

# **Futures Alternative High School**

## **Student Handbook**



Crossroads Learning Hub  
215 W. 8th Street  
Boone, IA 50036  
PHONE 515-433-0885

**Boone Community School District**

# WELCOME

Welcome to Futures! We look forward to helping you achieve your graduation goals.

## FUTURES PHILOSOPHY

All students can learn if given the “alternative” environment

## MEET THE STAFF

Futures Director and Teacher.....Kim Kitterman

Administrative Assistant.....Lori Shirley

Teacher Associate.....Lori Cunningham

Teacher Associate.....Haley Kersten

**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY:** Board Policy 102 states: *The board will not discriminate in its educational activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, socioeconomic status, religion, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or marital status.* There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance, contact the BCSD Equity Coordinator Dr. Jill Janes at BCSD, 500 7th Street, Boone, Iowa 50036; (515) 433-0750.

# ***Table of Contents***

Welcome, Meet the staff, Notice of Nondiscrimination	1
Student Eligibility, Coursework Requirements	2
Activities	3
Attendance	4
Daily Time Schedule	5
Physical Education, Lunch, Food and Beverages, Work Credit, Enrollment	6
School Computers, Telephone, Language, Harassment Policies	7
Weapons, Tobacco, Drugs, Alcohol, Discipline	8
On-line Learning, Registration Fee, District Website	9
Appearance, Personal Items, Visitors	10
Boone High School Basic Diploma	11

# **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

Factors considered for eligibility include academic performance, attendance, social/emotional support needs, and ability to work independently.

- 1) The student must have completed one year in a traditional high school.
- 2) Students eligible as a sophomore who have previously attended BHS, must have attended the Success Center.
- 3) The student must have been enrolled in the BHS Success Center and received recommendation from the MTSS Team to attend Futures.
- 4) The BHS administration, principal and/or guidance counselor must approve the student to attend Futures.
- 5) Once approved, the student (and parents/guardians) will meet with the Futures Director for scheduling and Futures overview.

## **Boone High School Basic Diploma**

Students will receive a Boone High School Basic Diploma at the completion of 36 credits. Students must meet the Basic Diploma graduation requirements (see page 12).

## **COURSEWORK/CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

Students have an option of textbook coursework and/or on-line coursework.

Course assignments must be completed with a minimum competency score of 80%.

# ACTIVITIES

Students will be allowed to participate in BHS extra-curricular activities (dances, sports, plays, senior activities, etc.) if expectations are met.

## Futures Expectations for BHS Activities

1. Futures students must demonstrate academic success.
2. Futures students need to be at their current grade level based on Boone Basic Diploma criteria.
3. Futures students will NOT be involved in any behavior issues noted by Futures staff and/or high school staff. (per semester).
4. Futures students will complete 4 academic core subjects per semester.
5. Futures students will continue academic progress.
6. Futures students MUST be in attendance their complete class schedule the day of the activity unless given permission by high school administration or Director of Futures.

### High School Credits

0-9	Freshman
10-19	Sophomore
20-34	Junior
35-50	Senior

### Futures Credits

0-9	Freshman
10-18	Sophomore
19-27	Junior
28-36	Senior

# ATTENDANCE

Attendance is a major emphasis at Futures. Regular attendance by students is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program.

Students are expected to attend school every day and complete their scheduled classes.

Excessive absences, lack of academic progress, and credit advancement will impact the learning opportunity for students. When/if needed, the Futures Director will meet with the student, parent/guardian for other educational options.

ABSENCES: Parents and/or students are expected to call (515-433-0885) or email either Lori ([lshirley@boone.k12.ia.us](mailto:lshirley@boone.k12.ia.us)) or Kim ([kkitterman@boone.k12.ia.us](mailto:kkitterman@boone.k12.ia.us)) all absences on the day of the absence, unless arrangements have been made by the Futures Director. This includes lateness and leaving early.

# POINT SYSTEM

Responsibility Points run from Friday through Thursday

Student must be at 85% or above for the week

Each period is worth 5 points

Points are earned by being on time, on task, and not leaving early

Points are taken away for, but not limited to, excessive phone use, not working, foul language, disrespect, not calling in

At the end of the week (end of day Thursday) points will be averaged

Mid term is 42 days - quarter

# DAILY TIME SCHEDULE

7:30-8:30-----Staff in building

8:30-9:10-----1st Period

9:10-9:50-----2nd Period

9:50-10:00-----BREAK

10:00-10:40-----3rd Period

10:40-11:20-----4th Period

11:20-12:00-----LUNCH

12:00-12:40-----5th Period

12:40-1:20-----6th Period

1:20-1:30-----BREAK

1:30-2:10-----7th Period

2:10-2:50-----8th Period

2:50-3:30-----Staff in building  
(Except Fridays, close at 3:10)

-On early release days, students will leave the building at the given time.  
(see the BCSD school calendar for dates)

-Weather related cancellations will be the same as Boone High School.

-Early releases for weather, etc. will be the same as Boone High School.

-A 2-hr late start means we will start school at 10:30.

-All school closings, delayed starts and early dismissals due to inclement weather will be announced through text message, email and social media sites such as Facebook and the Boone CSD app. School closure announcements will also be broadcast on the local radio station KWBG (1590 AM).

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Futures students may earn P.E. credits through an individualized physical education contract. The student is responsible for his/her own documentation of time for Physical Education.

1 Semester Credit = 30 hours of activity.

## **BREAKFAST/LUNCH**

Sack breakfast and hot lunch are provided at Futures. Lunch is open campus. Options for lunch are school hot lunch served at Futures, bring your lunch, or on your own. All students may be at school for lunch (11:20 – 12:00). Iowa Eligibility applications are available to apply for Free & Reduced lunch.

## **FOOD AND BEVERAGES**

Students may drink soda, juice, or water during class time. Students may also eat snacks during class time.

## **WORK CREDIT**

Credits may be earned while working within the community. Granting of credit is contingent upon the completion of established criteria as determined by the director.

**EARN** (Employees Achieving Results Now)

At least 10 hours per week on a job for 15 weeks.

## **ENROLLMENT**

A minimum of four class periods is required. (Maximum is eight). Exceptions will be approved by the Futures Director. Individual daily schedules will vary from student to student.



# **SCHOOL COMPUTERS**

Chromebook Expectations must be followed. An agreement form for the use of the Chromebook is required. Policy 502.12 Technology Acceptable Use Policy and 503.4 Good Conduct Policy apply to use of school technology.

## **TELEPHONES**

### **SCHOOL PHONES**

- With permission only
- Local calls only
- Messages will be taken
- Students will not be called out of class to receive a phone call
- Some emergencies may arise and will be dealt with on an individual basis (parent calls)

### **CELL PHONES**

- Students may use cell phones for texting
- All phones must be set to vibrate only
- Phone calls are not allowed without permission
- Do not misuse this privilege
- Disciplinary action will be given if misused during school time

## **LANGUAGE**

Students will use appropriate language while in school. If a student is heard using any profanity, he/she will be given a warning. After a warning, the student will be asked to leave school if profanity is used again. The rule is "respect" for all in behavior and language.

## **BULLYING AND HARASSMENT**

(Policy 502.11)

Absolutely no type of harassment will be tolerated.

In the interest of student safety, it is the policy of Boone High School to maintain a learning environment that is free from bullying and/or harassment. It shall be a violation of this policy for students to harass other students or staff through conduct of a sexual nature or conduct designed to reduce the dignity of that individual with respect to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or any other form of harassment. Therefore, policy 502.11 will apply.

# **WEAPONS**

(Code No. 502.6, 502.6R1)

Weapons, other dangerous objects and look-alikes in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district. Therefore, policies 502.6 and 502.6R1 will apply. The term "firearm" includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas. Additionally, any cutting device or object, which is displayed in a dangerous or threatening manner or a knife with a blade of 3 inches or longer, is considered a weapon.

## **TOBACCO – DRUGS - ALCOHOL**

(Policy 502.7, 502.7R1)

Possession of a tobacco, alcoholic beverage or non-prescribed drug and/or controlled substance, drinking an alcoholic beverage or using a non-prescribed drug and/or controlled substance, or giving the appearance of being under the influence while under the jurisdiction of the school creates a safety hazard for students. Therefore, policies 502.7 and 502.7R1 will apply.

### **Futures is a DRUG FREE ZONE – NO TOLERANCE**

## **DISCIPLINE**

Individual behavior may result in the student being asked to leave school, after receiving due process. A student may receive one or more full day out-of-school suspensions. Parents may be called. Some reasons include: Smoking, Swearing, Disrespect, Not working, Sleeping, Fighting, Under the influence, and Suspicion of being under the influence.

All Boone Community School District board policies apply at Futures unless otherwise stated in this handbook.

## **On-Line Learning**

On-line learning is offered at Futures using a district approved online program. Every on-line course features direct instruction lessons led by highly qualified, certified teachers. Media-rich content keeps students engaged, and interactive instructional tools help them build knowledge and skills with the right level of scaffolding and support.

Students enrolled in on-line courses will be limited to a maximum of two courses at a time. Once a course is finished, a new course may be added.

## **REGISTRATION FEE**

A registration fee of \$65.00 per student will be collected at registration in August. If a student comes to Futures, during the school year, from Boone High School, and has paid the registration fee, no fee will be collected.

Students/families meeting specific financial eligibility standards will be eligible for a waiver of student fees or a reduction of student fees. Iowa Eligibility applications are available from the office to apply for free & reduced meals. Applications may be made at any time but must be renewed annually. The application, as any other student records, will be confidential.

## **DISTRICT WEBSITE**

Visit our Futures page at [www.boonecsd.org](http://www.boonecsd.org)

Please follow Futures Alternative High School on Facebook.

Download the Boone CSD mobile app for district updates and events.

## **APPEARANCE**

All school dress is subject to correction by the administration and the faculty. The administration has the responsibility to send home any student whose dress is deemed extreme enough to disrupt the learning situation.

Hat/caps may be worn. No sexual or substance symbols or ads may appear on any article of clothing. If they do, the student will be asked to place tape over the ad, turn the article of clothing inside out, or remove the article of clothing. If the student refuses any of the above, he/she will be asked to leave school.

See district website for student appearance and dress code regulations.

## **PERSONAL ITEMS**

- Students may bring an iPod or phone with headphones/earbuds to listen to their own music.
- The school will not be responsible for any losses of personal items.

## **VISITORS**

- Because of current safety issues in schools, all visitors must check in at the front desk upon arrival.
- Students may visit the high school. Students must report to the high school main office, check-in, and receive a visitor's pass.

# BOONE HIGH SCHOOL BASIC DIPLOMA

Code No. 505.5R3

## Boone Basic Diploma Graduation Requirements:

Math	6 credits
Science	6 credits
English	8 credits
Social Studies	6 credits (including American History and Government)
Financial Literacy	1 credit
Careers	½ credit
Physical Ed.,	2 credits
Health or Nutrition	
Electives	6 ½ credits
36 Total Credits Required	

Students attending Futures Alternative School receive a Boone High School Basic Diploma.

Entrance Requirements: To enter the Boone High School Basic Diploma program at Futures Alternative School, a student must have:

- 1) Completed one year in a traditional high school.
- 2) Students eligible as a sophomore who have previously attended BHS, must have completed the "Why Try" curriculum.
- 3) The student must have been enrolled in the BHS TLC program and received recommendation from the TLC teacher and a MTSS Team to attend Futures.
- 4) The BHS administration, principal and/or guidance counselor must approve the student to attend Futures.
- 5) Once approved, the student (and parents/guardians) will meet with the Futures Director for scheduling and Futures overview.

<u>High School Credits</u>		<u>Futures Credits</u>	
0-9	Freshman	0-9	Freshman
10-19	Sophomore	10-18	Sophomore
20-34	Junior	19-27	Junior
35-50	Senior	28-36	Senior

