!

Often parents will have changes in work numbers, cell phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc. Valuable time is frequently spent by school nurses or office staff trying to locate a parent for a sick child.

We encourage that all medication be given at home, but for those children requiring medications in school, a Medication Consent Form must be completed. Over-the-counter medicines may be given with parent permission only for up to five days. Ongoing medications require a physician's order. Please make sure that the form is filled out completely. Medication that is to be given twice a day should be given before school and after school. Medication that is to be given three times a day should generally be given before school, after school and at bedtime.

*****PER TN STATE GUIDELINES, WE DO NOT ADMINISTER DAILY ADHD MEDICATION AT SCHOOL, THIS MUST BE GIVEN BY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN BEFORE SCHOOL.*****

If your child complains of being sick in the morning, but does not have any symptoms, use your best judgment regarding sending them to school. Please **do not** tell your child that you will come to get them if they do not feel

better or tell them to see the nurse as soon as they get to school. Do tell them to go to class and try to make it today. If they really are feeling sick, their teacher will send them to see the nurse.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions, you may call the school where your child attends.

Macon County Student Health Screening Notification

As required by the Tennessee Department of Education, student health screenings will take place at your child's school at the beginning of the school year. The data collected will be sent to the TN Department of Education for evaluation. This mass data does not include any identifying information. The information collected during the screenings will only be shared with the necessary school officials. This data analysis is reported to the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Department of Health.

The purposes of these screenings are to determine if your child has a health risk that may need medical attention and/or might affect their class work. These screenings include vision, hearing, BMI and blood pressure.

After all data has been collected and entered into the computer, your child's Student Health Report Card will be sent home for your review. This screening is NOT meant to take the place of an annual check-up. Please feel free to share our findings with your healthcare provider.

If for some reason you do **NOT** wish for your child to participate in the student health screenings, you must send a letter in writing to your child's teacher by **August 11th, 2023**.

Flea/Bed Bug Procedure

Issued Date: 01/09/2014



The following guidelines are in place to carry out the most effective steps for control of flea and/or bed bug infestation in our school system.

DISCOVERY OF FLEAS AND/OR BED BUGS

When a flea and/or bed bug is discovered at the school, the following steps are to be taken:

- The student on which a flea and/or a bed bug is discovered will be discreetly removed from the classroom in order to prevent infestation to other students.
- Contact the parent and request that the student be picked up immediately.
- Upon pick up, show parent the evidence of infestation (Example: bed bug).
- Parent will be given appropriate information sheet (Either for fleas or bed bugs, both if needed) on treatment and prevention.

STEPS FOR RE-ENTRY

- Completed and signed Bed Bug Inspection Report must be turned in to school nurse the next school day upon arrival (for bed bug only).
- Student's freshly laundered clothing should be stored in sealed plastic bags until they are put on in the morning. This prevents bed bugs from hiding in the clothing and being carried to school.
- Backpacks, lunchboxes, and other items that travel back and forth to school will be stored in sealed plastic containers at home to prevent bed bugs from getting into them and will be inspected daily.
- At school, the student will be provided with plastic bags or bins in which to store their belongings in order to prevent any bed bugs from spreading to other students' belongings.

ON-GOING CONTROL MEASURES

- If the Bed Bug Inspection Report shows evidence of bed bug infestation, parents should rapidly respond to treat the infestation at home.
- If repeated efforts have been made to remedy an infestation, but bed bugs are still found on student, a letter from a pest management professional will be required.
- Proof of flea treatment (Box of treatment, vet receipt, etc.) for any pets that spend any amount of time indoors will be required if flea infestation persists.

Macon County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in May	Descriptor Term: Pediculosis (Head Lice)	Descriptor Code: 6.4031	Issued Date: 08/11/16
		Rescinds: 6.4031	Issued: 02/13/14

No student shall be denied an education solely by reason of head lice infestation and his/her educational program shall be restricted only to the extent necessary to minimize the risk of transmitting the infestation. It shall be the responsibility of the principal or school nurse to notify the parents in the event a child has pediculosis (head lice). A letter shall be sent home by the child to explain the condition, requirements for readmission and deadlines for satisfactory completion of the treatment.

Prior to readmission, satisfactory evidence must be submitted to school personnel that the student has been treated for pediculosis (head lice).

DISCOVERY OF HEAD LICE

When head lice and/or nits are discovered at school, the following steps are to be taken:

- Immediately segregate the student from all other students to prevent further infestation
- Contact the parent and request that the student be picked up immediately
- Be sure to show the parent the evidence of infestation (live lice, nymphs, or nits) if requested by parent
- Give parent the specified "Treatment and Prevention of Head Lice" information sheet, "Lice Fact Sheet" and "Head Lice Checklist". The "Head Lice Checklist" must be completed and signed in order for student re-entry.
- Make it clear to the parent that all nits and live lice **MUST** be removed before the student will be permitted to re-enter school.
- Inform the parent and student that when the student returns to school, the student must be brought to school (STUDENT CAN NOT RIDE THE BUS) by the parent and student and parent must go directly to the office upon arrival and may not go to the lunchroom or classroom or anywhere else within the building until approved for re-entry.

STEPS FOR RE-ENTRY

- Completed and signed "Head Lice Checklist" is required.
- Evidence of treatment is required. (May be signed doctor's verification, box top, or other.)
- Student must be checked by school nurse or school personnel and cleared for re-admission to the school. If the child is found to still have any nits, nymphs or lice, the child will be sent home again for further removal.
- Removal of nits and lice can be a lengthy project and does require time and attention on the part of the parents. Students will not be allowed to be re-admitted to school on the same day the nits or lice are found.

ON-GOING CONTROL MEASURES

- Parents need to pay close attention to head lice treatment and prevention, as repeated offenses can lead to truancy and child neglect issues. Neglect will be reported to the Department of Children's Services.
- During the period of the year when lice are most commonly found, students shall be randomly checked twice a week.
- On any given day, at the time lice or nits are found in the classroom, all students in the class room will be checked immediately.
- Since buildings are clear of lice on Monday mornings and after extended holidays, careful checks shall be made on return days to be sure that, if there are students who bring lice or nits to school, the students are identified and sent home immediately to prevent further infestation to other students.

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- a. During periods of lice outbreak, student clothing should be kept separate by hanging the coats on chairs, in plastic bags, or other procedures. Hats and gloves should be in pockets or sleeves of jackets.
- b. Sleeping mats for kindergarten students must be inspected and treated as necessary (Beware of chemicals!)
- c. Instructional activities which place the heads or clothing of students in close proximity shall be altered temporarily.
- d. Other school procedures which may cause children to be at risk for contamination may be temporarily discontinued.

CUSTODIAL PROCEDURES

- a. During outbreak periods, vacuum carpets each day as principal directs.
- b. Other procedures identified by the principal shall be completed on schedule.

TRAINING

As appropriate, based upon need, teachers and teacher assistants shall be provided in-service on the identification and treatment of lice infestation.

STAY CONNECTED WITH MACON COUNTY JUNIOR HIGH



Macon County Junior High School



www.maconcountyjrhigh.com

Handbook Overview 2023/2024

1. Report Cards must be signed and returned to homeroom teachers by the following Friday (1 week). If not returned, a day of lunch detention will be assigned on each consecutive day after until it is returned and other school policies will apply. Extra copies of a report card can be printed in the office at a charge of \$1.00.
2. Behavior/Attendance Policy for Trips/Activities:
End of Semester Theater Trip/ Bowling Trip - Behavior/Attendance Policy
Students will be disqualified from end of semester field trips if they have:
 - 5 or more days of unexcused absences
 - 5 or more days of BI
 - 5 or more days of after school detention,
 - any days of ALC or suspension. This will reset at the end of each semester.
3. 5 Lunch Detention referrals = 1 day After School Detention
4. 5 Tardies to class = 1 day After school Detention
5. Gum = 1 day lunch detention
6. Cell phones must be turned off and put in a backpack, purse, or the like.