

# **DuPont Middle School**

## **Parent & Student Handbook**

**2025-2026**



**1 Panther Drive  
Belle, WV 25015**

**Principal: Mr. R. Tommy Canterbury**

**Vice Principal: Mr. Andre Higgins**

**Curriculum Specialist: Mrs. Leslie Burford**

**Counselors: Dr. Gerry White & Ms. Jessica Burns**

**DuPont Middle School**

1 Panther Drive  
Belle, WV 25015

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of DuPont Middle School is to develop students who are responsible, caring and self-directed learners by increasing their engagement in the classroom and encouraging participating in school related activities.

**Vision Statement:**

At DuPont Middle School, we empower students to envision themselves to become active learners, engaged leaders, and responsible members of our school community.

**DuPont Middle School Goals:**

1. Safe Schools
2. Academic Excellence
3. Communication with staff, parents and stakeholders

**Attendance/Tardiness:**

Students who arrive at school after 7:45 AM **MUST** have a parent or guardian sign them in with the attendance clerk and will be counted tardy. Students along with their parents should make every effort to be at school on time every day. If a student should miss school due to an appointment or sickness, then a school excuse **MUST** be submitted within **3 days** of returning.

**Students Leaving/Signing Out of School:**

Students must sign out with the attendance clerk when leaving school. They may only be released to a parent/guardian or persons indicated on emergency cards. If students are riding home on a different bus, they must bring a signed parent note to the office in the morning so that it can be verified. If they are going home with another student, that student must also have a note from the parent stating that this arrangement is allowed. Students will then pick up a Bus Ride Permission Slip from the office before they get on the designated bus. This must be presented to the bus driver before they can ride the bus.

**Telephone Use:**

Use of the office telephone is not allowed unless it is determined to be an emergency situation, such as an illness. Students may only use the phone during lunch or break times. If using the office phone, the student must sign the phone log at the front desk.

**Visitors:**

All visitors must sign in at the front desk with the attendance clerk.

**Kanawha County Dress Code:**

Kanawha County Schools Dress Code will be followed. See the KCS Handbook Student Dress Policy Series J36 which states:

“School Administration shall have the right to consider any current fashion to determine its acceptability for school wear.”

“All students are expected to adhere to common practices of personal hygiene and dress that contribute to the academic atmosphere, not detract from it.”

**DuPont administration deems the following unacceptable:**

- Tank tops are not to be worn. Any tank top MUST have a shirt over top of it with sleeves.
- Holes in pants:
  - o Pants should not have holes or frays above the knees
  - o This includes pants that appear to have holes in them
  - o Wearing tights or other undergarments under these pants does not make them acceptable
- Shirts must cover the midriff

**Electronic Devices and Cell Phones:**

DuPont Middle School will follow the KCS cell phone policy. See the KCS Handbook and newsletter for specifics.

We recommend that these devices are left at home. These items are very expensive and easily misplaced, stolen, or broken. The school cannot be responsible for these items. If the student brings these items to school, they must be placed in their locker immediately upon arrival. They are not to be removed from their locker at any time during the school day. When students are dismissed from their last class of the day, they may return to their lockers to retrieve any of these devices.

1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Students will pick up their device from the office at the end of the school day.

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: A parent will pick up the device from the school.

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: The student loses the privilege to bring the device to the school.

Possible referral to the county SAT team for an alternative placement for habitual violation of school rules may occur.

**Hallways:**

A basic rule is that students never run or play in the hallways. Shouting or boisterous behavior is not allowed. Students may not loiter in the hallways between classes. Any time students are transitioning in the hallways, they should walk on the “blue line” to maintain order in the hallways.

**Student Code of Conduct:**

Per Kanawha County Schools Board of Education Policy J25:  
25.1 Student Code of Conduct.

- All students enrolled in Kanawha County Schools shall behave in a manner that promotes a school environment that is nurturing, orderly, safe and conducive to learning and personal-social development.
- Students will help create an atmosphere free from bullying, intimidation and harassment.
- Students will demonstrate honesty in interactions with their peers, staff, and administration.
- Students will treat others with respect, resolve disagreements without physical force or inappropriate language, and be considerate of the feelings of others.
- Students will demonstrate responsibility, use self-control and be self-disciplined.
- Students will demonstrate fairness, abide by the rules, and will not take advantage of others.
- Students will demonstrate compassion and caring.
- Students will demonstrate good citizenship by obeying laws and rules, respecting authority, and by cooperating with others.

#### **Open Office:**

Students may come into the office when needed to talk with the school Counselor, Principal, Assistant Principal, or Nurse. Students must have an approved Securly Pass (e-hall pass) to leave a class to come to the office during class time.

#### **Soft Drinks/Energy Drinks:**

During a school day, soft drinks may not be sold in areas accessible to students in a middle school through vending machines on the premises, through fund raisers by students, teacher, and groups or by any other means. Only factory sealed drinks permitted at lunch. **ENERGY DRINKS & GLASS BOTTLES ARE NOT PERMITTED.**

#### **Gum:**

Chewing gum of any kind will not be allowed during the school day. This includes all classes whether core or related arts, break and lunch times.

#### **Extra-Curricular & Co-Curricular Activities:**

We sincerely hope all students will participate in at least one activity this school year. When you participate in these activities it offers numerous benefits such as improved social skills, fostering the interest and developing new skills, and increases self-esteem. Students **MUST** attend school for at least half of the school day in order to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

#### **Medications at School:**

All medications must be turned in to the office along with a note from the parent stating the times the medicine should be taken. This pertains to both prescription and over the counter medication. Some medications require documentation from the doctor. Please see the school nurse if you have any questions. Students are responsible for coming to the office at the appropriate time to take their medication. Failure to follow the procedure is a violation of Kanawha County Drug Policy and will result in the appropriate private action in accordance with that policy.

**Kanawha County Grading/Promotion Policy:**

Kanawha County Schools uses a standard grading scale for grades 6-8.

A - 90% - 100%

B - 80% - 89%

C - 70% - 79%

D - 60% - 69%

F - 0% - 59%

If a student is experiencing academic difficulty a conference may be scheduled by calling (304)348-1978. Additionally, all teachers may be contacted throughout Schoology or email.

**Lockers:**

Students are assigned lockers through homebase and are required to keep the assigned locker for the school year. All students will be assigned a locker partner due to space limitations. The combination to the locker will ONLY be given to the assigned students and it is their responsibility to keep that combination private. All backpacks, purses, bags, and other bag like items must be placed in their lockers during the school day. As stated in the DPMS Locker Agreement, signed by each student upon receipt of their locker, lockers are school property and may be inspected by school officials at any time.

**Library Media Center:**

Our newly renovated Library Media Center is a great space for student research, study, and an additional classroom space. We encourage all teachers and students to utilize this space to enrich the learning environment. **NO FOOD or DRINK PERMITTED.**

**Breakfast Procedures:**

Breakfast will be served to students upon arrival at DuPont Middle School. Students who are going to eat breakfast should do so upon entering the building. Once they have eaten, they will report to the gymnasium to be dismissed for homebase. **NO FOOD OR DRINK PERMITTED OUTSIDE OF THE CAFETERIA.** Students must eat before leaving the cafeteria.

**\*\*School Administration has the final approval dealing with all school policies and the implementation of all policies.**

**Parent Involvement Opportunities:**

- Family Nights
- Fundraisers
- Teacher Appreciation
- Celebration Events for Students
- Office Help
- Athletic Boosters
- LSIC
- After School Activities

**Title I Information:**

Title I is a federal program that provides funds to schools and districts serving high numbers of economically disadvantaged children. As a Title I School, we receive the following benefits:

- Additional Staff
  - o Curriculum Specialist
  - o Math/English Interventionists
- Opportunities for Professional Development for staff
- Opportunities for tutoring for students
- Individualized instruction directed toward student needs
- Small group settings
- Additional teaching materials and funding
- Learning Programs to target intensive intervention to meet student needs

**Strategic Plan:**

- Available upon request in the office.

**Parents Right to Know:**

Title I – Parents' Right to Know

Federal law allows parents to ask about the professional qualification of their child's classroom teachers, and requires school systems to provide the information in a timely manner if they request it. Specifically, parents have the right to ask for information regarding teacher certification, a college major and advanced degrees. Parents also have the right to request information about aides and paraprofessional personnel who provide services to their child. Parents who desire this information may contact the school principal or the Department of Human Resources, Kanawha County Schools at 304-348-7770. This form is also on our website and a hard copy will be sent home with students.

# **KCS Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

**The mission of Title I is to provide equitable opportunities for all students.**

**The vision of Title I - "We envision that the KCS Title I program will be all-encompassing and engaging for our students and school communities. Using relationships, collaboration, and data-driven instruction, students will show improvement in academics and social emotional learning. By 2027, all schools will provide equitable opportunities to produce successful scholars."**

**Kanawha County Schools Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2024 – 2025**

**Strong family involvement is integral to success in Title I schools. Research demonstrates a clear correlation between the level of involvement of families in a student's education and academic performance in school.**

**Current law requires that families be offered opportunities to participate in the education of their children as well as the opportunity for parent consultation in all required planning and development of Title I applications, schoolwide plans, and improvement plans for low-performing schools.**

**Districts and schools must adopt written parent and family engagement policies developed jointly with the parents of Title I students. Also, schools must adopt parent-school "compacts" and hold annual meetings for Title I parents.**

**In addition, schools have specific obligations to keep parents apprised of school performance, academic progress, teacher qualifications, and placement of English learners.**

## **PART I: DISTRICT LEVEL ACTIVITIES**

**In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school district that receives Title I, Part A funds shall develop and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy. To foster meaningful parent and family engagement, KCS agrees to implement the following:**

- Provide programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I programs with input from parents and family members.
- Work with its schools to ensure that school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Title I including parent compacts.
- Include the district wide parent and family engagement policy into its district plan.
- Provide full opportunities for the informed participation of parent and family members by providing information and school reports in a language parents understand.
- Submit parent comments to the WV Department of Education when Title I plan is unsatisfactory.
- Involve the parents and family members of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how parent involvement funds are used.
- Support programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.
- Provide information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement to increase the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members.
- Encourage schools to collaborate with community with the purpose of improving and increasing parent and family engagement.
- Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- Parents will be invited to participate in the annual Superintendent's Retreat to provide input into the district's strategic plan and to review the district's progress in meeting jointly established goals for all students.



- Provide support to the KCS Parent and Community Resource Center to better enable them to be a joint partner in parent and family engagement at the district and school levels.
- Annually publish a Parent and Student Handbook that contains information that is pertinent to their child's participation in KCS schools.
- Maintain a website (<https://kcs.kana.k12.wv.us/>) that provides a link on the home page for parents and families ([https://kcs.kana.k12.wv.us/family\\_students](https://kcs.kana.k12.wv.us/family_students)).
- Conduct surveys of parents of English Learner students to determine the need for translated documents and arrange for special assistance for non-English speaking parents such as translators.
- Engage in activities and strategies that KCS determines are appropriate and consistent with our parent and family engagement policy.
- The KCS Title I office will manage, plan, and collaborate with CSI and ATS schools to effectively use their federal funds for school improvement outcomes. Families of those schools will also have the opportunity to offer input of parent involvement plans.

## **PART II: SCHOOL LEVEL ACTIVITIES**

**Parent representatives of students attending Title I schools will participate in the development of the school's parent involvement policy through attendance at school sponsored parent and family engagement events and through participation on Title I schools' parent groups such as Local School Improvement Councils.**

- Each Local School Improvement Council will maintain parent representation to address school review and school improvement needs. The LSIC will participate in on-going school review and school improvement. Each school will also involve parents as part of their strategic plan committee.
- Parents in all Title I schools will be invited to offer input into parent involvement activities through the school's annual strategic planning process and review through participation on the school's LSIC, PTO/PTA organization, parent committees, or other means.
- Title I schools will conduct an annual fall meeting with parents and families to review parent and family school and district policies, parent compacts, required academic standards, school assessments and curriculums, and the performance status of the school based on the results of the State's

testing, discuss the requirements of Title I and the meaning of being a Title I schoolwide school, and review the opportunities for parent and family involvement at the school.

- Schools will conduct a variety of parent and family engagement and involvement activities where parents are invited to observe, monitor and discuss their child's academic progress and progress along other indicators.
- Title I schools will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, and to foster parental involvement including providing materials and supplies for use at home.
- Schools will communicate with parents and families through school handbooks, newsletters, and school websites. Parents also have access to Schoology to track their child's progress and maintain contact with their child's teacher(s).
- CSI and ATS schools will effectively use their federal funds for school improvement outcomes and will share plans to use the provided funds with families. Families of those schools will also have the opportunity to offer input of parent involvement plans.

### **PART III: ADOPTION**

- This KCS district wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents and family members of children participating in Title I schools as evidenced by attendance of parents and family members at the March 2022 Superintendent's Retreat. A list of attendees is available upon request from the KCS Title I Office 304-348-6165.
- This policy was adopted by the Kanawha County School District on July 9, 2019 and will be in effect for the period of school year 2024-2025. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents and family members of participating Title I children on or before October 1, 2024.

## **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

2025-2026

DuPont Middle School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

### **REQUIRED SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT PROVISIONS**

#### **School Responsibilities**

DuPont Middle School will:

1. **Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:**  
*We will follow the standards established by the State of West Virginia to provide a comprehensive curriculum. Parents and teachers will be partners in supporting student success.*
2. **Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.** Specifically, those conferences will be held:  
*October 13, 2025, and upon parent request.*
3. **Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress.** Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:  
*DPMS will provide and send progress reports every nine weeks. Parents will have unrestricted access to grades through Schoology at all times.*
4. **Provide parents reasonable access to staff.** Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:  
*Parents are able to message via Schoology and send emails at any time throughout the day. Responses will be given within 24-48 hours. Parents can also schedule meetings with teachers during their planning period. Parents are able to call the school at (304)348-1978 at any time throughout the day.*
5. **Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities,** as follows:  
*Parents can volunteer at any time throughout the year. There will also be opportunities for parents to volunteer with after school activities, athletic boosters, etc.*

#### **Parent Responsibilities**

**We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:**

- *Monitoring attendance and ensuring that students arrive promptly to school.*
- *Ensuring that homework is completed.*
- *Volunteering at my child's school.*
- *Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.*
- *Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.*
- *Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.*
- *Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school's School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State's Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.*
- *Utilize Schoology to monitor grades and communicate with teachers electronically.*

### **Student Responsibilities**

**We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, we will:**

- *Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to.*
- *Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time.*
- *Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school.*
- *Maintain appropriate care of my iPad and display good digital citizenship.*
- *Participate and work hard in class every day.*
- *Respect adults and my peers.*
- *Have a positive impact on my school by attending school events and becoming a member of a group or club.*

### **Additional Required School Responsibilities:**

**DuPont Middle School will:**

1. Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parental involvement policy, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.
2. Involve parents in the joint development of any schoolwide program plan, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.
3. Hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements, and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a convenient time to parents, and will offer a flexible number of additional parental involvement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite to this meeting all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs (participating students), and will encourage them to attend.

4. Provide information to parents of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon the request of parents with disabilities, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.
  5. Provide to parents of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
  6. On the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions, and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
  7. Provide to each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading.
  8. Provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning of the term in section 200.56 of the Title I Final Regulations (67 Fed. Reg. 71710, December 2, 2002).
- 

School Representative: R. Tommy Canterbury

Date: August 15, 2025

Principal, DuPont Middle School

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_