

Chattahoochee County Middle School



2025-2026 Student Handbook

Brenda Jones
Principal

Kason Cox
Assistant Principal

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WE ARE CHATTCO MIDDLE	
● CCMS FUTURE READY: THE CHATTCO WAY, CCMS VISION, CCMS MISSION	3
● ATHLETICS TEAM MISSION STATEMENT & CORE VALUES	4
● 25-26 SCHOOL CALENDAR	5
● CONNECT WITH US - TEACHING TEAMS	6
● CONNECT WITH US - CONNECTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	7
ACADEMICS	
● MAP ● HMH - MATH ● HMH-ELA ● WRITABLE-ELA ● PEAR ASSESSMENT ● PEAR PRACTICE	8
● IXL ALL CONTENT ● KHAN ACADEMY ● ACHIEVE 3000 ● GALLOPADE	9
● STEMCOPEs ● VIRTUAL ACADEMY ● COUNSELORS CORNER ● REPORT CARDS	10
● MULTI-TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT ● PROMOTION AND RETENTION POLICY	11
● PROMOTION AND RETENTION POLICY CONTINUED	12
● INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN	13
● REACH SCHOLAR ● LEAD SCHOLAR I & II	14
SPORTS AND CLUBS	
● NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY ● STUDENT COUNCIL ● ROBOTICS CLUB ● FOOTBALL ● CHEERLEADING	15
● BASKETBALL ● BASEBALL ● TRACK AND FIELD ● CROSS COUNTRY ● ACADEMIC BOWL	16
● FBLA ● BAND ● SOCIAL STUDIES CLUB ● SPELLING BEE	17
RECOGNITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS	
● STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION ● 8TH GRADE PROMITONAL CEREMONY ● HOMECOMING ● 8TH GRADE FORMAL	18
● DANCES ● ATHLETIC BANQUET	19
PANTHER EXPECTATIONS THE MIDDLE WAY	
● THE VISION OF THE MIDDLE ● CLASS DOJO	20
● E-PASS ● CONDUCT & STUDENT GUIDELINES ● ATTENDANCE	21
● DRESS FOR SUCCESS	22
● CCMS DISTRACTION FREE POLICY	23
● COMMUNICATION/ELECTRONIC DEVICES OR RELATED PARAPHERNALIA	24
● PARENT/GUARDIAN SUPPORT ● SCHOOL FOODS	25

FUTURE READY: THE CHATTCO WAY

We will prepare ourselves for college
and career opportunities.

We will develop strong academic and work-based
skills while becoming adaptable leaders.

We ARE future visionaries!

We ARE well-rounded individuals.

We ARE ChattCo Graduates.

CCMS VISION

Empowering every student to grow, lead,
and succeed with Panther Pride.

CCMS MISSION

The Mission of Chattahoochee
County Middle is to foster a safe
environment where students thrive
academically and holistically,
displaying Panther Pride in every
aspect of the school experience.



CCMS **ATHLETICS** MISSION STATEMENT & CORE VALUES

TEAM MISSION STATEMENT

I am a ChattCo Panther!
I am proud to be a Chattco Panther!
We are a family that
depends on each other.
I respect my family, my school,
my teammates, my coaches,
and myself!
This team is as solid as I am
and I will do all the hard work
necessary to keep it that way!



CORE VALUES OF A PANTHER

TRUSTWORTHINESS

- BE HONEST. DON'T DECEIVE, CHEAT, OR STEAL.
- HAVE INTEGRITY. DO WHAT YOU SAY YOU'LL DO.
- KEEP YOUR PROMISES.
- BE LOYAL.
- STAND BY YOUR VALUES.

RESPECT

- FOLLOW THE GOLDEN RULE.
- BE ACCEPTING OF DIFFERENCES.
- BE COURTEOUS TO OTHERS.
- DEAL PEACEFULLY WITH ANGER, INSULTS, AND DISAGREEMENTS.
- BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS' FEELINGS.

RESPONSIBILITY

- DO WHAT YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO DO.
- TRY YOUR BEST.
- PERSEVERE. KEEP ON TRYING.
- BE SELF-DISCIPLINED.
- THINK BEFORE YOU ACT. CONSIDER THE CONSEQUENCES.
- BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR YOUR WORDS, ACTIONS, AND ATTITUDES

FAIRNESS

- PLAY BY THE RULES.
- SHARE AND WORK WITH OTHERS.
- BE OPEN-MINDED.
- LISTEN TO OTHERS.
- SHOW TRUE EMPATHY.
- DON'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OTHERS.

CARING

- BE KIND.
- BE COMPASSIONATE.
- EXPRESS GRATITUDE.
- FORGIVE OTHERS.
- HELP PEOPLE IN NEED.

CITIZENSHIP

- DO YOUR SHARE TO MAKE YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY BETTER.
- COOPERATE.
- STAY INFORMED.
- BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR.
- MAKE CHOICES THAT PROTECT THE SAFETY AND RIGHTS OF OTHERS.
- PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT.

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

BOARD APPROVED: FEBRUARY 11, 2025



2025-2026 CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY SCHOOLS CALENDAR

	FIRST/LAST DAY OF SCHOOL		TEACHER/STAFF IN-SERVICE (NO STUDENT'S)		EARLY DISMISSAL		END OF 9 WEEKS/SEMESTER
	STUDENT/TEACHER HOLIDAY		PROGRESS REPORTS/REPORT CARDS		VIRTUAL LEARNING DAY		

AUGUST 2025						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUG 1, 4-6: TEACHER PRE-PLANNING
AUG 4: CCHS OPEN HOUSE
AUG 5: CCMHS OPEN HOUSE
AUG 6: CCEC OPEN HOUSE
AUG 7: 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

SEPTEMBER 2025						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SEPT 1: LABOR DAY
SEPT 8: PROGRESS REPORTS
SEPT 24: EARLY DISMISSAL
CCMHS 12:30 CCEC 1:30

OCTOBER 2025						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

OCT 10: VIRTUAL LEARNING DAY
OCT 10: END OF 1ST NINE WEEKS
OCT 13: NO SCHOOL
OCT 14: REPORT CARDS
OCT 29: EARLY DISMISSAL
CCMHS 12:30 CCEC 1:30

NOVEMBER 2025						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

NOV 11: NO SCHOOL/VETERAN'S DAY
NOV 13: PROGRESS REPORTS
NOV 24-28: THANKSGIVING BREAK

DECEMBER 2025						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

DEC 19: EARLY DISMISSAL
CCMHS 12:30 CCEC 12:30
DEC 19: END OF 1ST SEMESTER
DEC 22 - JAN 2: WINTER HOLIDAY

JANUARY 2026						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JAN 2: END OF WINTER BREAK
JAN 5: TEACHER WORKDAY/NO STUDENTS
JAN 6: 2ND SEMESTER BEGINS STUDENTS RETURN
JAN 7: REPORT CARDS
JAN 19: MLK - NO SCHOOL
JAN 28: EARLY DISMISSAL
CCMHS 12:30 CCEC 1:30

FEBRUARY 2026						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

FEB 6: PROGRESS REPORTS
FEB 13: VIRTUAL LEARNING DAY
FEB 16: NO SCHOOL/
PRESIDENT'S DAY

MARCH 2026						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

MAR 11: EARLY DISMISSAL
CCMHS 12:30 CCEC 1:30
MAR 11: END OF 3RD NINE WEEKS
MAR 13: REPORT CARDS
MAR 30 - APR 3: SPRING BREAK

APRIL 2026						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

APR 3: END OF SPRING BREAK
APR 17: PROGRESS REPORTS

MAY 2026						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

MAY 20: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
MAY 20: EARLY DISMISSAL
CCMHS 12:30 CCEC 12:30
MAY 20: END OF 2ND SEMESTER
MAY 21-22: POST PLANNING
MAY 22: CCHS GRADUATION
MAY 22: REPORT CARDS
MAY 25: ALL OFFICES CLOSED/
MEMORIAL DAY

*JULY 3, 2025 - ALL OFFICES CLOSED IN HONOR OF JULY 4

*JUNE 18, 2026: ALL OFFICES CLOSED IN HONOR OF JUNETEENTH

CONNECT WITH US - TEACHING TEAMS



Chattahoochee County Middle School

360 GA Highway 26, Cusseta, GA 31805

Phone: 706.989.3678



OUR TEACHING TEAMS

English Language Arts

Jazmin Thomas (6th)
jthomas@chattco.org

Sebrina Long (7th)
slong@chattco.org

Brooke Cooper (8th)
brumford@chattco.org

Math

Martika Hendricks (6th)
mhendricks@chattco.org

Jai'La Moses (7th)
jthomas@chattco.org

Sharon Sasser (8th)
ssasser@chattco.org

Science

Stephen Shenk (6th)
sshenk@chattco.org

Danielle Carlsen (7th)
dcarlsen@chattco.org

Grace Rodriguez (8th)
grodriguez@chattco.org

Social Studies

Alli Ferris (6th)
aferris@chattco.org

Kaitlyn Miller (7th)
kmiller@chattco.org

Mariah Ali-Bryan (8th)
mhoward@chattco.org

Exceptional Education

Valeria Ready
vready@chattco.org

Abria Jackson
jackson@chattco.org

Peter Trull
ptrull@chattco.org

Kendrick Washington
kwashington@chattco.org

CONNECT WITH US - CONNECTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

CONNECTIONS

Art

Allision McClemore
amcclemore@chattco.org

Business

Mary Beveridge
mbeveridge@chattco.org

Robotics

James Beveridge
jbeveridge@chattco.org

Band

Luke Queen
lqueen@chattco.org

Physical Education

Carson Grier
cgrier@chattco.org

Team Sports

Peter Trull
ptrull@chattco.org

JCL

Stephen Shenk
sshenk@chattco.org

Weight Training

Kendrick Washington
kwashington@chattco.org

Audio/Video

Johnathan Woodward
jwoodward@chattco.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Superintendent

Kimothy B. Hadley
khadley@chattco.org

Athletic Director

Carson Grier
cgrier@chattco.org

Special Education Coordinator

Carin Bowen
cbowen@chattco.org

Principal

Brenda Jones
bjones@chattco.org

Counselor

Allyn Jones
ajones@chattco.org

Vice Principal

Kason Cox
kcox@chattco.org

Secretary

Freda Vann
fvann@chattco.org

If you would like to discuss your child's progress, please reach out to their teacher to schedule a parent-teacher conference. We value your involvement and look forward to working together to support your child's education.

Teachers are available for a parent teacher conference from 1:30-2:30.

To request a parent/teacher conference, please contact your child's teacher using the email listed below their names. You may also call the front office at 706-989-3678. Please be sure to leave a detailed message with the front office secretary, Mrs. Vann.

ACADEMICS

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress)

NWEA's growth model provides a personalized assessment experience that tracks your child's academic progress over time (fall, winter, spring). It helps identify your child's strengths and areas for improvement, allowing for targeted instruction that meets their unique needs. Teachers receive detailed reports and insights, enabling them to tailor their teaching strategies for each student. This approach fosters continuous academic growth and helps set realistic, achievable goals for your child. By focusing on individual progress, NWEA supports a more personalized and effective learning experience. NWEA MAP helps ensure that every student can reach their full potential.

HMH—Into Literature-Math

HMH Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) is a comprehensive, standards-aligned math program designed to build conceptual understanding, fluency, and problem-solving skills. It combines print and digital resources to support differentiated instruction, student engagement, and data-driven decision-making. With interactive tools, real-world applications, and consistent scaffolding, HMH Math helps students build confidence and master grade-level content.

HMH—Into Literature—ELA

We are thrilled to implement the HMH Into Literature Curriculum in our classrooms. This comprehensive program is designed to inspire and engage students through diverse, high-quality texts that promote critical thinking and a love of reading. HMH Into Literature focuses on building strong reading, writing, and analytical skills. The curriculum includes a wide range of genres and perspectives, helping students to develop empathy and a deeper understanding of the world around them. With interactive and collaborative activities, students will not only enhance their literacy skills but also their ability to communicate and think critically. We are confident that this curriculum will provide our students with the tools they need for academic success and lifelong learning.

WRITABLE—ELA

Writable provides an interactive platform that enhances your child's writing skills through guided practice, personalized feedback, and engaging prompts. Writable focuses on individualized instruction to increase writing capabilities.

PEAR ASSESSMENT-All subjects

Pear Assessment delivers robust, standards-aligned assessments with instant feedback and detailed reporting. Featuring over 50 tech-enhanced question types, multimedia embeds, and secure testing options (like browser lockdown), it's tailored to support classroom, district, or benchmark evaluations. Educators gain clear insights into student performance—by standard, skill level, and academic risk—helping plan targeted intervention.

PEAR PRACTICE

Pear Practice offers differentiated, gamified practice designed to boost student engagement and retention. Teachers can quickly convert existing materials—like PDFs or photos—into interactive practice sets. Students earn rewards and receive AI-generated hints, which encourages them to take initiative: *40% begin practicing independently*. It's perfect for reinforcing learning both in class and at home.

ACADEMICS

IXL– All content areas

IXL provides detailed reports and real-time feedback allowing you and your child's teachers to monitor progress and identify areas needing improvement. With interactive questions and immediate feedback, your child stays engaged and motivated to learn. IXL also offers awards and certificates to celebrate achievements, boosting your child's confidence and enthusiasm for learning. This personalized approach ensures that your child receives the support they need to excel academically and develop a love for learning.

KHAN ACADEMY-Math

Khan Academy offers a personalized and engaging learning platform that adapts to your child's needs, making learning both fun and effective. By integrating MAP scores, Khan Academy tailors lessons and practice exercises to target your child's specific areas for growth. This ensures that your child receives the right level of challenge, helping them to steadily improve their skills. Parents and teachers can easily track progress through detailed reports, allowing for better support and guidance. The combination of Khan Academy's interactive content and the precision of MAP scores creates a powerful tool for academic development. This approach helps your child achieve their full potential by providing a customized learning experience that addresses their unique strengths and needs.

ACHIEVE 3000– Reading

Achieve3000 provides a unique and personalized learning experience for your child, focusing on improving literacy skills through differentiated instruction. With its proprietary Lexile growth model, Achieve3000 tailors reading materials to your child's specific reading level, ensuring that they are challenged at the appropriate difficulty level. This personalized approach not only helps improve reading comprehension but also boosts confidence and motivation in reluctant readers. Teachers can easily track students' Lexile growth and monitor progress over time, allowing for targeted intervention and support. Additionally, Achieve3000 offers a wide range of non-fiction articles across various subjects, expanding your child's knowledge and vocabulary in diverse areas. Achieve3000 provides students the resources needed to become proficient readers and critical thinkers, laying a strong foundation for academic success.

GALLOPADE-Social Studies

Gallopade's Social Studies curriculum offers a dynamic and engaging learning experience for students, fully aligned with Georgia's Standards of Excellence. It provides comprehensive coverage of key historical, geographical, political, and cultural topics, ensuring a well-rounded education. With interactive activities and hands-on projects, the curriculum makes learning exciting and accessible for all students. Teachers are supported with detailed lesson plans and resources, allowing them to effectively address diverse learning needs. The integration of digital tools and up-to-date content keeps students engaged and informed. This curriculum enhances critical thinking and problem-solving skills. For 8th grade it fosters a deep understanding and appreciation of Georgia's rich heritage, preparing students to be informed and active citizens.

ACADEMICS

STEMscopes– Science

STEMscopes Science curriculum offers an engaging and hands-on approach to learning science, ensuring your child remains excited and curious about the subject. It aligns with state standards, guaranteeing that the material meets educational requirements and helps students perform well on assessments. The curriculum includes a variety of interactive experiments and activities that make complex scientific concepts easy to understand. Teachers are provided with comprehensive resources and lesson plans to effectively support diverse learning styles. Additionally, STEMscopes integrate digital tools and multimedia content, keeping lessons current and relevant. This curriculum not only enhances critical thinking and problem-solving skills but also fosters a lifelong love for science and exploration in your child.

VIRTUAL ACADEMY

Virtual academy CCMS does not offer a virtual academy at this time. All of our classes and programs are conducted in-person to provide students with direct interaction, hands-on learning experiences, and the benefits of a traditional classroom environment. We believe that in-person instruction is essential for fostering strong educational and social development. We appreciate your understanding and continued support. Should you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact us.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Our dedicated school counselor, Ms. Allyn Jones, is here to support students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. Whether you need guidance on school-related issues, personal concerns, or future planning, Ms. Jones is available to help you navigate your journey at CCMS. Feel free to reach out and take advantage of this valuable resource. She can be reached at ajones@chattco.org. The counselor's corner can be reached at the following link:

<https://sites.google.com/chattco.org/ccmscounselorscorner?usp=sharing>

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards and Progress Reports are posted on the PowerSchool parent portal and the student portal. If a parent requires a printed version, a request should be made directly to the student's homeroom teacher in writing. Report cards and progress reports will be available in the portal.

Grading Period	Progress Reports	Report Cards
1 st Nine Week-August 7-October 10	September 8	October 14
2 nd Nine Week-October 13-December 19	November 13	January 7
3 rd Nine Week- January 6-March 11	February 6	March 13
4 th Nine Week-March 12-May 20	March 13	May 22

ACADEMICS

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT - (MTSS)

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a comprehensive framework used to provide targeted support to all students. MTSS is designed to address academic, behavioral, social, and emotional needs through a tiered approach:

- **Tier 1**:** **Universal Interventions** - These are high-quality instructional and behavioral strategies provided to all students to promote successful student outcomes. This includes general classroom teaching and school-wide positive behavior supports.
- **Tier 2**:** **Targeted Interventions** - These supports are provided to small groups of students who need additional assistance beyond what is offered in Tier 1. Interventions may include supplemental instruction or targeted behavioral strategies.
- ****Tier 3**:** **Intensive Interventions** - This level of support is individualized and provided to students who require more intensive assistance. These interventions are tailored to the specific needs of each student and often involve one-on-one instruction or specialized programs. MTSS relies on data-driven decision-making to identify students' needs and monitor their progress. The goal of MTSS is to ensure that every student receives the appropriate level of support to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION POLICY

The following local promotion criteria will be used for the 2025 - 2026 school year. Students in each grade must pass the following requirements in addition to any state requirements: While there are five subject areas - Reading, English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies - only three of these subjects will be considered as Core Subject Areas. Those three Core Subject Areas will be Reading, English Language Arts, and Math. There is a Promotion & Retention (P&R) Committee led by the Principal and/or designee to make decisions about the retention and placement status of named students.

Grades 6-8

- To be promoted to the next grade level, students in grades 6th—8th must pass at least three of the four Core Subject Areas (ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies) with a cumulative grade of 70% or better. This would result in the student passing at least three of the four subject areas for the year. In addition, students must meet all attendance requirements as specified by the Chattahoochee County School District.
- If a student is **retained** in the current grade level, he/she will have failed at least two of the three Core Subject Areas. This decision will be reviewed and agreed upon by the P&R Committee.
- If a student is **placed** into the next grade level, he/she will have failed more than two subject areas (includes all five subject areas), but there are factors that would exclude the student from being retained. This decision will be reviewed and agreed upon by the P&R Committee.

ACADEMICS

PROMOTION AND RETENTION POLICY - continued

The State of Georgia sets clear expectations for student performance to ensure all learners are prepared for success in high school and beyond. Promotion and retention decisions in the middle grades (6–8) are guided by a combination of state law, Georgia Department of Education rules, and local district policies.

Georgia law, under **Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) § 20-2-282 through § 20-2-285**, outlines the state's promotion, placement, and retention requirements. These laws are further detailed in **State Board Rule 160-4-2-.11**, which requires school districts to adopt policies that identify performance levels for promotion and provide opportunities for students who do not meet grade-level expectations.

In grades 6 and 7, promotion is typically based on a student's academic achievement in core content areas. While the state does not mandate automatic retention in these grades, most local districts require students to pass a majority of their core academic subjects—typically English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies—with a grade of 70 or higher (outlined above). Failure to meet these requirements may result in retention or the development of an intervention plan.

In **8th grade**, the requirements are more specific. According to Georgia state law, students must demonstrate grade-level proficiency on the **Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade (EOG) assessments** in both **English Language Arts and mathematics** to be promoted to high school. If a student does not meet the required performance level on either of these assessments, they may be given additional instruction and the opportunity to retake the test.

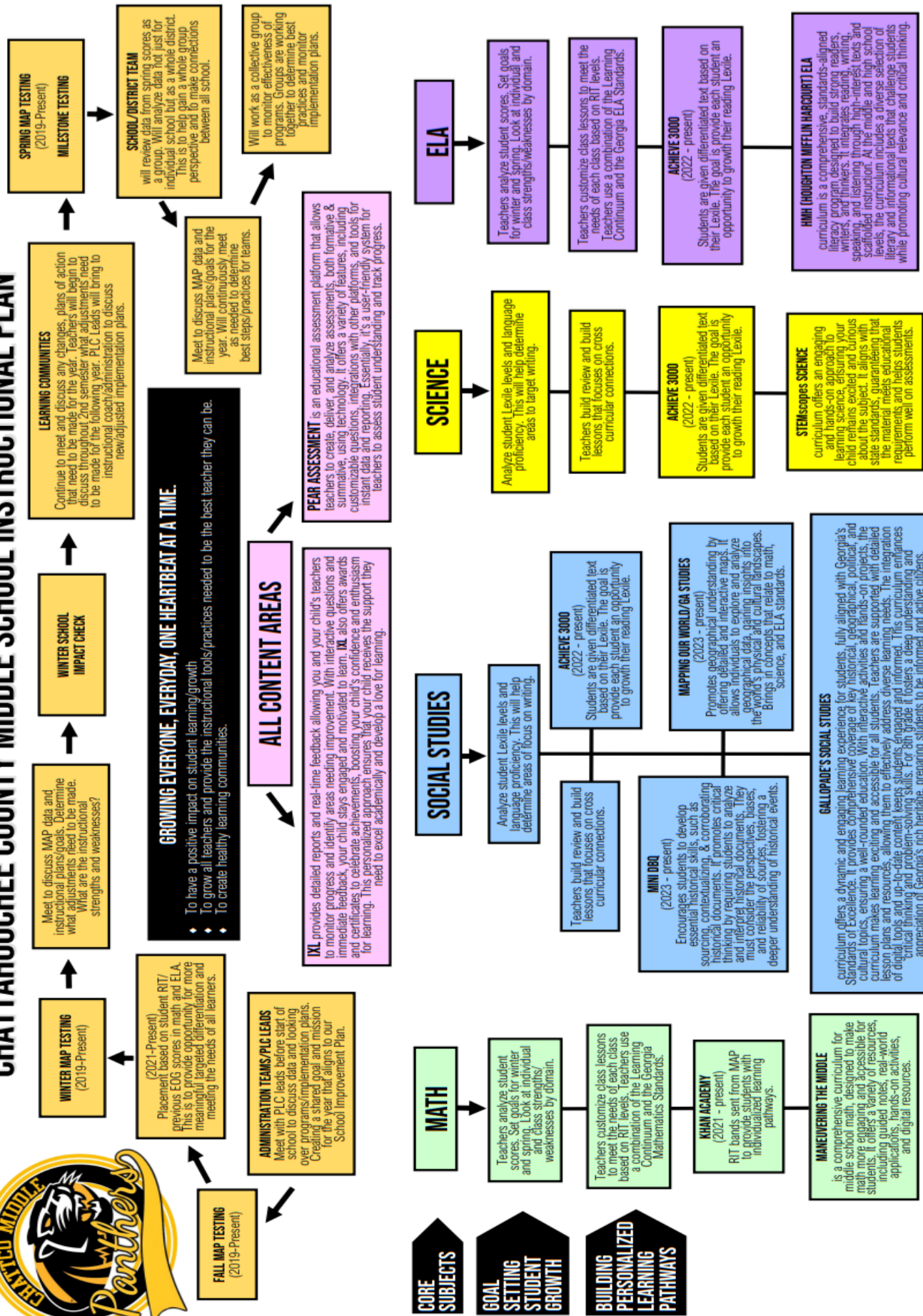
If the student does not meet the standard after the second administration (if given) of the test, a Placement Committee must be formed. This committee includes the principal or designee, the student's parent or guardian, and the teacher(s) of the subject(s) in which the student did not achieve grade-level proficiency. The committee may decide to promote the student based on additional evidence of achievement—such as classroom performance, assessments, and progress monitoring data—but this decision must be **unanimous**. If the committee cannot agree, the student will be **retained**.

Furthermore, when a student is promoted through this placement process, the school must place the student in a multi-tiered system of support to address the areas of deficiency. This ensures that students are not just passed forward without the tools they need to succeed at the next level.

Georgia's retention policy is designed to ensure that students are academically prepared for the challenges of the next grade. The goal is not to punish students for struggling but to provide **the time, support, and resources** needed for them to master essential skills. School systems are encouraged to communicate regularly with families, provide timely interventions, and consider the whole child—academically, socially, and emotionally—when making promotion or retention decisions.



CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN



ACADEMICS



REACH GEORGIA

REACH Georgia is administered by the Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA), a companion student finance entity of the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). GSFC is the state agency that administers the HOPE Scholarship and Grant Program as well as other state- and lottery-funded financial aid programs. GSFC also manages the career and college preparation website, GAfutures.org, and provides educational services such as free financial aid consultation and FAFSA completion assistance to high schools and postsecondary institutions across the state.

REACH Georgia is a need-based mentoring and scholarship program providing promising students the support to graduate from high school and achieve postsecondary success. Rising 8th graders are identified by teachers and other staff as potential applicants for the REACH Georgia scholarship. Students are required to complete a formal application as well as participate in an interview process if they meet all requirements. At the conclusion of the scholar selection process, three 8th grade students have the opportunity to be selected as REACH Georgia scholarship recipients. Those students selected will be paired with a mentor and academic coach that are there to support the student through their high school years. Students selected must exhibit and maintain academic promise, consistent attendance, and acceptable behavior in order to maintain REACH eligibility. To learn more about REACH, click on the following link: <https://youtu.be/USA6gFk8rJM>.

LEAD SCHOLAR I AND II

To be eligible for Lead Scholar honors, a student must enroll no later than the first day of his or her 8th grade year. Military transfers will be excluded from this enrollment date requirement. The Lead Scholar I shall be the student who has met all curriculum requirements and has earned the highest cumulative grade average in the class (based on a 0-100 grade scale, core classes only). The Lead Scholar II shall be the student who has also met all curriculum requirements and has earned the 2nd highest cumulative grade average in the class (based on a 0-100 grade scale, core classes only).. The calculations will be determined at the end of the 3rd nine weeks during their 8th grade year. If there is a tie, all ties will be named as Lead Scholar and/or Lead Scholar II accordingly. However, if scholarships or financial grants are to be awarded based on class ranking as Lead Scholar I and/or Lead Scholar II, and the scholarships or grants cannot be shared among the students tied for Lead Scholar I and II, the following applies:

1. The higher overall Spring MAP Achievement score (achieved by March of their 8th grade year) will be the determining factor. If students are still tied then,
2. The higher overall Spring MAP Growth score (achieved by March of their 8th grade year) will be the determining factor.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are available online via the PowerSchool Portal. The school counselor and/or teacher will be happy to discuss the report card if necessary. Also, you may call the main office if you need to schedule a conference with any single one or all of your child's teachers. **Outstanding debts or non-payment of debts may result in report cards and/or school records being withheld and/or restriction from participation in future school-sponsored activities until all debts are settled.**

SPORTS AND CLUBS

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY (NJHS)

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is an esteemed organization that recognizes and encourages academic achievement among middle school students. It promotes leadership, service, character, and citizenship. Membership is a prestigious honor that provides students with opportunities for personal growth and community involvement through various activities and service projects. Being part of NJHS fosters a commitment to excellence and prepares young individuals for future academic and personal success.

Sponsor: Sebrina Long slong@chattco.org

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student council is a student-led organization within schools that empowers students to contribute to the school community. It serves as a voice for the student body, promoting leadership, responsibility, and civic engagement. Members of the student council organize events, address student concerns, and work on initiatives to improve the school environment. Participation in student council helps students develop essential skills in communication, teamwork, and problem-solving, preparing them for future leadership roles.

Sponsor: Allyn Jones ajones@chattco.org

THE ROBOTICS CLUB

The Robotics Club is an extracurricular group where students come together to explore and develop skills in robotics and engineering. Members collaborate on designing, building, and programming robots to compete in local, regional, and national competitions. The club fosters creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork, offering hands-on experience with cutting-edge technology. Participation in the robotics club equips students with valuable technical skills and inspires a passion for innovation and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields.

Sponsor: James Beveridge jbeveridge@chattco.org

FOOTBALL

Football is a team sport that involves strategy, physical skill, and teamwork. Players work together to advance the ball down the field and score points by getting the ball into the opposing team's end zone. Participation in football promotes physical fitness, discipline, and camaraderie among teammates. The sport provides an opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, resilience, and a strong work ethic.

Coach: Kendrick Washington kWASHINGTON@chattco.org

CHEERLEADING

We are excited to announce that CCMS is home to a vibrant cheerleading team! Our dedicated squad promotes school spirit through energetic performances at various school events and games. Cheerleaders learn valuable skills in dance, cheer, and teamwork while fostering a sense of pride and community within our school. We encourage parents to support our cheerleaders and join us in celebrating their enthusiasm and hard work at our upcoming events.

Coaches:

- Allyn Jones ajones@chattco.org
- Kaitlyn Miller kmiller@chattco.org

SPORTS AND CLUBS

BASKETBALL

Our basketball team provides students with the opportunity to further develop their athletic skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Through regular practices and competitive games, players enhance their physical fitness and enjoy the camaraderie of being part of a dedicated group. We encourage parents to support our student-athletes and join us in cheering them on at their games. Let's come together to celebrate school spirit and the achievements of our talented team .

Coaches:

- Girls' Coach: Jazmin Thomas jthomas@chattco.org
- Boys' Coach: Kendrick Washington kWASHINGTON@chattco.org

BASEBALL

We are excited to announce the formation of our school's baseball team! This team provides a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Practices will be held after school, and we look forward to a season filled with fun, learning, and competition. We encourage all interested students to join and support our team as we embark on this exciting journey. Go team!

Coaches:

- Phillip LeZontier plezontier@chattco.org
- Peter Trull ptrull@chattco.org

TRACK AND FIELD

Track and field is a dynamic sport that combines running, jumping, and throwing events, allowing athletes to showcase speed, strength, and skill. Events range from sprints and distance races to relays, long jump, high jump, shot put, and more. It promotes physical fitness, discipline, and teamwork, making it a popular sport at both school and competitive levels.

Coaches:

- Jazmin Thomas jthomas@chattco.org
- Kendrick Washington kWASHINGTON@chattco.org

CROSS COUNTRY

We are thrilled to introduce our school's cross country team! This is a fantastic opportunity for students to improve their fitness, build endurance, and experience the joy of running. Practices will take place after school, and we look forward to a season of personal growth, teamwork, and fun. We encourage all interested students to participate and support our cross country team as we embark on this exciting adventure.

Athletic Director: Carson Grier cgrier@chattco.org

ACADEMIC BOWL

The Academic Bowl is a fast-paced, team-based competition that challenges students on a wide range of subjects, including math, science, history, literature, and current events. It encourages critical thinking, quick recall, and collaboration, providing students with a fun and competitive way to showcase their academic strengths.

Sponsor: Maria Howard mhoward@chattco.org

SPORTS AND CLUBS

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADER OF AMERICA (FBLA)

FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) is a student organization that prepares young people for careers in business through academic competitions, leadership development, and real-world experiences. Members gain valuable skills in communication, teamwork, and problem-solving while exploring career pathways and networking with peers and professionals.

Sponsor: Brooke Cooper bcooper@chattco.org

BAND

The CCMS Band, working closely with the CCHS Band, forms a vibrant musical pipeline that welcomes middle schoolers into a supportive and enriching performing environment. Under shared leadership, students from both schools participate in joint rehearsals, community performances, and special events—building confidence, musicianship, and engagement across grade levels. This partnership smooths the transition from middle to high school, fostering continuity, mentorship, and pride throughout the band program.

Sponsor: Luke Queen lqueen@chattco.org

SOCIAL STUDIES CLUB

The social studies club is an academic organization that brings together students with a shared interest in history, geography, politics, and culture. Through discussions, projects, and activities, members delve into various aspects of social studies, gaining a deeper understanding of the world and its diverse societies. The club often hosts events like debates, guest speakers, and educational trips, enhancing the learning experience beyond the classroom. Participation in the social studies club cultivates critical thinking, global awareness, and civic responsibility.

Sponsor: Maria Howard mhoward@chattco.org

SPELLING BEE

The spelling bee is a competitive event where students demonstrate their spelling proficiency by correctly spelling a variety of challenging words. Participants compete individually, progressing through rounds until a winner is determined. The spelling bee encourages students to expand their vocabulary, improve their spelling skills, and develop confidence in public speaking. This academic competition promotes a love of language and learning, providing a supportive environment for students to showcase their talents and hard work.

Sponsor: Allyn Jones ajones@chattco.org

RECOGNITIONS & CELEBRATIONS

STUDENT OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION

At our school, Students of the Month are chosen by their teachers based on several criteria that highlight exemplary behavior and academic excellence. Teachers look for students who consistently demonstrate the following qualities:

- **Academic Achievement:** Consistently high performance and dedication to their studies
- **Positive Attitude:** A positive and enthusiastic attitude towards learning and school activities.
- **Good Citizenship:** Demonstrating kindness, respect, and responsibility towards peers, staff, and the school community.
- **Improvement and Effort:** Significant improvement in academics or behavior and putting forth their best effort.
- **Leadership:** Showing leadership qualities by helping others, participating actively in class, and contributing positively to the school environment.

Each month, teachers nominate students who embody these qualities, and a selection is made to recognize and celebrate their outstanding contributions. The chosen students are honored with a certificate, featured in school announcements, and recognized at our monthly board meetings. The board meetings are held every second Tuesday in the month at 6:30 p.m.

8TH GRADE PROMOTIONAL CEREMONY

The 8th Grade Promotional Ceremony is a special event celebrating our students' transition from middle school to high school. This memorable occasion honors their hard work, achievements, and growth throughout their middle school years. The promotional ceremony is held in the month of May. This year, the ceremony is scheduled for May 16th at 6:00 pm.

HOMECOMING

CCMS Homecoming will take place during football season, bringing our school community together for a week of spirited activities and events. Homecoming week will feature themed dress-up days, a pep rally, and various competitions leading up to the highly anticipated Homecoming football game. The week will culminate with the crowning of the Homecoming court during halftime of the game.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students, staff, and families to show their school spirit and Panther Pride. We encourage everyone to participate and make this Homecoming an unforgettable celebration. Stay tuned for more details and a schedule of events. Go Panthers!

8TH GRADE FORMAL

We are excited to announce the annual 8th Grade Formal, a highly anticipated event that takes place every year in April. This special evening is dedicated to celebrating our 8th-grade students as they prepare to transition to high school. The formal includes music, dancing, refreshments, and the chance for students to dress up and enjoy a memorable evening with their friends and classmates.

We encourage all 8th graders to participate in this memorable event and look forward to seeing them shine. More specific details about the event will be shared as we get closer to the date. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the school administration.

RECOGNITIONS & CELEBRATIONS

DANCES

General Rules:

- Students must follow the school disciplinary code, including dress code, at all dances
- Violations may result in being asked to leave and possible disciplinary actions.

Dress Code:

- Students must follow appropriate school dress codes on and off campus.
- Dresses worn to school dances must be of school-appropriate length.

Out-of-School Dates:

- Dates must at least be in the 7th grade and/or no older than 15.
- Proper documentation must be completed and approved before the dance.
- See the dance sponsor for forms or questions.

ATHLETIC BANQUET

Our Athletic Banquet is an event dedicated to celebrating the hard work, dedication, and achievements of our student-athletes. This special evening will honor the outstanding performances and contributions of our athletes across all sports.

The Athletic Banquet will include:

- Recognition of individual and team accomplishments
- Special awards and presentations
- Speeches from coaches and team captains
- Dinner and refreshments
-

We encourage all athletes, their families, and supporters to join us for this memorable event as we celebrate the spirit of sportsmanship and the achievements of our talented students. More specific details about the event will be shared as we get closer to the date. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the school administration.

PANTHER EXPECTATIONS - THE MIDDLE WAY

THE VISION OF THE MIDDLE

To foster a safe environment where students thrive academically and holistically, displaying Panther Pride in every aspect of the school experience.

CLASS DOJO



Here's a breakdown of how it typically works:

Earning Points:

- **Positive Behavior:** Students earn points for demonstrating positive behaviors such as participating in class, helping others, staying on task, and showing perseverance.
- **Specific Skills:** Teachers can customize point categories to align with classroom goals, such as teamwork, creativity, or leadership.

Losing Points:

- **Negative Behavior:** Points can be deducted for behaviors that are disruptive or not conducive to a positive learning environment, such as being off-task, not following directions, or showing disrespect.
- **Custom Categories:** Teachers can also set up specific categories for point deductions based on classroom rules and expectations.

Tracking Progress

- **Individual Reports:** Students and parents can view individual progress reports that show points earned and areas for improvement.
- **Class Reports:** Teachers can monitor the overall behavior trends of the class, helping to identify areas that may need more focus or support.

Rewards and Incentives

- **Goals and Rewards:** Teachers can set up specific goals for students to reach certain point totals, often linked to rewards such as extra recess time, homework passes, or small prizes.
- **Class Goals:** Points can also contribute to whole-class goals, promoting teamwork and collective effort.

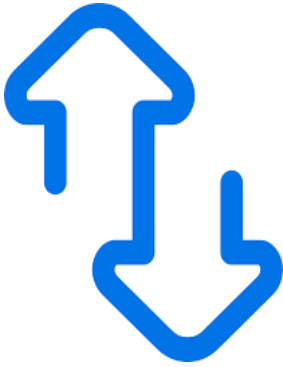
Customization

- **Flexible Settings:** Teachers have the flexibility to customize the point system to best fit their classroom management style and educational objectives.

Overall, **CLASS DOJO**'s point system aims to create a positive and motivating environment where students are recognized and rewarded for their good behavior and active participation.

PANTHER EXPECTATIONS - THE MIDDLE WAY

E-PASS - Digital Hall Pass System



CCMS is excited to introduce E-Pass, our new digital hall pass system aimed at enhancing efficiency and safety within our school environment. E-Pass provides each student with a personalized electronic pass that allows them to check in and out of various school locations such as the library, nurse's office, and designated study areas seamlessly.

This innovative system not only simplifies the process of monitoring student movements throughout the school day but also improves accountability and security measures. By adopting E-Pass, we are committed to ensuring a smooth and secure environment for all students at CCMS.

We believe that E-Pass will contribute significantly to optimizing our school operations while prioritizing student safety. If you have any questions or would like more information about how E-Pass works, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school administration. Thank you for your continued support as we implement this beneficial system for our students' educational experience.

CONDUCT AND STUDENT GUIDELINES

We understand that behavior infractions may occasionally occur. When such instances arise that necessitate administrative intervention or action, we will adhere strictly to the district's conduct and student guidelines as outlined in our District Student Operation Handbook. This comprehensive handbook provides clear protocols and procedures for addressing various behavioral issues, ensuring that all actions taken are fair, consistent, and in the best interest of all students. Our aim is to foster a positive and respectful school environment, and we appreciate your cooperation in upholding these standards. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please refer to the handbook or contact the school administration.

ATTENDANCE

Middle School hours are from **7:25 AM to 2:30 PM**.

Students arriving after **7:25 AM** will be marked **tardy**, and those leaving before **11:00 AM** will be marked **absent**.

To support our vision of fostering a thriving academic and personal environment, we emphasize the importance of regular attendance. Whenever possible, please schedule doctor appointments after school hours. Attendance notes can be sent to mhattendance@chattco.org. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us achieve our goals.

PANTHER EXPECTATIONS - THE MIDDLE WAY

DRESS FOR SUCCESS-Obtain the Vision

Chattahoochee County emphasizes that the business of school is student learning. Appropriate dress and grooming standards should support this purpose, promoting a positive learning atmosphere and a safe, orderly environment free from disruption.

These standards should be easily enforced by teachers and administrators and self-monitored by students and parents before arriving at school.

Tops:

- Must cover the chest, back, and midriff/stomach.
- Must be long enough to reach below the waistband of bottoms.
- Sheer/see-through tops are not permitted.
- Crop, halter, racer-back, tube, camisole, spaghetti straps, excessive armhole, or muscle tops are not permitted.
- Undershirts cannot be worn as tops.

Bottoms:

- Must be made of solid material and reach mid-thigh or longer. **We do not use the fingertip rule.**
- Excessively tight pants (e.g., yoga pants, leggings/jeggings) are permitted. However, a shirt must reach the top of your thigh.
- Distressed bottoms are allowed, but holes or rips above mid-thigh are not permitted.
- Must be worn at the natural waistline; sagging is not permitted.
- Pajamas/fleece bottoms are not permitted.
- Fishnet clothing/stockings are not permitted.
- Volleyball, biker, and cycling shorts are not permitted.

Other:

- Proper undergarments must be worn and not exposed.
- House shoes/slippers are not permitted.
- No headgear (caps, hats, toboggans, visors, bandannas, scarves, headbands)
- Rollers, combs, picks, and brushes worn in the hair are not permitted.
- Sunglasses are not permitted inside the building.
- Hoods are not to be worn on the head inside the building.
- Trench coats are not permitted.
- Tattoos and clothing may not display or promote inappropriate content, including racial slurs, profanity, sexually suggestive language or representations, violence, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or gangs.

Enforcement:

- Students who violate the dress code are subject to disciplinary action according to the discipline policy.
- The principal or designee has the authority to make final determinations regarding compliance with the Dress for Success Code Policy.
- It is crucial that students and parents use good judgment based on the school's mission.

PANTHER EXPECTATIONS - THE MIDDLE WAY

CCMS DISTRACTION FREE POLICY

The "**Distraction-Free Education Act**" aims to minimize distractions and improve focus in the classroom. This means that **cellphones and smartwatches will no longer be allowed in the classroom during instruction time.**

Policy Details

During the school day, students are expected to remain focused on learning with minimal distractions. To support this goal and in compliance with the **Distraction-Free Education Act-HB 340**, the use of personal electronic devices—including **cell phones, smartwatches, and earbuds or headphones**—is not permitted during instructional time. Headphones are allowed in the classroom only when explicitly permitted by the teacher for academic or instructional use.

All devices must be turned off and given to the student's homeroom teacher. The teacher will place all cellphones in a locked box. Cellphones will be returned at the end of 5th period. When students arrive to their connection class, they must then give their phones to the connection teacher. The connection teacher will keep all phones in a locked box. All cellphones will be returned at the end of the class period.

Violations & Consequences

Responsibility:

- Students are **fully responsible** for any loss, damage, or theft of personal devices brought to school.

******CCMS is not responsible for lost, misplaced, or damaged items brought to school by students voluntarily.***

Unauthorized Use:

- There is no authorized use during the school day.
- Taking photos or videos of students or staff **without permission is strictly prohibited.**
- Sharing or posting unauthorized content may result in **short- or long-term suspension.**

Repeat Offenses:

- Students who break the device policy will have their device placed on **administrative hold for parent pickup** or be assigned **In-School Suspension (ISS).**

Violation Progression for Teachers (if a student is caught with a personal device)

- **First Offense:** Warning documented in PowerSchool (so other teachers can see if first offense has occurred). Collect device and inform parents.
- **Second Offense:** Office referral. Collect device and turn in to an administrator. Admin will follow disciplinary progression from here. The disciplinary progress is found on the next page.

These consequences are designed to encourage responsible behavior and ensure that all students can learn in a distraction-free environment.

PANTHER EXPECTATIONS - THE MIDDLE WAY

COMMUNICATION/ELECTRONIC DEVICES OR RELATED PARAPHERNALIA

1. PHONES/DEVICES

- Students shall not use, display, or turn on cellular phones or electronic devices during class time without teacher authorization. The teacher will confiscate any electronic device (including the battery) during class time without prior approval. Refusal to turn over cell phones or other electronic devices to the teacher and/or habitual/continued use of cell phones or electronic devices without prior approval will result in the student being guilty of insubordination (I. 9).
- Teachers will not be interrupted to retrieve an item that has been taken.
- **STOLEN ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ADMINISTRATION.**
- Administrators/Law Enforcement will not conduct classroom/area searches for missing items.

DISPOSITION:

- **1st Offense:** The teacher confiscates the device and returns it at the end of the day. Parents will be notified & made aware of the consequences of the next offense.
- **2nd Offense:** The teacher confiscates, and the parent is required to pick up the device. 3 Days ISS
- **3rd + Offense:** The teacher confiscates, and the parent is required to pick up the device. Student referred for Insubordination (see I.9)

2. HEADPHONES/ EARBUDS/ SMARTWATCHES

- Headphones/Earbuds can be used during class time with teacher approval.

DISPOSITION:

- **1st Offense:** Teacher confiscates and device is returned at the end of the day. Parents will be notified and made aware of consequences for the next offense.
- **2nd Offense:** Teacher confiscates and parent is required to pick up the device. 3 Days ISS
- **3rd + Offense:** Teacher confiscates and parent is required to pick up the device. Student referred for Insubordination (see I.9).

3. FILMING FIGHTS

- No student shall film a fight or any encounter between students.

DISPOSITION:

- **1st Offense:** 3 Days ISS
- **2nd Offense:** 5 Days ISS
- **3rd Offense:** 3 Days OSS

PANTHER EXPECTATIONS - THE MIDDLE WAY

PARENT & GUARDIAN SUPPORT

We value the partnership between home and school in promoting a successful and focused learning environment. In support of the Distraction-Free Education Policy, we respectfully ask parents and guardians to reinforce these expectations at home. Please encourage your child to keep personal devices such as cell phones, smartwatches, and headphones turned off and stored in their locker or backpack during the school day.

To minimize disruptions to instruction, we also ask that families refrain from calling or texting students during class hours. If you need to reach your child in an emergency, please contact the front office, and we will ensure your message is delivered promptly.

We understand that there may be unique circumstances that require individual consideration. If your child has a medical need or other emergency-related concern that necessitates access to a personal device during the school day, we encourage you to contact school administration to discuss an appropriate plan.

Your support is essential to maintaining a safe, respectful, and distraction-free learning environment for all.

SCHOOL FOODS

Breakfast:

- Student price is \$1.75.
- SY 25-26 all students receive free breakfast under provision II.
- Students must eat in the cafeteria or designated area.

Lunch:

- Eating is allowed only in designated areas.
- Students may not leave the lunchroom during lunch without permission from the teacher on duty.
- No food/drink is to be removed from the lunchroom; failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.
- Lunch costs \$3.00 for CCMS students unless they qualify for free/reduced lunch.

Meal Charges:

- **Students are not allowed to charge meals.**

Payment:

- Students, parents, or guardians must pre-pay a student account.
- Credit/debit card payments can be made online through RevTrak [here](#).
- Lunch account information is available through the PowerSchool portal.
- For access, contact the front office at (706)-989-3678.

<https://www.chattco.org/page/school-foods>