



**2024-2025**

**JAMES F. BYRNES HIGH SCHOOL**

150 East Main Street

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[www.spart5.net/BHS](http://www.spart5.net/BHS)

## **Principal**

Mrs. Erin Greenway

## **Assistant Principals**

Students will be assigned to a principal by last name.

Mr. David Segarra	A-CI
Ms. Jasia Martin	Cm-Gi
Ms. Tasha Brockman	Gj-Kr
Mrs. Robin Bronson	Ks-Ob
Mr. Ben Enloe	Oc-Sl
Mr. John Pachter	Sm-Z
Mrs. Sabrina Brackett	Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Nathan Crum	Registrar

## **Athletic Director**

Dr. Russ Howard

## **Guidance Staff**

Director of Guidance and Counseling  
Career Development Facilitator  
Career Development Facilitator  
Mentor Coordinator

Dr. Tracy Mabry  
Mrs. Cindy Sanders  
Mr. Kevin Wyatt  
Mrs. Rubye Calhoun

Students will be assigned to a counselor by last name.

Dr. Tracy Mabry	A-Cal
Mr. Reggie Gray	Cam-Fro
Mrs. Josie Ivey	Frp-Ka
Ms. Madison Carver	Kb-Na
Ms. Amber Hartfield	Nb-Sil
Mr. Jamar Armstrong	Sin-Z

This handbook contains Byrnes High School's rules and regulations. Each student will receive a copy and is responsible for its entire contents. Failure to read this booklet is an unacceptable reason for students not following the rules. If there are any questions, please discuss them with your assistant principal, counselor, or parent. The administration of Byrnes High School reserves the right to amend any portion of this handbook.

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*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this handbook. Changes in policy may require adjustments in content. Students remain responsible for knowing and following updates and changes.*

## **Byrnes High School Mission Statement**

The Mission of James F. Byrnes High School is to provide every student quality educational experiences in a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment, enabling each individual to succeed in life and function as a productive citizen.

## **Byrnes High School Vision Statement**

James F. Byrnes High School will pursue exemplary educational opportunities and academic excellence in order to improve the quality of life for our students and community.

## **Beliefs**

We believe that...

- Children are our most valuable resource.
- Public education is a pillar of our society.
- Integrity is taught by example.
- Excellence is achievable.
- Mutual respect is beneficial.
- Knowledge empowers.
- Diversity strengthens.
- Family is the foundation of society.
- Children need supportive adult role models.
- Attitude makes a difference.
- Learning is a lifelong process.
- Personal responsibility serves the common good.
- Stewardship of resources maintains trust.

## **Alma Mater**

*'Neath these Carolina skies  
On Earth's fairest land,  
Here our alma mater lies  
Held in God's own hand.  
May His blessings keep thee safe  
May Thy children be  
True to these ideals we've learned  
James Byrnes High, from thee.*

## **Chorus**

*To our alma mater bring songs of love and praise;  
Grateful hearts will not forget happy high school days....  
Rally 'round the grey and blue! Sound the rebel cry!  
Loyal sons and daughters true of James F. Byrnes High.*

## GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

### Cafeteria Procedures

1. Each student will be assigned an account. In order to keep track of these accounts, each student will be issued a bar coded personal identification card.
2. The cafeteria can accept payment daily via cash, check, or online. Students may use cash to pay for a meal at the end of each line.
3. Students may use cash to pay for a meal at the end of each line.
4. Parents can pay for students' meals online via the district website's lunch prepay icon or by using [k12paymentcenter.com](http://k12paymentcenter.com).
5. For updated meal prices, please check the school website. For information on the free and reduced meal programs contact the school office, or call District Five Administrative Offices at 949-2350.
6. No food or drinks may be taken into classroom areas unless special permission is obtained from the administration. No plastic cafeteria trays will be allowed outside.
7. Students are expected to keep their eating areas clean of trash. Students who fail to do so will be handled under the discipline code.
8. Do not leave pocketbooks or book bags on tables to save tables.
9. Carry only 1 tray through the line.
10. Students are not to have food delivered to school by a public eating establishment.
11. Only the parents or guardian of students are allowed to eat lunch with them.

### Complaints and Grievances

District Five Schools of Spartanburg County will continue to operate in a nondiscriminatory manner without regard to race, religion, national origin, age, color, immigrant status, English speaking status or disabling condition.

The district provides a grievance procedure as a formal method for the resolution of any grievances concerning the treatment of students by district personnel. These grievances may arise from allegations of violations of student legal rights or district policy.

In addition, the board recognizes there may be conditions in the school system which the district could improve and that students should have

some means by which they can effectively express their concerns. The district will resolve student complaints and grievances through orderly processes and at the lowest possible level.

A teacher will provide any student or his/her parent/guardian the opportunity to discuss a decision or situation which the student considers unjust or unfair.

If the incident remains unresolved, the student or his/her parent/guardian or the teacher may bring the matter to the principal's attention for consideration and action.

The student may also bring the matter to the attention of class officers or the student council (in grades and schools where such are elected) for possible presentation to the principal.

If the matter is still unresolved after the procedure outlined above, the complaining party may bring it to the superintendent or appointed assistant for consideration.

If the matter is still unresolved, the complaining party may bring it in writing to the board for review. The chairperson of the board, at his/her discretion, may waive the written appeal if the circumstances warrant. In all instances the staff member who made the decision that is being appealed will have the right to be present.

### Title IX Complaints

Students who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their sex have the right to appeal to their principals. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the principal, he/she may appeal to the district Title IX coordinator, and, if still not satisfied, may appeal to the superintendent and then to the board. The superintendent will schedule appeals to the board.

### Hazing Policy

The district prohibits hazing by students, staff and third parties as a part of any school-sponsored activity. All students and employees must avoid any action that could be viewed as planning, directing, encouraging, assisting or engaging in any hazing activity. Further, no administrator, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee will permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing.

For purposes of this policy, state law defines hazing as “the wrongful striking, laying open hand upon, threatening with violence or offering to do bodily harm by a superior student to a subordinate student with

intent to punish or injure the subordinate student, or other unauthorized treatment by the superior student of a subordinate student of a tyrannical, abusive, shameful, insulting, or humiliating nature.” Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, will be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to hazing is encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with policy III. All complaints will be investigated promptly and confidentially. The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against a student who has filed a complaint of hazing.

Any student or employee who is found to have engaged in hazing will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination in the case of an employee or expulsion in the case of a student. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials. The district will take all other appropriate steps to correct or rectify the situation.

#### 504s

Students who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their handicapping condition have the right to appeal to the school’s 504 Coordinator. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the school’s 504 Coordinator, he/she may appeal to the district 504 coordinator, and, if still not satisfied may appeal to the superintendent and then to the board. The superintendent will schedule appeals to the board.

#### Due Process

The board and its administrators will treat all students with fairness. Before school authorities administer disciplinary measures, they will make reasonable inquiry to determine the truth of what happened. The nature of the inquiry will vary with the seriousness of the offense and the consequences. The board directs school authorities to adhere to due process requirements when making decisions directly affecting students' protected rights under federal and state law. Such requirements may include the following:

1. sufficient notice of charges and of hearing rights,
2. the opportunity to be heard,
3. hearing before an impartial body (i.e. not subject to the same person for both prosecution and decision),

4. punishment as prescribed by the general assembly, state board of education and/or board policy with the right to judicial review If a student feels that teachers, principals, superintendents or any agents of the board have injured his/her rights, he/she may appeal the action in accordance with the district grievance procedure Policy JEC.

### Discrimination

Discrimination of all persons is prohibited with regard to employment and any other program or activity on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin, age, color, immigrant status, English speaking status or disabling condition in District Five Schools of Spartanburg County as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended.

Title IX Coordinator: Mr. Todd Hardy, Chief Administrative Officer.

### Examination Exemptions

Seniors with an “A” average for the course, and have met the College and Career Ready standards, will be allowed to exempt final exams. This does not include AP, Dual Credit, and EOC courses. No early exams will be given. All other school, district, and state-mandated test dates will be announced by the school test administrator.

***\*No late exams will be given after May 30th, 2025.\****

### Test Room Electronic Imaging and Photography Devices

Students may not bring into the standardized testing room any electronic device that can be used for communication, timing, or imaging. These devices include but are not limited to cell phones, pagers, beepers, headphones, stop watches, electronic translators, hand-held devices, PDAs, or any other electronic imaging or photographic device.

### Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of inclement weather, students/parents/guardians should check the local television and radio stations for information regarding

school closings and delays. The media should have applicable information by 6 a.m.

### **Lost/Stolen Items**

The school is not responsible for any personal items that are lost, stolen, or damaged on school property.

### **Media Center Procedures**

1. The media center is open from 7:15 a.m. until 3:50 p.m. Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Roberts are eager to help students locate reliable sources on the shelves and in Mackin, our platform for digital sources, and find great books to read. Ask them for assistance whenever you visit the library. As a BHS student, you have access to thousands of books, hundreds of eBooks, and dozens of databases to help you with projects or prepare for the ACT, SAT, ASVAB, and AP exams. Books are searchable through Follett Destiny. Our digital library of databases, eBooks, comics, audiobooks, and magazines is available through Mackin. Links to each are available in students' and staff's Classlink.
2. Individual students may visit the library during class with a pass signed by their teacher. Students must sign in at the check in desk. Students may come to the library and eat during their lunch.
3. Students may check out up to 3 books at a time using their school ID. Books may be checked out for 21 days and may be renewed at the discretion of the librarians if no one else is on hold for the items. Other items such as eBooks and audiobooks are checked out for a period of 21 days and may be renewed once, unless there is a request for the item.
4. Library materials should be returned to the big blue Book Return box in the library. If a student does not have time to return a book, Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Roberts are willing to come to their classroom to get it if they send them an email.
5. Students are not charged overdue fines for late materials, but students are expected to return materials by the due date out of respect for other students who may be waiting to borrow those books. Students with overdue library materials cannot check out or reserve library materials. Notices of overdue library materials will be sent to students weekly. Students are encouraged to check their school email account for notices. Failure to receive an overdue notice does not relieve students of the responsibility of returning the materials.

6. Library materials checked out to a student become the responsibility of that student under all circumstances.
7. Students may print assignments at no charge by sharing documents with the librarians.
8. The library does monthly book clubs for students and faculty. students are encouraged to participate in our Read a Book, Win a Prize biweekly prize drawings after they finish a book. See Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Roberts for more details.
9. DELIVERY SERVICE: Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Roberts want you to have books even if you do not have time to come to the library. Choose a book from the Follett Catalog and place it on hold. Mrs. Ray or Mrs. Roberts will deliver it to you.

### **Media Policy**

Occasionally students, faculty, and staff may be photographed, interviewed, and/or identified for publication, broadcast transmission, and/or electronic display by the news media or school / district public relations officials. All releases will be performed in accordance with school district policy and privacy laws. As required, only “directory” type information will be provided. This includes name, school, grade level, teacher, participation in officially recognized activities, etc. Parents or students who have questions or concerns should contact the school principal.

### **Opening and Closing of the Building**

The school will be open for student entry at 7:00am. Students will be required to use their IDs to enter the building when entering the main office, rebel entrance, gym lobby, and ROTC Evolv entrances. For cleaning and security reasons, among others, students must clear the building by 4:00 p.m. each day. Students should establish daily prearranged times for transportation so they will not need to use the office phone. **Only students who are under direct supervision of a teacher are allowed to remain past 4:00 p.m.** No students should re-enter any building after 4:00 p.m. without permission. Students who choose to disregard this request will be subject to disciplinary action. No students should be in the gyms or gym areas unless under the direct supervision of a coach. The main office will close at 4:00 p.m.

## **Parent/Guardian Communications**

Parents and guardians may receive the following types of communications from administrators, teachers, and other staff members: Phone calls, notes, letters, postcards (only positive, non-confidential information), and email. School personnel need current phone information (home, cell, and work numbers) and address information (home and Internet) from parents and guardians in order to foster success for students. Information is delivered through multiple means including Schoology, email, Facebook, and Twitter. Parents are also encouraged to access teachers' web pages and email teachers for information: [www.spart5.net/bhs](http://www.spart5.net/bhs)

## **Parent/Student Portal**

Parents and guardians of students in Spartanburg School District Five are able to view student progress through the Parent Portal. The system brings together teachers, students, parents and administrators in a web-based data system. It may be accessed from any place with Internet access. You can find the link for Parent Portal on the J. F. Byrnes website. The application uses a secure link that encrypts the data to and from the end user and is very secure.

Parent access to Parent Portal will be by unique login ID (username) and password. For families with more than one child in the District, a separate parent username and password will be provided for access to each child's information. The parent/guardian ID and password may be obtained in person. The login information may be acquired at registration, open house, or in the guidance office.

Parent Portal allows parents to see the following:

1. Student's schedule
2. Student's attendance
3. Any grades entered into teacher's grade book
4. Any comments entered for grades by teachers
5. Final grades
6. E-mail notification options

Students are able to access the same information as parents through Student Portal and are encouraged to check their progress and grades frequently to ensure academic success.

## **Professional Qualifications**

As a parent of a student at James F. Byrnes High School, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teachers and instructional assistants who instruct your child. Professional qualifications include:

- Licensing criteria for the grade level/subject areas in which instruction is provided.
- The baccalaureate degree major.
- Graduate certification or degree held and the field or discipline of the certification.
- The qualifications of teacher assistants, if the child is provided instructional services by them.

A parent who wishes to inquire about the qualifications of his/her child's teacher or instructional assistant should make a written request to the school principal. The inquiry may address only the qualifications listed above.

## **Public Relations Release**

Occasionally our students, faculty, and staff may be photographed, interviewed, and/or identified for publication, broadcast, transmission, and/or electronic display by the news media or school and district public relations officials. All releases will be performed in accordance with school district policy and privacy laws. As required, only directory type information will be provided. This includes name, school, grade level, teacher, participation in officially recognized activities, etc. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school principal.

## **Rebel Success Center**

Academic Teachers offer free tutoring through the Rebel Success Center. Tutoring sessions are offered every Monday and Wednesday from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in English, Social Studies, Math, and Science. In addition, each academic department offers extra help to students before and after school. Please contact the teacher directly to receive more information about the time and place for scheduled tutorial sessions.

## **REBS**

REBS (**R**ebel **E**ducators **B**uilding Relationships with Students) is an advisor/advisee program that is designed to enable students to gain

knowledge needed to make informed academic and career prep decisions. It encourages positive relationships between a small group of students and a caring adult. The program also serves to provide opportunities for ongoing assessments of student strengths, weaknesses, career and academic objectives, as well as promote short and long term goal setting. Every student at Byrnes is assigned to a REBS group that they will grow with during all three years of high school.

**REBS Schedule:**

August 12th & 28th	September 13th & 24th
October 17th & 29th	November 13th
December 5th	January 17th & 30th
February 11th & 24th	March 5th & 20th
April 2nd & 24th	

**Signing In/Out**

When students are not at school a full day (8:15-3:30), they must sign in/out in the attendance office. RDA, MSC, and BFA students should sign in/out at either school.

**Student Council Officers**

President: Emma Kait Brooks  
Vice President: Samantha Peacock  
Secretary: Eden Simmons  
Treasurer: Gabi Williams

**Textbooks**

Students are given textbooks for use during the school year. These textbooks are on loan and are the student’s responsibility while checked out to them. Students will be required to pay the full replacement cost for the textbook if lost or damaged. Any damage to the bar code will result in a \$10.00 replacement fee for the bar code **unless** the textbook has been damaged, which will result in the student being assessed the full replacement cost for the textbook.

## **GUIDANCE**

If a student needs to see a school counselor, they should contact their assigned counselor to request an appointment via email, telephone, or by visiting the Guidance Office. Parents, guardians, teachers, and administrators may also make a request on the student's behalf.

### **Change of Address**

Please inform the Guidance Office if you change your address, phone numbers, or emergency contact phone numbers. You must provide a proof of residency for a change of address.

### **Class Rank**

Class rank is a statistic based on how a student's overall grade point average (GPA) compares to other students in the same graduation class. Class rank is most commonly used for college admissions and state scholarship eligibility. It is only calculated for students on a diploma track, and only class ranks calculated at the end of a school year are reported for certain state scholarship purposes. Only Seniors who graduate at the end of the Spring term of a school year receive a final class rank to be used toward state scholarships. Students who graduate at the conclusion of a Fall or Summer term do not receive a class rank. If a student is relying on state scholarships for higher education, they must meet the alternative requirements for eligibility.

It is possible for two students to receive the same final class rank at the end of a school year, so the state demands that schools have a tiebreaker system in case of any impact to scholarship availability. As soon as a tiebreaker can be determined, then the student with the higher value is recognized as holding the higher class rank. At Byrnes, ties are resolved by the following (in this order): (1) SC UGP GPA calculated to the longest possible decimal place; (2) SC 4.0 Round Scale GPA; (3) Total number of credits earned; (4) SC UGP GPA calculated only for core (non-elective) courses.

At Byrnes, class rank follows the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. It is calculated based on weighted GPAs earned from each course completion's final grade. This weighted system is as follows:

### South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions

<b>Numerical Average</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>College Prep Weighting</b>	<b>Honors Weighting</b>	<b>AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting</b>
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800

67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100

### **College Applications and Scholarships**

Seniors applying for college should follow their prospective college’s instructions for admissions. If a student needs a transcript or academic record for their application, they should submit a request via their student account in Parchment. Seniors and their parents interested in applying for scholarships should routinely check the Senior Information section of the Guidance webpage to view updated offerings sent in from the school and community. Seniors should pay close attention to scholarship deadlines and make sure to give counselors ample time to complete any necessary steps.

### **Course Retake**

Students may retake a course at the same level of difficulty if they have earned a D or a F in that course. Retaking the course means the student must complete the entire course again (including EOCs where applicable). The student’s transcript will reflect both course instances, but only one course attempt and the highest grade earned will be calculated in the GPA. A course retake must occur by the end of the subsequent school year or before the next sequential course, whichever comes first. A student may not retake a course if the course being

replaced has already been used as a prerequisite for enrollment in a subsequent course. Students who took a high-school level course prior to their ninth grade year may retake that course during their ninth-grade year regardless of the grade earned. The transcript will reflect both course instances, but only one course attempt and the highest grade earned will be calculated in the GPA.

**Credit Recovery**

Students who have failed a core content class with a final grade of 52-59 and have taken the SC End of Course Exam (if required) may attend a self-paced after-school or day computer-based class. A student selecting this option must attend classes during the scheduled time in order to earn a grade of Pass (P) and recover the unit of credit. The P will appear on the student’s transcript. It will not replace the original grade’s GPA, but it will award credit for the course. Students wishing to replace a failing grade’s impact on their GPA should retake the entire course.

**Diploma Requirements for South Carolina**

*Effective March 24, 2006 – SC State Board of Education:* Each student must earn a total of 24 prescribed units of credit or fulfill all of the requirements for a local diploma to participate in the commencement exercises. The requirements are distributed as follows:

Subject	Unit Requirements
English/Language Arts	4 units
Mathematics*	4 units
Science**	3 units
US History & Constitution	1 unit
Economics	½ unit
Government	½ unit
Other Social Studies	1 unit
Physical Education or JROTC	1 unit
Computer Science	1 unit
Career and Technology or Modern Language	1 unit
Personal Finance	.5 units
Electives	6.5 units
Total Units	24 units

\*Mathematics credits must include Algebra 1 (or its equivalent)

\*\*Science credits must include Biology

Please refer to the current course catalog for higher education requirements.

### **Dual Enrollment**

Dual Enrollment programs offer students a chance to earn college and high school credits at the same time. These programs are formal partnerships between Byrnes and local colleges. However, college credit hours earned through Dual Enrollment may or may not transfer to other institutions of higher education. Students should conduct their own research regarding transfer of credits. Students wishing to pursue Dual Enrollment outside of Byrnes programs should inquire with the Registrar to ensure that earned credits will be accepted. Credits from non-viable or non-accredited programs will not be accepted for credit.

### **Early Graduation Requirements**

1. Seniors should contact their school counselor by June of their junior year if they plan to complete all graduation requirements by December of the Senior year. A completed early completion form must be accepted and approved in order to continue with early graduation.
2. Early graduates may participate in Spring graduation ceremonies; however, they are considered non-students in all Spring school activities that follow their early graduation in December (e.g. Junior/ Senior Prom, Awards Program).
3. Students who plan to complete course work early but decide to return or need to return due to failure of courses will be scheduled into available second semester courses as the master schedule permits.
4. Each early graduate must contact staff at Byrnes by May regarding required graduation practice dates.
5. Early graduate transcripts are finalized after the Fall term provided they have met graduation requirements. Early graduates do not receive a final class rank. If an early graduate is relying on state scholarships for higher education, they must meet the alternative requirements for eligibility.

## **Homebound Instruction**

Parents of students who require homebound instruction need to contact the Guidance Department for a homebound form and to discuss homebound procedures. Depending on the duration and the restrictions listed by the doctor on the approved homebound form, it is possible that students may not be able to earn credit for certain courses.

## **Honors**

All formal end-of-year honors dependent upon class rank or GPA are calculated in accordance with the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian: Calculation for naming the ceremonial valedictorian and salutatorian will not be determined until the submission of grades for the final semester of the senior year. In order to be considered a valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must have been in attendance at Byrnes for the second semester of their junior year and both semesters of their senior year.

SC Honor Graduates: This honor denotes students who have met the requirements of the SC Academic Honors Award.

Byrnes Honor Graduates: This honor denotes students in the top 10% of the graduating class at the end of first semester of the senior year. These students must have attended Byrnes for both semesters of their senior year.

Junior Marshals: This honor denotes the top-ranking students as determined at the end of the first semester of their junior year. These students must have attended Byrnes for both semesters of their junior year and have no discipline referrals in high school that resulted in out of school suspension.

## **Minimum Course Load**

At Byrnes High School, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are required to take 8 credits each school year. Seniors are required to take 7 credits per school year. Seniors deemed College/Career Ready (CCR) are only required to take 6 credits per school year. Dual credit courses count as one course per class period.

## **Privacy of Student Records**

Personally identifiable student records are not open to public inspection. Any member of the general public desiring to inspect student records

must obtain the written consent of parents, legal guardians, students of legal age, and post-secondary students whose identifiable information appears in such records. Any questions concerning student records should be addressed to the school principal.

The revised **Family Rights and Privacy Act** became a federal law in **December 1974**. This law is designed to protect the accuracy and privacy of student educational records. With reference to this law, please note the following:

1. Parents and eligible students (18 and older) have the right to inspect and review their own or their children's educational records. Parents and eligible students have a right to request that corrections be made in school records that they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. All requests should be made in writing to the school principal or other identified school official. The school official will make or coordinate needed corrections and notify the parents of a specific time and place that the records may be inspected.
2. Parents and students may request that records be released to other schools where students are transferring.
3. Officials of Byrnes High School may release without consent the following kinds of directory information contained in students' educational records: name, sex, race, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, number of days absent, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height (if member of an athletic team), degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended. Parents or students who do NOT want this information released must submit a written request to the Principal.
4. The definition of school official shall be any person employed by Byrnes High as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement personnel), a person serving on the school board, a person with whom the school has contracted to perform a specific task.

## Promotion Policies

Requirements for grade level promotion is based on the following minimum requirements:

- Grade 10:** 6 units including, 1 English, 1 math, and 4 other units
- Grade 11:** 12 units including, 2 English, 2 math, 1 science, and 1 social studies and 6 other units
- Grade 12 and 4th year students:** 18 units and be enrolled in all courses required to graduate in May.

## Schedule Changes

During the summer a course schedule is constructed for each student based on the courses selected by the student during the prior school year. Any request for changes to these selected courses should be made before the summer. After that point, schedules may be changed only for the following reasons:

1. Student failed a subject and is scheduled to repeat it under the same teacher
2. Student is scheduled for a class for which the required prerequisites have not been met
3. Student is scheduled for a class for which credit has been granted
4. Student is scheduled for the wrong grade level
5. An unavoidable scheduling error or conflict regarding a selected course within the master schedule

Students who withdraw from a course after the allowable window (third day of a 45-day course, fifth day of a 90-day course) for a reason not stated above, and not including administrative approvals and/or transfers, will receive a WF (Withdraw Failing) for the course, which will show on their transcript and calculate as a 50 in their GPA.

## Scholars Academy/Spartanburg County Early College High School/Virtual Students

Scholars Academy/Spartanburg County Early College High School/full-time virtual student graduates will be included in the overall class rank at Byrnes High School but will not be eligible for recognition

as ceremonial valedictorians, salutatorians, or marshals. However, they may be recognized as honor graduates and receive all other rights and privileges that utilize class rank.

**Spartanburg County Virtual School Program**

At Byrnes High School, students may enroll in virtual courses through the South Carolina Virtual School or Spartanburg County Virtual School. If a student and his/her parent(s) desire information regarding virtual schooling, available online courses, and enrollment procedures, they should meet with a guidance counselor to discuss the application process and course selection.

**Withdrawal**

Students withdrawing from Byrnes High School should follow specific procedures to facilitate a smooth transfer to another school. A legal parent/guardian is required to withdraw a student. They should report to the school with a photo ID, complete a withdrawal form, and follow school staff’s instructions to initiate this process. Students should work to return all books, materials, and school-issued electronic devices, as well as clear all library, cafeteria, and parking fines before withdrawing. Uncollected fees and materials will be noted on final withdrawal paperwork and submitted to collection procedures.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance policies and procedures at James F. Byrnes are designed to incorporate South Carolina State Board of Education regulations. The unlawful absences pertaining to truancy are cumulative for the entire school year (180 days).

**State Board Regulation: 43-274. Student Attendance**

**A. Lawful and Unlawful Absences:** School districts must adopt policies to define and list lawful and unlawful absences.

- 1. Lawful absences include but are not limited to
  - a. absences caused by a student’s own illness and whose attendance in school would endanger his or her health or the health of others
  - b. absences due to an illness or death in the student’s immediate family
  - c. absences due to a recognized religious holiday of the student’s faith,

d. absences due to activities that are approved in advance by the principal

2. Unlawful absences include but are not limited to

a. absences of a student without the knowledge of his/her parents, or

b. absences of a student without acceptable cause with the knowledge of his/her parents

3. Suspension is not to be counted as an unlawful absence for truancy purposes.

**B. Truancy:** The State Board of Education recognizes that truancy is primarily an educational issue and that all reasonable, educationally sound, corrective actions should be undertaken by the school district prior to resorting to the juvenile justice system.

1. Truant: A child ages 6-17 meets the definition of a truant when the child has three consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five unlawful absences.

2. Habitual Truant: A “habitual truant” is a child, ages 12-17, who fails to comply with the intervention plan developed by the school, the child, and the parent(s) or guardian(s) and who accumulates two or more additional unlawful absences. This child may need court intervention and an initial truancy petition may be filed. The written intervention plan and documentation of noncompliance must be attached to the truancy petition asking for court intervention.

3. Chronic Truant: A “chronic truant” is a child 12-17 years who has been through the school intervention process, has reached the level of a “habitual” truant, has been referred to Family Court and placed on an order to attend school, and continues to accumulate unlawful absences. Should other community alternatives and referrals fail to remedy the attendance problem, the “chronic” truant may be referred to the Family Court for violation of a previous court order. All school intervention plans existing to this point for this child and family must accompany the Contempt of Court petition as well as the written recommendation from the school to the court on action the court should take.

### **Requirements for Attendance**

Students are expected to attend school regularly. Requirements for attendance are 42/45 days in a 9-week course, 85/90 days in an 18-week (one semester) course. Students must all meet these same requirements.

**Students must be in class at least one hour to receive credit for the class.**

### **Attendance Recapture**

Attendance Recapture is a program designed to assist students who have used more than the maximum allowable absences in South Carolina public schools. This program can only assist those students who have exceeded the limits by narrow margins. Students must have at least a **52** in the class in order to participate in recapture. Principals and counselors can provide additional information.

### **College/Military Visits**

Juniors and seniors may participate in college or military installation visits up to two days during the fall semester and up to two days during the spring semester. For attendance purposes, these four days per year will be listed as college days; however, students are required to submit letters or other verifications of attendance from universities, colleges, or military personnel. **The documents must be printed on official stationery and identify specific dates of attendance.**

### **Credit Denial Due to Insufficient Attendance**

Administrators will review each attendance situation at the end of the course. When extenuating circumstances arise, the administrator will determine if credit will be granted. The establishment of rules and regulations defining lawful and unlawful absences is based on the SC State Board Regulations for Attendance.

Avoid credit denial by attending classes and be in class for the appropriate amount of time.

### **Early Dismissal from School or Class**

If a student should need to leave school early for any reason, he/she should submit the online request form or bring a note containing the following information:

1. Current date
2. Student's full name
3. Student's grade level
4. Time to be dismissed
5. Specific reason(s) for dismissal
6. Phone numbers where parents/guardians can be reached

to verify notes

7. Signatures of parents/guardians

### **Early Dismissal Online Request**

See Attendance Information link at [www.spart5.net/bhs](http://www.spart5.net/bhs) under Site Shortcuts.

1. All requests must be presented to the attendance clerk in the front office before noon.
2. **Students who leave campus early must go to the attendance office and sign out. Students who fail to sign out will be given Principals' Detention.**
3. Times for early dismissals should coincide with the beginning or ending of a class period **to reduce instructional disruptions.**
4. **Students with an early dismissal note will need to sign out in the Attendance Office at Byrnes or RD (when on RD's campus).** No student will be allowed to leave or return during a class period without a medical appointment or without a parent coming to the office to sign the student in or out. Parents are requested to sign students in/out only at the end of a class period.
5. No phone calls will be accepted for early dismissal. Parent requests should be submitted in writing or online before 10:00.
6. Administrative approval will be required for early dismissals/late arrivals that do not meet the above criteria.
7. **Parents who want to sign students out during Lunch and Return to School the Same Day:** Parents/guardians must go to the Attendance Office and sign out students. Parents/guardians must also sign students back in when they return to school.
8. **Students with medical appointments may sign themselves out and return with a medical note.** They must check out through an approved early dismissal parent note. They must check in at the Attendance Office.
9. Students with 4th period study hall who have early dismissal must turn in their early dismissal form to the attendance office.
10. All exceptions must be cleared with administration.
11. Students who are 18 or older will not be allowed to leave campus without parental permission.

## **Returning from an Absence**

On the day students return to school, they must present the receptionist with documentation for Type I absences and signed parent notes (written on District Five absence forms located in the back of the handbook and on the BHS web page) for Type II absences. The BHS administration reserves the right to determine the authenticity of all notes, letters, and other documentation submitted for absences. Students have three school days to submit documentation and notes. The classification of absences is UNLAWFUL (unexcused) without these items. Students should turn notes into their first period teachers. Written requests for special consideration can be submitted to the principal in cases of extenuating circumstances. Attendance appeals will not be considered until the end of the grading period and must be completed within two weeks after report cards are issued.

## **Interventions for Problematic Attendance**

To encourage and assist students in attending school regularly, the school administrator or his/her designee will implement the following intervention procedures.

1. A computerized system will call parents whose students are absent from school. Please be diligent in updating phone information in order to receive the calls.
2. The attendance clerk will send a letter to parents:
  - a. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> absence (excluding Type I absences)
  - b. On the 5<sup>th</sup> absence (excluding Type I absences)
3. Teachers will contact parents on students' 3<sup>rd</sup> absence from courses.
4. Grade principals will call the parents of students who have been absent five days (excluding Type I absences). The principal or his/her designee may require a School Intervention Team meeting with the parent/guardian and student (when appropriate).
5. Grade principals will monitor attendance of students who are denied credit during a previous year. On the third absence in courses of the current year, grade-level principals will hold conferences with students.
6. Continued absenteeism will be referred to the juvenile justice system.

### Maximum Allowed Absences

The SC legislature mandates that credit for courses be denied if students' absences exceed the following limits (3 or 5):

1. More than 3 (Type II & Type III) absences in nine-week courses
2. More than 5 (Type II & Type III) absences in 18-week or one semester courses

### Make-Up Work

Students are responsible for making up work in class due to missed class time. Students must request make-up work from teachers but not during class time (students may view schoology, email teachers, or see the teachers before/after school). **Only in lawful (excused) or out-of-school suspension cases will students be allowed to make up missed work within a five day period.** All other absences will result in zeros for missed work.

### Types of Absences

Types I Absences-

Do NOT count toward the maximum allowable absences for courses (3 or 5):

- Excused/lawful
- Permission to make up work

Bereavement/Funerals *Immediate Family Members	Documented with obituaries or funeral service programs (3 days)
Chronic Illness (approved form must be on file)	Documented with parent note within 3 days stating absences were due to chronic illness
College/Military Visits Juniors & Seniors only	Documented with official letters (original copy)
Court Dates	Documented with court papers (original copy)
Extraordinary circumstances	Written request by parents or guardians; must be approved by the Principal (in advance, if possible)
Field Trips	Documented by teachers

Homebound	Documented by homebound teachers and guidance counselors
ISS	Documented by principals
Medical/Dental Appointment (classes will be coded according to time indicated on medical note)	Documented on official stationery from certified health professionals (original copy) The students must be the patient.
Out of Classes for Testing	Documented by teachers
Religious Holidays	Documented by official letter; required approval by the principal prior to the event

**Type II Absences-**

DO count toward the maximum allowable absences for courses (3 or 5):

- Excused/lawful
- Permission to make up work
- Three school days to submit parent notes

Parent Notes: The official absentee form is located on the web site, in the back of the Student Handbook, and from the Attendance Office. Parent notes must include: Current date, full names of student, grade level of student, dates of absences, reasons for absences, phone numbers where parents/guardians can be reached to verify notes, signatures of parents/guardians

**Type III Absences-**

Any absence that does not fit either of the above two categories. DO count toward the maximum allowable absences for courses (3 or 5):

- Unexcused/unlawful
- No permission to make up work

Examples are absences without parent notes or other required documentation, cases of students skipping/cutting classes, students leaving campus without permission, etc. These unlawful absences will be referred to the school administration for appropriate disciplinary action.

## HEALTH SERVICES

### Health Plans

South Carolina law (Section 59-63-80 and 59-63-90) requires school districts to inform parents and/or legal guardians of the rights of students with special health needs. Students who qualify for services related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and/or homebound regulations may be entitled to an Individual Health Care Plan. For additional information about Individual Health Care Plans, you may contact your school nurse or the District Health Services Coordinator. The following websites will supply additional information as well:

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html>

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and/or Homebound Services

<https://sites.ed.gov/idea/?src=policy-page>

### Administration of Medication

Prior to administering ANY medication all of the following procedures must be followed:

1. A signed and dated Medication Administration Form (located on our district website) or statement from the prescribing physician giving specific information concerning the medical diagnosis and medication administration must be on file. Adjustment in previously prescribed medications will be accepted over the telephone from the physician.
2. A signed and dated Medication Administration Form or written statement from the parent or guardian must be on file outlining the medication, time of administration, and dates to be administered.
3. The prescribed medication, the physician's statement, and the parental statement must ALL be delivered to the school nurse or district health official **each school year**.

### Diseases

In accordance with the SC Exclusion Law for Communicable Diseases, SC Code Sections 20-7-2980, 44-1-140, and 44-29-10, District Five

Schools provides a list of the conditions requiring exclusion from school. This list is located in each school office for the community.

### **Medication Regulations**

1. Any oral non-prescription medication, such as Tylenol, aspirin, toothache medication, or cough syrup, will not be administered by any school personnel or volunteer on school property without a prescription from a physician and parental permission.
2. No ointments, or lotions, such as Calamine or Caladryl lotion, etc., will be applied by any school personnel or volunteer on school property.
3. Topical antiseptics and cleansers, such as alcohol, peroxide, etc. may be administered by a school nurse on school property.
4. The district health coordinator and school nurse will be available to discuss any medication question with school personnel, parents, or physicians.
5. The district health coordinator or school nurse will coordinate any needed standing orders with physician and athletic staff.

### **Procedures for Returning Medication to Students**

No medication is to be returned home, except under the following procedures:

1. The parent/guardian may pick up/drop off the medicine to/from the school nurse, district health coordinator, principal or his designee.
2. No medication is to be returned home with students.
3. The parent/legal guardian will reclaim any unused medications within one week of the termination of treatment or by the last day of school. The school will destroy any unused medications after this time.

**Neither the school district nor its personnel will be responsible for the occurrence of any adverse drug reaction when the medication has been given in the manner prescribed. The school district retains the discretion to reject requests for assisting students with medication.**

## **Sickness or First Aid**

If a student becomes ill at school, a school official will notify the parent/guardian and ask that the student be picked up by a responsible adult. This will be a parental absence unless a medical note is received. Students may remain out of class for one period, after which they will be required to return to classes or go home. Students who become ill at school may use the health room as a holding area for one class period.

## **STUDENT CONDUCT**

### **Student Conduct and Discipline**

Byrnes High School has developed a code of conduct that conforms to the State Discipline Code. The regulations apply to school activities, conduct on school bus/transportation vehicles, and all school-sponsored activities.

1. Students are not allowed to violate the rights of other students.
2. Persons entering school property are deemed to have consented to a search of their person, property, lockers, cars, book bags, or any other property.
3. Administrators have the sole discretion to modify the discipline code and designate the severity of offenses.
4. Students forfeit their privileges to attend activities outside the normal school day if they create disciplinary problems at school or extracurricular events.
5. Students may be placed on probationary status at any time during the disciplinary cycle.
6. Students who are suspended at Byrnes High School are also suspended at any other affiliated campuses .
7. Students and parents may appeal disciplinary actions beginning with teachers and progressing through assistant principals, the principal, and superintendent (or his designee).

### **Discipline Guidelines**

1. Students may not interrupt the flow of traffic in the halls by loitering.
2. Upon arrival on campus students may not leave campus at any time during the school day without following early dismissal procedures.
3. Students are not to remain in parked vehicles. Students who do so may have their parking privileges revoked.

4. Students are not permitted to visit the student parking lot during the day without permission from an administrator.
5. Skateboards are strictly prohibited on campus at all times and will be confiscated.
6. Students will not be excused from classes without approval of the administration.
7. Students should follow their daily schedule, if they are found in any other area without permission it will be considered off limits.
8. Students will not be allowed to congregate in the lobby or in the hallway near the offices in the mornings, at lunch times, or in the afternoons. Please do not enter or exit the main building through the lobby. This is an office area.
9. Rules pertaining to the vending areas must be observed at all times.
10. The privilege of having vending machines depends on these rules being followed.
11. Sales of any non-approved items on school grounds are prohibited and violators are liable for suspension from school.
12. Possession of articles with slogans, words, pictures, patches, buttons, flags, bandanas, emblems or symbols that degrade human dignity are prohibited and violators are liable for suspension from school.
13. Blankets are not permitted.

### **Disorderly Conduct Level I**

Disorderly conduct is defined as those activities engaged in by students which tend to impede orderly classroom procedures, instructional activities, or the orderly operation of the school. Examples of infractions in this category follow, but the list is not all-inclusive.

1. Arriving tardy to class
2. Being rude toward fellow students
3. Breaking in lunch line
4. Committing acts of minor vandalism
5. Disrupting class by abusing restroom use
6. Eating or drinking in class
7. Endangering others by throwing objects
8. Failure to return trays and clean up meal area

- 9. Possessing articles of clothing or other items with inappropriate slogans, words, pictures, drawings, or other dress code violations, etc.
- 10. Running in halls
- 11. Sleeping in class
- 12. Talking excessively

Teachers and staff members will use a variety of methods and techniques to modify student behaviors.

Corrective measures are listed but not limited to the following:

- Verbal correction
- Seating reassignment
- Referral to counselor
- Parent contact
- Parent conference
- Teachers’ detention

**Recurring offenses will be elevated to Level II infractions.**

**Disorderly Conduct Level II**

Level II disruptive conduct is defined as those activities engaged in by students which are directed against persons or property, and the consequences of which tend to endanger the health or safety of oneself or others in the school. Level II offenses will be referred to grade level principals. Some instances of disruptive conduct may overlap certain criminal offenses, justifying both administrative sanctions and court proceedings. The administration reserves the right to modify the following disciplinary measures:

<b>BEHAVIOR</b>	<b>1ST OFF</b>	<b>2ND OFF</b>	<b>3RD OFF</b>
Aiding Others	ISS-OSS	ISS-OSS	ISS-OSS
AUP Violation	PD-OSS & Probation	PD-OSS/Susp AUP-Sem.	PD-OSS/Susp AUP-Year
Bullying	ISS-OSS	ISS -OSS	ISS-OSS
Cheating	PD &/or 0	1 ISS &/or 0	1 OSS &/or 0
Computer Violation	\$/1 ISS – 3 OSS		
Confrontation/ Altercation	1 ISS - 3 OSS Probation	1 - 3 OSS Probation	3 - 5 OSS

Contraband	ISS-OSS		
Counterfeit/ Forgery Level II	1 ISS	1 OSS	3 OSS
Cutting Class	1 ISS	1 ISS	1 OSS
Cutting School	1 ISS	1 ISS	1 OSS
Dishonesty	PD	1 ISS	1 OSS
Disrespect	1 ISS	1 OSS	1 - 3 OSS
Disrupting Class	PD	1 ISS	1 - 3 OSS
Opening/Propping Doors Open	3 ISS	3 OSS/Probation	RE
Unauthorized entry/exit	3 ISS	3 OSS/Probation	RE
Dress Code	refer to district dress code policy		
Excessive Noise	PD	ISS	1-3 OSS
Fire Alarm	OSS	OSS - RE	
Fire Extinguisher	RE		
Hall Pass Violation	PD	PD	1 ISS
Hit/Kick/Push	ISS-OSS		
Horse Play	PD	1 ISS	2 ISS
Hug/Kiss Body Contact	PD	PD	1 ISS
ID Violation	PD	PD	1 ISS
Inappropriate Language	PD	ISS	OSS
Inappropriate Physical Contact	ISS-OSS		
Insubordination	PD - 1 ISS	1-3 ISS	1-3 OSS
Intimidation	ISS-OSS		
ISS Disruption	1 OSS	2 OSS	3 OSS
Leaving Class/Activity	1 ISS	1 ISS	1 OSS
Leaving School	1 ISS	2 ISS	ISS/OSS
Littering/Leaving Lunch Trash	PD	PD	1 ISS
Loitering	PD	PD	1 ISS
Missed Principal Detention	1 ISS	1 OSS	1-3 OSS
Missed Teacher Detention	PD	1 ISS	1 OSS
Not Sign In/Out	Warning	PD	1 ISS
Obscene Gesture	PD	1 ISS	1 OSS

Off Limits	1 ISS	1- 3 ISS	1-3 OSS
Other Offenses			
Parking Lot Driving Violation	See Student Handbook		
Phone Violation	PD-OSS		
Pornography	Confiscation 1 ISS – 1 OSS	Confiscation 1 - 3 OSS	Confiscation 3 - 5 OSS
Probation Violation	RE		
Profanity	PD	1 ISS	1 OSS
Profanity toward Staff	OSS RE		
Refusal to Obey	1 ISS - 1 OSS	1 - 3 OSS	3 - 5 OSS
Refusal to relinquish item to a staff member	1-3 OSS	5- OSS Probation	OSS RE
Refusal to relinquish an item to an administrator	Referral - RE		
Running in the Hall	PD	PD	1 ISS
Skipping the RDA Bus	Study Hall	1 ISS	1 OSS
Tampering with others' personal property	OSS RE		
Tardy	See Policy	See Policy	See Policy
Theft/Possession of Stolen Items	1 ISS-OSS	RE	
Threats Against Others	OSS RE		
Threats Against Staff	OSS RE		
Throwing Object	PD	PD	1 ISS – 1 OSS
Tobacco/Smoking Paraphernalia	1 OSS	3 OSS and probation	RE
Vandalism Level II	\$/ISS - OSS		

**PD** – Principal’s Detention, **ISS** – In-School Suspension, **OSS** – Out of School Suspension, **BS** – Bus Suspension, **\$** - Restitution, **RE** – Recommend Expulsion

**Disorderly Conduct Level III**

Level III behaviors cause serious safety issues and overt disruptions at Byrnes High School. Criminal conduct is defined as those activities engaged in by students which result in violence toward oneself, other people, or property, or which pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of oneself or others in the school. These activities 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 local school board. Students who are suspended may forfeit the privilege to attend/participate in extracurricular activities.

OFFENSE	CONSEQUENCE(S)
Arson	Corrective measures are listed below but are not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent Contact</li> <li>• OSS (multiple days)</li> <li>• Recommendation for expulsion</li> <li>• Intervention by law enforcement</li> <li>• Action by local school board</li> </ul>
Assault	
Bribery	
Counterfeit/Forgery/Fraud	
Disturbing School	
Extortion of property, services, or favors	
Fighting, physical	
Fire Alarm	
Fireworks	
Gambling on school property	
Gang Activity	
Inciting or participating in a bomb threat or riot	
Indecent Exposure	
Possession and/or use of items such board as tasers, mace or pepper spray to cause harm and disruption to the school environment.	

Possession of unauthorized substance for consumption or sale Substance may be alcohol, drugs, or drug paraphernalia (alcohol on a student's breath will be considered evidence of consumption)	For first time minor drug offenses, consequences <i>could</i> include a 10 day suspension and a referral to a local treatment center approved by the district in lieu of an expulsion recommendation. Further offenses will result in an expulsion recommendation.
Refusal to obey an administrator	
Refusal to relinquish item to an Administrator	
Sexual Offenses (includes being in the bathroom of the opposite sex, being in the bathroom with a member of the opposite sex, or being in a stall with another student)	
Stealing from or robbing others	
Theft/Possession of Stolen Item(s)	
Threatening or intimidating staff/others	
Use of communication devices to transmit threats and/or inappropriate messages, photos, and/or videos.	
Vandalism	
Weapons on school grounds	

**Out of School Suspension (OSS) and Expulsion**

Students, who are expelled for the remainder of the school year, will be placed on probation the following year. This probation shall mean that a student may be expelled for the remainder of that school year for any infraction that would normally call for suspension from classes. Expulsion or out of school suspension shall be construed to prohibit a student from entering the school or school grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator), attending day or night school functions, or riding school buses.

**In School Suspension (ISS)**

Byrnes High School operates a Behavior Management program which allows students the opportunity of staying in school rather than serving out of school suspension for discipline violations. Students who are

assigned ISS will be required to report to the ISS classroom at the beginning of the day and will remain until school is dismissed. Students will eat their lunch at designated times during ISS activities and may bring their own lunch if they so desire.

It is the responsibility of all Byrnes High students to be familiar with the discipline policy and its consequences. If a student fails to participate in the ISS program when assigned, then OSS may be given.

### **Rules for ISS**

1. Students are required to bring their laptops and all other necessary materials with them to complete assignments.
2. A set ISS schedule will be followed during the day.
3. If students' assigned work is not completed or they have unacceptable behavior in ISS, OSS will be assigned to students.
4. Respect for self, teachers, and fellow students is required--it is not an option.
5. Students are not allowed to access personal electronic communication devices while in ISS.

### **Bus Regulations**

1. All bus riders must report to the bus holding area **immediately** after the dismissal bell.
2. Only students riding the bus may be in the bus holding area.
3. **Students are not allowed to ride any bus other than their assigned bus. Bus riders may not have another student ride the bus home with them.**
4. Any act endangering the safety of private citizens/property will result in immediate dismissal.
5. Referrals from bus drivers will be handled according to the published bus discipline rules for James F. Byrnes High School.
6. Students are only allowed to be dropped off at their assigned bus stop.

## Bus Discipline Code

<b>LEVEL I: Disruptive Conduct</b>	
Misbehavior at the bus stop/ramp or on the bus (depending on the severity) e.g. horseplay, standing on the bus, etc.	1st Offense: A written warning will be given by school administration and parental contact made.
Loading/unloading bus at an unauthorized stop without permission	2nd Offense: A bus suspension of 3-5 days (depending on severity) will be imposed and parental contact made.
Possessing bottled or canned drinks or food on the bus	
Littering on the bus	3rd Offense: A bus suspension of 10 days may be imposed and parental contact made.
Standing, walking, or running in the bus driveway while the bus is in motion ( <b>Students must remain on the curb until the bus makes a complete stop</b> )	
Pushing and running to board the bus	
Leaving the bus ramp/stop without permission or coming to bus ramp/stop late	4th Offense: Bus privileges may be denied for the remainder of the school year and parental contact made.

<b>LEVEL II: Disorderly Conduct</b>	
Misconduct or rude behavior at the bus stop or on the bus (depending on the severity)	1st Offense: A bus suspension of 5 days will be imposed and parental contact made.
Throwing objects out of the bus or on the bus	2nd Offense: A bus suspension of 10 days may be imposed and parental contact will be made.
Refusing to sit in an assigned seat	
Excessive use of profanity or any abusive language	3rd Offense: A bus suspension of 20 days may be imposed and parental contact will be made.
Having body parts out of the bus door or windows	
Entering or exiting the bus through the emergency door.	
Refusal to obey bus driver	

Minor Vandalism (may result in restitution).	4th Offense: Bus privileges may be denied for the remainder of the year and parental contact will be made.
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<b>LEVEL III: Major or Criminal Offense</b>	
Fighting	Any Offense: Bus privileges may be denied for 30 days or for the remainder of the school year. The behavior may result in out of school suspension, expulsion, restoration of property, referral to supporting agencies, notification of law enforcement, and enforcement of the district drug and alcohol policy. <b>School discipline code will apply in addition to bus suspension.</b>
Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, or drug products or their paraphernalia.	
Persistent uncontrollable behavior.	
Major vandalism	
Extortion	
Bomb threat	
Sexual offense	
Theft	
Arson	
Defacing property	
Any other infraction not enumerated above will be subject to the school discipline code	
Boarding or riding a bus while under bus suspension	

<b>Discipline Code To/From partnering campuses</b>	
Driving to/from without approved permission form	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense: 1 day OSS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense: 3 days OSS
Riding to/from with an unauthorized person	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense: 5 days OSS

If tardiness to Byrnes results in the student missing the bus to the partnered campus, the student must report to Byrnes’s front office to sign in and then report to Study Hall.

Students who miss the bus will be issued a warning for the first offense and all subsequent offenses will be handled under the Discipline Code as Cutting Class.

## Canine Searches

To promote a safe and orderly environment, District Five Schools has contracted with the Duncan Police Department to assist with periodic, unannounced searches of the schools, school grounds, and all personal property on school grounds. The Duncan Police Department has highly trained dogs to search for a variety of contraband. Please note the following:

1. All property and people (including students, staff, visitors, etc.) are subject to searches.
2. Vehicles and other personal property are subject to searches.
3. Inspectors are searching for illegal drugs, controlled substances, weapons, and other items of contraband.
4. Law Enforcement officials will be contacted when contraband is found.
5. Parents will be contacted in the event of an offense.
6. Searches often result in discipline offenses for tobacco products and other less threatening items of contraband.

## Detention

1. **PRINCIPAL** detentions are held from 3:40 until 5:00 p.m. Failure to complete the detention assignment may result in ISS or OSS.
  2. **TEACHER** detentions may be assigned before school and after school. Teachers have latitude in determining the length of their detentions.
- \* Students will be given **24 hours notice for before school and after school detentions** so they can make arrangements for transportation.

## Rules for Detentions

Students must:

1. Arrive on time or they will not be admitted.
2. Have school work to do or appropriate reading material.
3. Stay the entire length of the assigned detention, or they are counted absent for detention.
4. Adhere to all school rules. Detention is an extension of the regular school day and school policies and procedures are enforced, including but not limited to cell phones, electronic devices, and dress policies.

5. Remain alert and quiet. Students are not permitted to talk or sleep.
6. All purses, book bags, hats, jackets, etc. must stay beneath the desk; not on the desktop or in your lap. Only items necessary for your school work are allowed on the desktop.

## **Spartanburg School District Five** **Dress Code**

Spartanburg School District Five respects students' rights to express themselves in the way that they dress. Student attire should facilitate participation in learning as well as the health and safety of students and the adults that supervise them. All students who attend Spartanburg School District Five are expected to adhere to the Dress Code. To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently and in a manner that does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body size/type. Enforcement for students in grades K-5 should be limited to the Basic Principle and Must Wear items outlined below. The primary responsibility for our students' attire resides with the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s).

**Basic Principle:** Certain body parts must be covered for all students at all times. Clothes must be worn in such a way that the rear end and private areas are fully covered with opaque (non-sheer) fabric at all times. All items listed in the "must wear" and "may wear" categories below must meet this Basic Principle.

### **1. Students Must Wear:**

- A Shirt (with fabric covering from one armpit to the other armpit, with straps, and touches the top of the pants) AND
- Pants/jeans or the equivalent (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress, or shorts) AND
- Shoes (must be safe for the school environment, no bedroom shoes or slippers unless approved by the principal).

## 2. Students May Wear:

- Religious headwear.
- Fitted pants, including opaque leggings, yoga pants, and “skinny jeans” as long as the rear end/private areas are covered by the accompanying top. Ripped jeans, as long as underwear, private areas and rear end are not exposed.
- Visible straps on undergarments worn under clothing and above the shoulder.
- Athletic attire.

## 3. Students Cannot Wear:

- Violent language or images.
- Images or language depicting/suggesting drugs, alcohol, vaping or paraphernalia (or any illegal item or activity).
- Bullet proof vests, body armor, tactical gear, or facsimile.
  - Hate speech, profanity, pornography.
  - Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or consistently marginalized groups.
  - Any clothing that reveals undergarments (visible straps are allowed at the shoulder).
  - Swimsuits (except as required in class or athletic practice).
    - Accessories that are considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon.
    - Any hats, head coverings or hoods (except as a religious observance).
    - Pajamas, sleepwear, loungewear
    - Costumes or any parts of costumes including masks

**Dress Code Enforcement:** School administrators and teachers should be trained to understand the purpose/spirit of the dress code and how to enforce it with the least impact on student learning and self-confidence. To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of

this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently using the requirements below:

- Students will only be removed from spaces, hallways or classrooms as a result of a dress code violation of the Basic Principles or Section 3 above. Students will be given the opportunity to put on their own alternative clothing or report to a holding area until a parent can bring alternative clothing. Dress Code violations will *not* be treated as a disciplinary action *unless* the student a) refuses to cooperate with remediation of the problem; b) violates behavioral rules; or c) becomes a repeat offender of more than 3 Dress Code violations in one school semester.
- Students should not be shamed or required to display their body in front of others in school (including students, parents, or staff). “Shaming” includes but is not limited to:
  - \* kneeling or bending over to check attire fit;
  - \* measuring straps or skirt length;
  - \* accusing students of “distracting” other students with their clothing.

Every effort will be made by school staff and administration to enforce the Dress Code in a way that does not embarrass, degrade or discriminate against any student. Students who feel they have been subject to discriminatory enforcement of the Dress Code should contact their grade level administrator.

## **Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco**

### District Five Alcohol and Drug Policy

No student shall:

1. Knowingly or intentionally possess on school premises, school buses, or at official school functions narcotic drugs, marijuana, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogenic drugs, “look-alike”, or other controlled substances unless obtained from or pursuant to, a valid prescription or ordered by a practitioner with the appropriate signed documentation.

2. Knowingly or intentionally possess on school premises, school buses, or at school functions beer, wine, or liquor.

Any person who violates the provisions of Sections 1 and 2 of the foregoing paragraphs shall be suspended and the principal may recommend expulsion for the remainder of the school year or referred to a local treatment center approved by the district. Any person who violates Section 3 of the foregoing paragraphs may be suspended or expelled or be subject to such other lesser penalty as shall be determined to be appropriate.

School rules prohibit the distribution of any material, including narcotic drugs, marijuana, depressants, stimulants, or hallucinogenic drugs, uncontrolled and prescribed drugs, medicines, beer, wine or liquors at school. Violation of this rule may result in suspension, expulsion, or such other lesser penalty as may be appropriate.

Students who come to school or any school function in an intoxicated condition, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or conduct themselves in a disorderly or boisterous manner may be arrested for a misdemeanor under Section 16-17-530 of the SC Code, as well as be suspended and/or expelled from school.

If a student violates this alcohol and drug policy, the principal is asked to contact the parents or legal guardian and the local police and to suspend the student from school pending investigation. Any alcohol or drugs taken from a student will be turned over to the police.

Students who are addicted to or dependent upon a controlled substance may seek advice from the guidance office or administration concerning such problems and obtain treatment without fear of arrest or being reported to law enforcement authorities.

### Drug and Alcohol Use

To provide for the development and safety of our students, the district is committed to a comprehensive prevention program which includes: supporting fostering abstinence of students, requiring active participation of students and staff, involving parents, and encouraging the cooperation and collaboration of community organizations and local law enforcement agencies.

Staff members will be given clear guidelines on how they should handle cases of suspected and known drug and alcohol use. School personnel will make every effort to encourage young people who have problems

with drug and alcohol use to seek help. The schools will provide referrals for treatment and counseling of children as well as their families.

Drug and alcohol use by young people is an issue for the whole community; therefore, the schools will work in close communication and cooperation with other agencies.

### Smoking and Tobacco Use

Students shall not be permitted to use or to possess tobacco products or tobacco paraphernalia, including electronic cigarettes, while on school grounds, in the school buildings, on school buses, or during any other time that the student is under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds. **This will include all areas on or adjacent to all of District 5 properties on both sides of Highway 290.** Any student caught smoking in this area will be subject to the published discipline code. This policy will be in effect at any time before, during, or after school on each day school is in session.

Examples of smoking paraphernalia are lighters, matches, rolling paper, and/or anything that can be used in the act of smoking. School administrators will develop procedures consistent with the discipline code of the district in order to enforce this policy (see Discipline Code). If necessary, law enforcement will be notified.

### Drug Testing

Any student under the suspicion of drug use will be required to take a drug test, paid for by the school. The student must immediately report to the designated site. If tested positive, discipline will be issued per the school discipline code.

### I.D. Cards

Students must have his/her own I.D. card **visible on a lanyard around his/her neck.** IDs will be required to enter the building (main office, Rebel Entrance, Gym Lobby, and JROTC entrance).

Failure to possess or display I.D. cards will result in an ID violation detention and a temp ID will be issued to students.

Students will be issued an I.D. card upon initial enrollment.

Replacement cards can be purchased in guidance for \$5.00.

Replacement Sleeves-\$2, Lanyards-\$3

## Outside Foods

To ensure student safety regarding food allergies and dietary restrictions, food brought from outside the school for student consumption will be commercially prepared and packaged or sealed. When applicable, food will be labeled with specific ingredients or the ingredients easily accessible online. **However, this policy does not restrict the food that a parent/legal guardian may provide for his/her child's consumption at school.** Due to health regulations, we are not able to store food in the main office. No glass bottles allowed and all beverages must have a lid.

*\*No outside food deliveries will be allowed during school hours.\**

## Parking Regulations

Parking on the Byrnes campus is a privilege and can be revoked by the Administration. Items or actions that interfere with the work of the school or infringe upon the rights of other students will not be permitted. Students are subject to school fines, revocation of driving privileges, and in some instances, city traffic tickets. The consequence depends upon the severity of the offense. Failure to pay fines within 30 days will automatically result in revocation of driving privileges. **Any underclassman who receives a violation for parking in the senior lot will not be eligible to purchase a senior hang tag their senior school year.**

**Additionally, the school is not responsible for theft or vandalism to parked vehicles on campus.** The BHS campus is under the jurisdiction of the Duncan Police Department and town laws are enforced.

For the safety of students and staff, the following rules are to be followed:

1. All vehicles (even vehicles used temporarily) must be registered through the school office. Students may register only vehicles that are in their immediate families. Current student hang tags will be displayed on the rear view mirrors of vehicles.
2. **Parking spaces are limited, and personal parking spaces will**

**not be assigned. When all of the spaces are taken, no more permits will be issued.**

3. Hang tags can be purchased for \$45.00. Students must bring driver's licenses and current registrations in order to purchase hangtags.
4. Alive at 25 will be required for sophomores and new drivers.
5. Students who are 9GR are not allowed to buy a parking hangtag.
6. Faculty parking areas and the visitor parking areas are off-limits to students at all times.
7. No one should enter student parking areas to pick up or unload students. Disciplinary action may be taken after a warning is issued.
8. Campus wide speed limit is 5 miles per hour. Speeding on campus is a serious violation and may be punishable by law.
9. Any vehicle involved in an accident or vandalized on campus should be reported immediately to the office.
10. Cars in constant violation of parking regulations will be towed at the discretion of the administration.
11. The parking lot in front of 800 and 900 building is reserved exclusively for seniors.
12. Smoking is prohibited on campus, including in cars and in parking areas.
13. Students are to come into the building immediately after parking their vehicles.
14. Upon arrival on campus, students are not allowed to leave campus without following early dismissal procedures.
15. No students are to park in the lot across the street.

**Parking Discipline Code**

<b>Violation</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
Reckless driving (sliding, speeding, spinning wheels, endangering lives or property, riding in rear of trucks or on outside of vehicles, operating a motorcycle without a helmet, etc.	1st Offense: Driving privileges suspended for 30 days.
Driving through the bus exit	2nd Offense: Driving privileges revoked for remainder of the school year.

<p>Parking in a restricted area or improper parking (parking a vehicle across lines, no parking areas, teachers' spaces, or senior parking lot)</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Fine - \$10.00</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Fine - \$15.00</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Driving privileges may be revoked.</p>
<p>Operating an unregistered vehicle on campus</p>	
<p>Sitting in a parked vehicle after arrival, during the school day, and after school.</p> <hr/> <p>Transporting students without permission.</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Warning</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Driving privileges suspended for 5 days.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Driving privileges may be revoked.</p>
<p>Leaving campus without permission</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Driving privileges, for all students involved, will be suspended for 30 days. All students will be handled under the discipline code for leaving campus illegally.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Driving privileges may be revoked for the remainder of the school year. Students and/or passengers will be handled under the discipline code for leaving campus illegally.</p>
<p>Purchasing/Lending hang tag for/to another person</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Driving privileges for both will be suspended for 30 days and both persons will be handled under the discipline code for dishonesty.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Driving privileges may be revoked.</p>
<p>Failure to display a proper hang tag</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Offense: \$5.00</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: \$10.00</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: \$15.00</p>

	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense: Driving privileges revoked
Parking on campus after driving privileges has been revoked	All offenses 5 days OSS.  Vehicles may be towed at the owner's expense, at the discretion of the administration.

Unauthorized ATV's, tractors, trailers, etc. are not permitted to be driven or hauled on campus.

Parking Probation: If driving privileges are revoked for the year, students will be on probation the following year. Any infractions will result in privileges also being revoked the remainder of the second school year.

**Public Displays of Affection Policy**

<b>Acceptable Behavior</b>	<b>Unacceptable Behavior</b>
Holding hands	Kissing
Locking arms	Putting hands in others' pockets
Giving high fives	Groping people
Putting arms around someone's waist or shoulder	Giving piggyback rides/carrying people
	Giving hugs that are initiated from the rear
	Sitting on laps
	Sitting or standing between someone's legs
	Smacking/touching/slapping anyone's buttocks
	Sexual encounters of any type

**Sexual Harassment and Bullying**

Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination prohibited by federal and state laws. Consistent with these laws, it is the policy of Spartanburg School District Five that sexual harassment and/or bullying of students are prohibited. Any student that feels he or she has been subjected to harassment and/or bullying is encouraged to contact the school or district administration immediately.

Bullying is a form of harassment. Bullying is defined as: “The repeated intimidation of others by the real or threatened infliction of physical, verbal, written, electronically transmitted, or emotional abuse, or through attacks on the property of another. It may include, but not be limited to, actions such as verbal taunts; including ethnically-based or gender based verbal put-downs, extortion of money or possessions, and exclusion from peer groups within the school.” Such conduct is disruptive to the educational process and is not acceptable behavior and is prohibited. Students who engage in any act of bullying while at school, at any school function, in connection to or with any District-sponsored activity or event, or while enroute to or from school are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

**Tardy Policy**

You must always sign in at the Attendance Office if you are late to school or miss a class. For those with a 1st period study hall and wish to have a late arrival, you must turn in your “Study Hall Late or Early Dismissal” form to the Attendance Office. Students will be counted absent if they report to school after 1/3 of the period is over. Parent and health notes concerning tardiness must be presented on arrival. When a student is late to school, he/she must sign in at the attendance office. SCMSC/RDA students should sign in at either school.

**Tardy Procedures**

- 8:10-8:15 a.m. All students report to first period
- 8:15 a.m. Students arriving **after** 8:45 a.m. will report directly to and sign in at the attendance office.

**Classroom Tardies**

Students who are not **in the classroom when the tardy bell rings** will be classified as tardy.

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>CONSEQUENCE</b>
Tardies <b>1-5</b> to any period	Teacher Documentation/Parent contact by teacher.
Tardies <b>6-10</b> to 1st-4th	<b>PD</b>
Failure to attend PD	referral for <b>ISS</b>
Tardies <b>11-15</b>	referral for <b>ISS</b>
Tardies <b>#16 and beyond</b>	referral for <b>OSS /Probation</b>

## TECHNOLOGY

Before use of a district issued mobile device or personal electronic devices while on school property, students must sign the Student Pledge for Use of District Issued Mobile Device, the District Issued Mobile Device Agreement, District Issued Mobile Device Fee, and the Acceptable Use/Network Code of Conduct forms.

### **District Issued Mobile Device**

Students acknowledge that any issued device is the property of Spartanburg District Five.

Students will return the device to Spartanburg District Five if the student withdraws, transfers, or moves to an alternative school.

Students will not deface the device or adhere stickers or other markings.

Students will bring their device fully charged to school each day. A dead battery or a device left behind is not an excuse for late/missing work.

If deliberate or excessive damage to the device occurs, parents/guardians agree to be responsible for any repair or replacement fees.

Students will never attempt to repair a device. Under no circumstances are students to open or tamper with, hack, or “jailbreak,” or reconfigure the device.

Students will never loan their device to anyone.

Students will not expose the device to extreme temperatures, direct sunlight for extended periods of time, and will never leave the device in a vehicle.

**The complete District Issued Mobile Device agreement can be found on the district website under the Technology Department at <https://www.spart5.net/Page/7336>.**

### **Acceptable Use/Network Code of Conduct**

Use of the network shall be in support of education and research that is consistent with the mission of the district. Use is limited to those students who have completed the training and have a specific educational objective. The district will take measures to filter students from any objectionable material.

Users must adhere to the following rules of conduct:

1. Use the network in such a way that your use does not disrupt its use by others.
2. Maintain your personal files and data. Modifying or copying files/data of other users without their consent is not permitted.
3. Be ethical and courteous. Defamatory, harassing or obscene material and remarks are not allowed.
4. Treat information created by others as the private property of the creator.
5. Respect copyrights.
6. Respect the privacy of others.
7. Access only educationally relevant material.
8. When accessing information that requires a password, protect your password from others and refrain from using the password of others.
9. Refrain from destroying, modifying or abusing computer hardware or software. "Hacking" the system is not permitted.
10. Protect yourself by not giving out personal information such as your last name, home address, phone number, or social security number.

The district reserves the right to deny access to any user if it is determined that the user is engaged in unauthorized activity or is violating this code of conduct. Web safety instruction will be offered to all students each school year.

### **Electronic Device Policy**

Students may possess an electronic communication device in school under the following conditions:

1. Possession of an electronic communication device by a student is considered to be a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student who fails to follow school rules, board policy, or the law.
2. Students may use such devices before school, between class periods, during lunches, and after school.
3. Students may use such devices during class time for instructional purposes with the expressed permission of the teacher.
4. All students must comply with the Acceptable Use Policy.
5. Should a student cause a disruption to the instructional process or educational setting, the behavior will be addressed through the school discipline code according to the type and severity of the disruption.

6. Students **may not** use electronic communication devices during class time unless under the direct supervision of a staff member.
7. These devices **may not** be used in any area where personal privacy of others must be respected such as dressing rooms or restrooms.
8. The creation of videos or pictures **is not permitted** without prior approval of an administrator.

**The school is not responsible for any devices that are lost, stolen or damaged while on school property.**

Electronic communication devices are defined as any telecommunications device (including cellular telephones, pagers, instant messaging devices. etc.)

### **BHS Cellphone/Headphone Policy**

During transition times and lunch, students should only use a 1 in, 1 out method for listening to music, podcasts, online learning videos, etc. 1 in, 1 out method means that you only have one headphone on/in 1 ear. We ask that you do this for your safety. Many times, students with both earbuds on/in can not adequately hear teacher directions, safety alarms, or communication through the PA system.

During instructional time, students should only use earbuds and/or cell phones with a teacher's directly expressed permission.

## **STUDENT PROGRAMMING AND EXTRACURRICULARS**

### **Music Program**

#### **Chorus**

The Byrnes Choral Department is open to students who want to develop their vocal and music reading skills. Classes include Academy Chorale, Rebel Singers, and Byrnes Singers (Honors). Additional groups, (ladies' ensemble, men's ensemble) are organized to meet the needs and interests of the students. Choral students have opportunities to participate in local, regional, and state events (honor choirs, SC All-State Chorus, festivals, and competitions). Chorus classes perform in seasonal concerts as well as school and community events. Our goal is for students to learn to read music and perform a variety of styles of music with a mature, healthy voice.

#### **Orchestra**

The orchestra program at Byrnes consists of students who play violin/viola/cello/bass in either the Philharmonic Orchestra or Concert Orchestra. A select group of individuals from the "BPO" perform as the Byrnes String Quartet. The Orchestras at Byrnes are the recipients of many statewide and national performance honors including a prestigious invitation to perform at the South Carolina Music Educators Association Convention. Each group performs many times throughout the year at events such as evening concerts, orchestra competitions/festivals, community events, and special school ceremonies. Orchestra students are selected by auditions and/or recommendation.

### Rebel Regiment

The Rebel Regiment is the marching band that performs at all football games, several band contests, and parades during the school year. The band and color guard that participate are open to all high school students by way of audition. In addition to the marching band, there are three concert bands and a jazz band, which perform several concerts during the year. There is also a winter indoor guard and indoor drumline that is also auditioned by the band staff. The Rebel Regiment has performed in the Tournament of Roses Parade in California, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York, and the Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington D.C. and is a ten time State Marching Band Champion. Marching season lasts from the last week in July to the second week of November.

### Tri-M Music Honor Society (Tri-M)

The Tri-M Music Honor Society is the international music honor society for high school students. It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership. Tri-M shares and supports the objectives of every dedicated music educator - to increase student and school involvement with music and to make a stronger and more unified school music program. Tri-M is a program of MENC: The National Association for Music Education. Membership in Tri-M Music Honor Society is open to students who participate in Band, Chorus, or Orchestra at least one semester during the school year and maintain the appropriate grades in music classes and overall grade point average.

Please see your Band, Chorus, or Orchestra director for more details. Listen and watch for announcements at the beginning of the school year.

## **Art Program**

The art program displays art in the school and community. It focuses on several art exhibits each year. It creates murals in the school and community. Art is emphasized through field trips and visits to museums. Art I focuses on fundamentals of design. Art II focuses on the elements and principles of two and three dimensional design. Photography I covers simple concepts of taking, developing, and printing black and white 35 mm photography. Art III is an advanced class with a path to Art IV. Art III Honors focuses on advanced principles with a path to AP Art. Art IV Honors is the last course for advanced art students who have taken AP classes. Participation in the Advanced Placement Program offers students many benefits. They are introduced to a rich and rigorous college-level curriculum. AP (2-D Design) Studio and AP (Drawing) Studio are some of the courses offered at James F. Byrnes High School. There is also AP 3D Design. Those who are successful in AP classes may have the opportunity to receive college credit or advanced standing depending on the credit policy of the college they choose to attend.

## **Art Club**

The goal of the Byrnes High School Art Club is to strive for excellence through creative expression. The Art Club is designed to explore, experiment, and create beyond the regular classroom experience and to reach students who are not involved during the regular school day. Students do not have to be a part of an art class to become a member.

## **National Art Honor Society (NAHS)**

The purpose of NAHS is to inspire and recognize those students who have shown outstanding ability in art. It is to foster excellence and a dedicated spirit to the pursuit of art. NAHS furthers creative abilities and talents of the society's members, as well as the school's entire student art enrollment. We strive to increase an awareness of art in relation to other areas of the school curriculum. To be eligible to be a NAHS member students must have great art scholarship, service, and character; have been in an art class one semester in this school; be in

grade 11 or 12; must have had a 90 or above in all art courses taken. Students will complete service hours to maintain membership.

## **Publications**

### *Lines and Rhymes*

This is the annual Byrnes literary magazine presenting the school's artistic and literary endeavors.

### *Souvenirs*

The James F. Byrnes High School yearbook is a record of student life and school activities. The staff is chosen by the faculty adviser from those who apply in December.

## **AFJROTC Programs**

### Marksmanship Team

The Marksmanship Team competes at the Varsity level in the Olympic sport of 10-Meter Air Rifle. The program offers cadets the opportunity to learn marksmanship, self-discipline, weapons safety. The team competes in both "postal" (mail-in) and "shoulder-to-shoulder" competitions. The program operates under the Civilian Marksmanship Program curriculum and rules. All BHS cadets are eligible to participate.

### Model & Rocket Club

Our aircraft and rocket model club offers cadets the opportunity to build, display, and fly aerospace vehicles. Competitions are held, and cadets may earn national recognition by completing American Modeling Association requirements. This club is open to all cadets.

### Special Teams

The Drill Team, Color Guard, and Saber Team form the centerpiece for precision marching and show in the AFJROTC program. These cadets perform locally at a variety of school and community activities and parades; also they compete in drill meets throughout the region. These teams are open to any cadet enrolled in AFJROTC. Practices are normally after school on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

## **Athletics**

The plan of the Byrnes High School Athletic Program is to strive toward having the most successful, total athletic program possible while providing an opportunity for as many students as possible to take an active part.

Some of the High School League rules are as follows:

1. A student, who becomes 19 years of age prior to July 1, 2025, will not be eligible to compete in any athletic activities during the school year.
2. A student must produce a valid birth certificate.
3. A student must live in School District 5 or else have lived in this district and continued to attend this school after moving from the district.
4. To participate in interscholastic athletic activities, students in grades 9-12 must achieve an overall passing average in addition to the following:

To be eligible in the first semester a student must pass a minimum of five Carnegie units applicable toward a high school diploma during the previous year. At least two units must have been passed during the second semester or summer school.

To be eligible during the second semester the student must meet one of the following conditions:

- a. If the student met first semester eligibility requirements, he or she must pass the equivalent of 2 units during the first semester.
- b. If the student did not meet first semester eligibility requirements, he or she must pass the equivalent of 2 1/2 units during the first semester.
5. A student may not participate after having spent 8 semesters in a school from the time entrance in the ninth grade occurred.
6. Loyalty to teammates and coaches is vitally important. In cases where a team member is being disloyal, the head coach has the right to remove the team member.

Each sport has a set of requirements beyond the general requirements already presented, such as off-season workouts. It is vitally important that all potential athletes understand that it is the policy of the athletic department to encourage participation in all the sports one is qualified

to play. Specialization in just one sport is discouraged if a particular athlete can be successful in other sports offered. (See web page TBA.)

## **Athletic Teams**

### **Baseball**

Official practice begins at the end of January. Baseball season ends in May. The team members are encouraged to take part in various summer league baseball teams. Varsity and junior varsity teams are available for all boys in grades nine through twelve.

### **Basketball**

There are 3 teams offered (Ninth, Junior Varsity, and Varsity). Practice begins officially in October. The basketball season ends in March.

### **Basketball**

There are two teams offered (JV and Varsity). Official practice begins in October. The season will end in early March.

### **Cheerleaders**

Cheerleaders must try out each spring and are chosen on the basis of ability without regard to race or sex. Varsity and junior varsity teams are available for all in grades nine through twelve.

### **Competitive Cheer**

Competitive cheerleading is an intense and rigorous physical activity based upon an organized routine lasting about 2 minutes and 30 seconds. The routine contains tumbling, jump sequences, stunting, dance and cheer. The team competes against other schools in our region and state. All teams are scored by a panel of judges using the South Carolina High School League score sheet.

### **Cross Country**

Official practice begins in late July and runs through the beginning of November. This is a team sport, as well as an individual sport. It involves endurance running along with a variety of other training methods. Race distance is 3.1 miles.

## Football

Official practice begins the first of August and the season ends in November. There are teams for ninth graders (C-Team), tenth graders (Junior Varsity) and eleventh and twelfth graders (Varsity). Participation in this sport is for only the physically and mentally tough students who have the courage and character to meet the many challenging opportunities.

## Golf

Golf is a spring sport open to all students. Try-outs begin in late January with the season ending in May. The golf team participates in tournaments and matches around the state.

## Lacrosse

Two teams offered (Varsity and JV) official practice starts in January and ends in April.

## Soccer

Soccer is a spring sport. Both boys and girls teams carry a full schedule of games and offer all participants a learning experience. Tryouts begin at the end of January and the season goes until May.

## Softball

Practice begins in late January and the season ends in May. Varsity and junior varsity teams are available for all girls in grades nine through twelve.

## Swimming

Swimming is open to both males and females. Practice begins in early August and ends in October. Practice will be held after school at the Middle Tyger YMCA. This is an individual sport and team members need to provide their own suits, caps, etc.

## Tennis

Girls tennis is offered in the fall and boys tennis is offered in the spring. Girls' practice begins when school starts and the season ends in late October. Boys' tennis begins practice in January and the season ends in May. This is an individual sport and team members need to provide their own shoes and racquets.

## Track and Field

Practice officially begins at the end of January and ends in May. As in wrestling, the small athlete, as well as the large athlete, has a definite place here. This is an individual sport offering a variety of events in which a student may participate. All students are encouraged to try out.

## Volleyball

This team sport begins official practice in August. The season ends in late October. Playing opportunities are available on both junior varsity and varsity levels. All athletes are encouraged to take part if they meet the requirements.

## Wrestling

Official practice begins at the end of October and ends in March.

Wrestling, like football, requires a great deal of tough conditioning physically. This is an individual sport and provides the opportunity for the small, as well as the large, athlete to take part since weight classes go from 103 pounds to 275 pounds. All students are encouraged to try out if they meet the general requirements.

## **Athletic Discipline Regulations**

The topics addressed in this section will include, but may not be limited to observations and or detection by Coaches, Administrators, Law Enforcement Officers and Faculty/Staff members of our School District.

1. Students who participate in high school athletic programs not required for graduation are eligible for random drug testing.  
**(See Policy)**
2. **Use and/or possession of controlled substances** including but not limited to; illegal drugs, prescription drugs(not prescribed to you), vapes, alcohol, tobacco, etc...are subject to the drug discipline code and will be considered a positive drug test.
3. **In-school suspension** – Participation in practice or games on the day of ISS will be at the discretion of the coach for the first offense. The coach may add additional discipline as necessary. If a student has a second offense at OSS or ISS during the season, the student will be dismissed from the team.

4. **Out of school suspension** - Students may not participate in any school activity (practice or games) while on OSS. The coach may add additional discipline as necessary. If a student has a second offense of OSS or ISS during the season, the student will be dismissed from the team.
5. **Off-Season ISS/OSS Policy** – Any player who receives ISS/OSS for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense during his/her off-season will be removed from the team during all off-season activities.
6. **School attendance** – On the day of a game, student athletes must attend 2 periods (block schedule) of the school day to be eligible to play. Exceptions are family funerals, doctor’s appointments, school business or approval by Athletic Director or Principal.
7. **Sign-outs** - Before signing out of school early, a student athlete is expected to inform the head coach of that sport. Failure to do so results in communication problems, practice schedule issues and an unexcused absence from practice.
8. **Game behavior** - (flagrant fouls, fighting, and/or unsportsmanlike conduct) Disciplinary action and or suspensions will be handled by the coach. Players can be suspended by the SC High School League.
9. **Quitting** - An athlete that quits one sport in our program will not be allowed to practice with another team until the team that he/she quit completes its season, including playoffs. The athlete must turn in all equipment issued and pay any fees owed before starting another sport. This rule includes a coach dismissing a player for team violations.
10. **Habitual violations of school or athletic policy** - May result in a student being barred from the athletic program.
11. Coaches should discourage and discipline:
  - a) Flagrant fouls in all sports
  - b) Technical fouls
  - c) Talking back to game official and/or school officials
  - d) Fighting
  - e) Verbal abuse aimed at opposing teams
12. If a player has been placed on probation by his/her coach for any infraction, he or she could be dismissed from the team for any violation of team or school rules.
13. **Ethics Rule** - Any student implicated in the commission of a crime or any incident on or off campus which reflects negatively on the

school may be suspended from the athletic program at the discretion of the principal.

14. Student athletes are also reminded that they represent the school and any behavior that brings dishonor to the program will not be tolerated (technology including social media).
15. Hazing of any kind will not be tolerated.

### **Athletic Drug Testing Policy**

Students who participate in high school athletic programs not required for graduation are eligible for random drug testing.

A student shall submit a consent to test form for each sport in which the student desires to participate. The student shall submit the form to the testing coordinator seven days before the student participates in that sport. The consent to test form must be signed by the student and his or her legal guardian. A student becomes eligible for testing upon submission of the consent to test form. A student who refuses to submit a consent to test form is ineligible to participate in that sport.

A student remains eligible for random drug and alcohol testing from the date the consent to test form is submitted throughout the season of that sport. A student may be randomly selected for drug and alcohol testing more than one time per season.

If a student eligible for random drug and alcohol testing withdraws from an athletic team, the student may submit an athletic team drop form to the testing coordinator. A submitted athletic team drop form signed by the student, parent or legal guardian, coach, and principal effectively removes the student from the random testing pool for that sport.

Testing will occur only on student contact days during the academic year.

Selection of eligible students for testing will be conducted on a random basis, to be carried out as follows:

1. The testing coordinator will compile a roster of ID numbers of students eligible for testing.
2. During each athletic season, the testing coordinator will randomly select ID numbers for the student-athletes participating in a sport from a pool containing the ID numbers of all the student-athletes participating in a sport.

3. The district will make a reasonable effort to contact parents of student athletes who have been selected for random testing.
4. The students selected for testing will be escorted to the location designated as the testing site.
5. The testing site will be at the school in an area that has a secured bathroom that will maximize the student's privacy.

Should a student refuse testing the consequences will be the same as if the student tested positive.

## **Consequences**

### **First Positive Result**

A student who tests positive for drugs or alcohol for the first time must attend a conference with the student's parent or legal guardian, principal, head coach, and athletic director. At the conference, the student is given the option of (1) participating in substance abuse services with a certified clinical counselor, including random urinalysis, for twelve weeks, or (2) being suspended from athletics for 90 days. If a student tests positive during the twelve weeks of counseling the consequences will be the same as a second offense.

### **Second Positive Result**

A student who tests positive for drugs or alcohol for the second time must attend a conference with the student's parent or legal guardian, principal, head coach, and athletic director. At the conference, the student is declared ineligible from participating in athletics for 90 days. To regain eligibility, the student must participate in substance abuse services with a certified clinical counselor, including random urinalysis, for twelve weeks.

### **Third or More Positive Result**

A student who tests positive for drugs or alcohol for the third time or more must attend a conference with the student's parent or legal guardian, principal, head coach, and athletic director. At the conference, the student is declared ineligible from participating in athletics for one calendar year. The student will not be eligible to participate until the beginning of a sports season following the one-year suspension. To regain eligibility, the student must participate in substance abuse services with a certified clinical counselor, including random urinalysis, for twelve weeks.

## Appeal Procedure

A participating student and his or her parent or legal guardian may request a retest of the specimen at their own expense at a laboratory designated by the district. Appeals must be made in writing to the testing coordinator within 48 hours of receiving the test results.

The entire policy can be found in the District Five Board Policy Manual under JCDAE and JCDAE-R.

## **Information for Student Athletes Who Plan to Attend a Division I or Division II College**

Beginning in the ninth grade, a student athlete who wishes to play sports at the college level must plan his/her coursework to meet all requirements specified by the South Carolina High School League. This is to ensure that he/she has met the high school requirement for eligibility to play sports in college. Meeting the NCAA academic rule does not guarantee admission into a college. Students must apply for admission to a college and complete the Clearinghouse form soon after school begins in the fall of their senior year.

If students take a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum, they are more likely to be successful. Help your students select courses that:

Meet high school graduation requirements

Adequately prepare them for rigorous college work

Meet NCAA initial-eligibility requirements

Not all classes you take to meet high school graduation requirements may be used as core courses. **If you have questions about NCAA**

**Eligibility, please log onto [www.naaclearinghouse.net](http://www.naaclearinghouse.net) or call the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse: (877) 262-1492; (8:00 am – 5:00 pm weekdays) (317) 917-6222; (12:00 noon – 4:00 pm weekdays).**