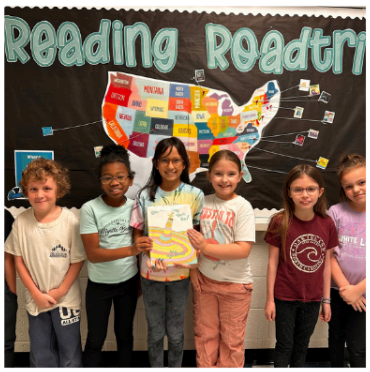
STUDENT HANDBOOK

2026/2027

Students First

STOKES COUNTY SCHOOLS

Where bonds run deep and futures look bright



Stokes County Schools

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Dr. Brad Rice, Superintendent

Stokes County Board of Education

Justin Duncan, Chairperson

Von Robertson, Vice-Chairperson

Cheryl L. Knight

Michael R. Rogers

Jessica Bennett

Students and Parents/Guardians:

Please be aware and make note of the changes in this year's Student Handbook from last year's edition:

Page 8	Central Office Administrative Staff Updated
Pages 9-10	School Directory Updated
Page 19	Tardiness Guidelines Moved to Attendance Section
Page 21	Attendance: Excessive Absences Information Updated
Pages 33-34	Fees Updated: JROTC Uniform Fee Added
Pages 34-35	Field Trip Information Updated
Page 39	Head Lice Information Updated
Pages 40-41	Immunization Information Updated
Pages 44-48	Diabetes Awareness Information Added
Page 48	Garrett's Law Information Moved
Page 53	School Lunch Prices (High School)
Pages 106-107	Offenses Descriptions Updated
Pages 118-119	Testing Calendars Updated
Pages 127-131	Chromebook Guidelines Updated
Pages 139-140	School Calendars Updated

If you need translation assistance, please contact your school principal.
Si necesita ayuda con la traducción, comuníquese con el director de su escuela.

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Stokes County Schools

Vision

Stokes County Schools — Empowering all students to achieve and succeed.

Mission

To provide, in a safe and supportive environment, a 21st Century education for all students to be globally competitive.

Motto

It is not the roads you travel, but the lives you impact as you travel the roads.

Slogan

Students First.

Non-Discriminatory Policy
Stokes County Schools

The Stokes County School System does not discriminate in hiring or service delivery to any persons on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, handicap or disability in accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, The Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons may refer to Stokes County School's local board policies 1710, 1720, and 1730. Persons having inquiries or grievances should contact Dr. Bryan Taylor, Title VII and IX Coordinator, or Dr. Lisa LaMonica, Section 504 Coordinator, at the Board of Education Office, P. O. Box 50, Danbury, NC 27016, (336) 593-8146. Inquiries may be forwarded directly to the Office of Civil Rights, 101 Marietta Tower, Atlanta, Georgia, 30323, (404) 221-2992.

Disclaimer

The Stokes County Schools Student Handbook may serve as a reference on important issues. The student handbook only highlights county policies. The administration reserves the right to change policies stated in this student handbook. Students will be notified of the changes prior to their enforcement. Other Board policies that may affect each student in Stokes County are included in the Board Policy Manual, which is available for viewing through the schools' media centers or on the Stokes County School's website. http://www.stokes.k12.nc.us/.

Central Office Administrative Staff

Dr. Brad Rice	brad.rice@stokes.k12.nc.us	Superintendent
Dr. Jared Jones	jared.jones@stokes.k12.nc.us	Assistant Superintendent
Lanette Moore	lanette.moore@stokes.k12.nc.us	Executive Director of Finance
Dr. Bryan Taylor	bryan.taylor@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Human Resources
Regina Robertson-Turney	regina.robertson@stokes.k12.nc.us	Interim Director of School Nutrition
Neil Atkins	neil.atkins@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Curriculum 6-12/CTE
Anna McGee	anna.mcgee@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of K-5 Education/AIG
Patricia Durham	patricia.durham@stokes.k12.nc.us	Coordinator of Academic & Emotional Support
Richie Roberts	richie.roberts@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Maintenance & Facilities
Dr. Kimberley Thompson-Hairston	kimberley.thairston@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Media & Technology/Public Information Officer
Heather Pendleton	heather.pendleton@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Student Information
Amber Flippen	amber.flippen@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Exceptional Children
Rachel Cain	rachel.cain@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Testing & Accountability/ Title I
Dr. Matt Tedder	matthew.tedder@stokes.k12.nc.us	Director of Transportation
Susan Choplin	susan.choplin@stokes.k12.nc.us	Preschool Director

School Directory

School	Principal	Assistant Principal	Telephone
Chestnut Grove Middle (6-8) 2185 Chestnut Grove Road King, NC 27021 www.chestnutgrove.stokes.k12.nc.us	Dr. Doug Rose	Stephanie Glasgow	336-983.2106
Germanton Elementary (K-5) 6085 NC 8 Hwy S. Germanton, NC 27019 www.germanton.stokes.k12.nc.us	Jacinda Clifton		336-591-4021
King Elementary (PK-5) 152 East School Street King, NC 27021 www.king.stokes.k12.nc.us	Dr. Katherine Thrower	Kaitlyn Marshall Brewster	336-983-5824
London Elementary (K-5) 609 School Street Walnut Cove, NC 27052 www.london.stokes.k12.nc.us	Luke Jones		336-591-7204
Mount Olive Elementary (PK-5) 2145 Chestnut Grove Road King, NC 27021 www.mountolive.stokes.k12.nc.us	Brett Boyles, Interim Principal		336-983-4351
Nancy Reynolds Elementary (K-5) 1585 NC Hwy 66 N Westfield, NC 27053 www.nancyreynolds.stokes.k12.nc.us	Michael Richardson		336-351-2480
North Stokes High (9-12) 1350 North Stokes Road Danbury, NC 27016 www.north.stokes.k12.nc.us	Ricky Vernon	Ashley Eades	336-593-8134
Piney Grove Middle (6-8) 3415 Piney Grove Church Road Lawsonville, NC 27022 www.pineygrove.stokes.k12.nc.us	Adam Smith	Jacob Harbour	336-593-4000
Pinnacle Elementary (PK-5) 1095 Surry Line Road Pinnacle, NC 27043 www.pinnacle.stokes.k12.nc.us	Carrie Linville		336-368-2990

School	Principal	Assistant Principal	Telephone
Poplar Springs Elementary (K-5) 223 Hobe Kiser Road King, NC 27021 www.poplarsprings.stokes.k12.nc.us	Jeff Boyles	Erin Dotson	336-985-0234
Sandy Ridge Elementary (K-5) 1070 Amostown Road Sandy Ridge, NC 27046 www.sandyridge.stokes.k12.nc.us	Jennifer Cox		336-871-2400
Southeastern Stokes Middle (6-8) 1044 N. Main Street Walnut Cove, NC 27052 www.southeastern.stokes.k12.nc.us	Kristan Gallimore	Sheila Lewis Lee Miller	336-591-4371
South Stokes High (9-12) 1100 South Stokes High Drive Walnut Cove, NC 27052 www.south.stokes.k12.nc.us	Dr. Chris Bottoms	Ashley Nowlin	336-994-2995
Stokes County Academy (6-12) 4611 NC 8 Hwy N Lawsonville, NC 27022 www.sca.stokes.k12.nc.us	Dr. Eyanna Lessane		336-593-8284
Stokes Early College High (9-12) 1165 Dodgetown Road Walnut Cove, NC 27052 www.earlycollege.stokes.k12.nc.us	David Durham		336-593-5405
Walnut Cove Elementary (PK-5) 1211 Walnut Cove School Road Walnut Cove, NC 27052 www.walnutcove.stokes.k12.nc.us	Mitzi Sheppard		336-591-4408
West Stokes High (9-12) 1400 Priddy Road King, NC 27021 www.west.stokes.k12.nc.us	Dr. Samuel Jones	Randy Marion Danel Slaydon	336-983-2099

Introduction

This student handbook for the Stokes County School System is designed to provide students, parents/guardians, school personnel, and the public with a concise, comprehensive description of the policies, rules, regulations and expectations for the behavior of all students enrolled in the public schools of Stokes County. It is also designed to ensure that everyone mentioned above has been fully apprised of their respective rights and responsibilities. All students must comply with the rules, regulations, and policies governing behavior and conduct. Unless otherwise specified, the contents of this student handbook shall apply to all students who are attending any public school in Stokes County before, during and after school hours in any school building and on any school premises, or in any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities, events or functions, or during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel, or at any other time or place where the student's conduct has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline or protecting the safety and welfare of students or staff in schools.

This student handbook also contains definitions of inappropriate student conduct and possible courses of action which may be utilized by school officials to discipline students who behave improperly. Unless this student handbook requires that certain punishments be given for misconduct, principals and teachers may use their discretion in deciding which disciplinary actions to employ. However, only principals/assistant principals have authority to suspend students or to assign students to in-school suspension. All mandatory disciplinary measures explicitly stated in this student handbook apply to students enrolled in grades K-12.

This student handbook is not intended to restrict in any way the authority of principals to make rules, not inconsistent with the contents of Board policies and this student handbook. Principals are authorized by law to make for the governance and operation of their respective schools, or with the authority of teachers to make such rules, not inconsistent with the contents of Board policies and this student handbook, which they are authorized by law to make for their respective classes. Any student who refuses to comply with the reasonable rules, regulations or directives imposed by any principal, assistant principal, teacher, or authorized school employee shall be held in violation of the Stokes County School System's policies, rules and regulations governing student conduct.

Cooperation between the home, the school, and the community are essential in order to ensure that all students attending Stokes County Schools receive the full benefits of their education. Accordingly, all students, parents/guardians, school personnel, and concerned members of the public are strongly encouraged to be familiar with the entire contents of this student handbook

Statement of Rights & Responsibilities

**Throughout this student handbook, the masculine pronouns he, his, himself, etc. are used in a neutral sense. The pronouns are meant to refer to both male and female. See the glossary at the back of the Student Handbook for many of the definitions and terms used in this guide.*

Student Responsibilities

Each student has the right to attend the public schools of Stokes County. Each student is responsible for knowing and following all rules, regulations, and policies that may affect him and for accepting the consequences for his actions. Students share with school officials the responsibility of maintaining order at school through compliance with all lawful directions of principals, teachers, substitute teachers, teachers' assistants, and other personnel authorized to give directions.

Each student shall receive a copy or be directed to the Stokes County Schools website to review the student handbook at the beginning of each year and he and his parents/guardians shall sign an acknowledgment to that effect (see pg. 118).

Teacher and Teacher Assistant Responsibilities

The teacher is primarily responsible for discipline in his classroom and shall establish clear and consistent rules and regulations pertaining to the behavior of the students he teaches. At the beginning of each school year, teachers shall review with students the school system's student handbook, the local school rules and regulations, and the teacher's individual classroom rules.

Each teacher and each assistant are responsible for having knowledge of all school system regulations and local school rules pertaining to student behavior. Each teacher and each assistant shall hold all students accountable for infractions of the school system or local school rules that are brought to his attention.

Principal Responsibilities

Each principal is responsible for establishing clear and consistent rules and regulations pertinent to the behavior of students enrolled in his/her school and for interpreting such regulations for parents/guardians and for the public. Such rules shall be developed with input from parents/guardians and teachers. Student participation in the development of such regulations should be encouraged in middle and high schools. Local school rules shall not be inconsistent with the contents of Board policies and the student handbook.

At the beginning of each school year, each principal shall review with the faculty and staff the school system's student handbook and his/her school's rules and regulations concerning student behavior. Such rules and regulations shall be explained to students by faculty members on the students' first day of enrollment each year and shall be forwarded to parents/guardians during the first week thereafter.

The principal shall hold all students accountable for infractions of the school system or local school rules. The principal shall investigate instances of alleged misconduct brought to his attention and endeavor, within reason, to hear every side of the controversy. The student shall be confronted with the allegations and be given an opportunity to present his version of the facts.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents/guardians have the responsibility to provide a home atmosphere that enhances the total development of the child. Parents/guardians should:

- Ensure that the student attends school regularly.
- Know the school system and local school policies, rules and regulations.
- Attend scheduled parent/guardian-teacher conferences.
- Support the school's disciplinary efforts.
- Contact school officials whenever the need arises.
- Sign the *Stokes County Schools Student Handbook Acknowledgment Form* (see pg. 118).

Parents/guardians and students in Stokes County Schools have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct their child. Federal law allows parents/guardians to ask for certain information about their child's classroom teachers and requires the school system to give parents/guardians this information in a timely manner when requested. Specifically, parents/guardians have the right to ask for the following information about each of their children's classroom teachers/teacher assistants:

- Whether the teacher has met North Carolina qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject (areas) in which the teacher provides instruction;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or another provisional status through which North Carolina Qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- Whether the teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of his or her certification:
- The qualifications of any paraprofessional providing services to the student.

Additional rights of parents as outlined in NC Senate Bill 49 may be found in the Stokes County Schools Parent's Guide to Student Achievement on the Stokes County School's website.

Abuse/Neglect Required Reporting

According to state law, public school employees are required to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the proper authorities.

Academically & Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Program

AIG Program Mission

Stokes County Schools AIG Program's mission is to actively respond to the talents of gifted children through varied experiences socially, emotionally and academically. Stokes County Schools strives to provide opportunities for our gifted learners by serving them all day, every day.

Goals

1. COMMUNICATION with Stakeholders.
2. Continue to BUILD teacher capacity to serve the gifted learner in the inclusion classroom.

Academically & Intellectually Gifted Defined

Academically or intellectually gifted students perform or show the potential to perform at substantially high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment. Academically or intellectually gifted students exhibit high performance capability in intellectual areas, specific academic fields, or in both the intellectual areas and specific academic fields. Academically or intellectually gifted students require differentiated educational services beyond those ordinarily provided by the regular educational program. Outstanding abilities are present in students from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor.

For more information please visit the Stokes County Schools' website at https://stokesschoolsnc.sites.thrillshare.com/o/scs/page/academically-gifted or contact the AIG District Coordinator.

Asbestos

In compliance with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazards Emergency Response Act (AHERA), Stokes County Schools has conducted inspections in each of our school buildings for the purpose of identifying building materials containing asbestos. The required inspections were initially conducted during the first semester of the 1988 school year. In accordance with state and federal law, the inspection findings and resulting Asbestos Management Plans have been on file in each school's administrative office since that time. We are required to send notification to all parents/guardians, students, and employees at the time of each new inspection.

The EPA requires school districts to perform periodic surveillances of asbestos materials every six months. **No significant changes in the asbestos materials were noted during the 2024-2025 school year.**

The EPA requires school districts to have asbestos materials reinspected by an accredited asbestos inspector or management planner every three years. The management planner then reviews the results of the reinspection and recommends actions we should take to safely manage each of the identified asbestos materials in our buildings.

Our last reinspection was conducted in 2025. All asbestos materials were found to be in satisfactory condition and we plan to continue to manage them in place, as recommended by the accredited management planner. Our next reinspection is scheduled for June 2028.

The results of the periodic surveillances and reinspections are on file in the Management Plan in each school's administrative office. Everyone is welcome to view these anytime during normal school hours (Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) The Asbestos Program Manager, Richie Roberts Maintenance/Facilities Director, is available to answer any questions you may have about asbestos in our buildings at (336) 591-4282.

Athletics

The Stokes County School System has an athletic program for students at our traditional high schools. The high schools are members of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) and the middle schools are members of the Foothills Athletic Conference.

The athletic program is an extension of the school, and the coach is the school representative in charge of the sports activity. Players are expected to treat the coach as a teacher and as a person of authority. An athlete is a leader in the school and must accept the responsibility of good citizenship at school. The Board of Education and the appropriate school authorities reserve the right to remove any student from an athletic team who does not exhibit proper discipline in school or on the field. The NCHSAA Handbook states that any player ejected from a *football game* shall be reprimanded and suspended for the next two games at "any level of play" (varsity, junior varsity, or middle school). For *all other sports,* the player shall be reprimanded and suspended for the next four games at "any level of play". If a player is ejected for a second time *in any sport* the player shall be suspended from all sports for the remainder of the year.

High School Eligibility Requirements

According to the N.C. High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA), a student must (1) have satisfactory conduct, (2) have passed at least three subjects the previous semester, (3) have met district attendance requirements in the previous semester, (4) be present at school at least 50% of the day of the game in order to play in that contest, unless excused by the principal, (5) have the signed consent of his parents/guardians on

file in the principal's office, (6) have a current physical examination by a doctor stating he is in good physical health, (7) have insurance, and (8) meet local promotion standards in order to be eligible to represent a school in athletic contests. (9) All athletes and parents/guardians must sign the Insight, "It's My Call" random drug testing form and pay the required $5.50 fee. All athletes and participants listed on the NCHSAA eligibility list must use county school transportation to go to and from athletic events unless they are released to the parent/guardian with a signed release.

Middle School Eligibility Requirements

A student must (1) have satisfactory conduct, (2) have passed all but one less course than the number of required core courses the previous semester, (3) have attended school 85 percent of the previous semester, (4) be present at school the day of the game in order to play in that contest, unless excused by the principal, (5) have the signed consent of his parents/guardians on file in the principal's office, (6) have a current physical examination by a doctor stating he is in good physical health, (7) have insurance, and (8) meet local promotion standards in order to be eligible to represent a school in athletic contests. All athletes and participants must be listed on an official eligibility list and must use county school transportation to go to and from athletic events unless they are released to the parent/guardian with a signed release.

NOTE: If a student with disabilities is receiving special services in the classroom setting, progress toward achieving his/her IEP goal must be evident in order for the student to participate in interscholastic athletics. Consequences for not attaining IEP goals may be a nine-week probation from the sport or complete ineligibility.

School Insurance

Optional school insurance will be offered at the beginning of each school year. Payments need to be mailed directly to the insurance company, **NOT** to the school.

Attendance

The Stokes County Board of Education believes that regular school attendance is of crucial importance to the educational achievement of each student. Further, the Stokes County Board of Education believes that the primary responsibility for regular school attendance resides with the parents/guardians and the individual student. Creating and maintaining an atmosphere conducive to student learning is the responsibility of the school staff. It is also the responsibility of all school personnel to promote and encourage regular school attendance.

North Carolina law provides in pertinent part, as follows:

Every parent/guardian or other person legally domiciled in Stokes County and having charge or control of a child between the ages of seven and sixteen years will cause such child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is assigned will be in session. (NC G.S. 115C-378) Every parent/guardian or other person having charge or control of a child under the age of seven who is enrolled in a public school in grades kindergarten through second grade will cause such child to attend

school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is assigned will be in session unless the child has been officially withdrawn from school.

In accordance with the mandate of the above law, the Board of Education expects all students to be present at school each day and to be on time for classes in order to benefit maximally from the instructional program and to develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline and responsibility. There is a direct relationship between poor attendance and class failure. Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades, enjoy school more, and are much more employable after leaving school.

Students need to attend school on a regular basis and be present throughout the entire instructional day. Continuity of instruction, communication of knowledge through well-planned and well-taught lessons, participation in class discussions, and social interaction with fellow students are vital elements of a student's education. While home study and make-up work aid in continuing a student's instruction, they are not substitutes for these essential elements of education. Based on this principle, the Stokes County Board of Education adopts this attendance procedure.

Procedure for Recording Attendance

1. Attendance must be taken each day and, **for high school, each** instructional period.

2. To be counted present, a student must be in attendance at school or an authorized school activity approved by the principal; the only exceptions to this rule are hospital/homebound and staggered kindergarten.

3. For official **daily attendance** accounting purposes, a student must be present at least one-half of the instructional day to be recorded present for the entire day, unless there are extenuating circumstances which will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the principal.

4. In high schools, attendance is recorded in each class period. Students must be in attendance for at least 80% of scheduled class time to be counted present for that class period.

5. When a student must miss school, a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian must be presented to the student's teacher (or designee based on school procedures) on the day the student returns after an absence. Notes received after the day of return may be excused at the principal's discretion. When a student returns to school following an absence, he or she should present a written note (or use form prepared by the school) with parents'/guardians' signature stating:

    a. student's full name,
    b. date(s) of absence
    c. reason for absence, including official documentation, if available.
    d. parent/guardian daytime phone number

6. All student absences shall be recorded and classified as either excused or unexcused. Any absence which is not excused shall be classified as an unexcused absence.

7. Pursuant to regulations established by the State Board of Education, absences are excused if caused by one of the following reasons:
   a. personal illness or injury that makes the student physically unable to attend school;
   b. isolation ordered by the State Board of Health;
   c. death in immediate family;
   d. medical or dental appointments;
   e. participation under subpoena as a witness in a court proceedings;
   f. observance of an event required or suggested by the religion of the student or the student's parents/guardians with prior approval by the principal;
   g. participation in a valid educational opportunity such as travel or service as a legislative or Governor's page, with prior approval by the principal: or
   h. absence due to pregnancy and related conditions to parenting, when medically necessary

In addition, a student whose parent or legal guardian (a) is an active duty member of the uniformed services as defined by policy 4050, Children of Military Families, and (b) has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting will be granted additional excused absences at the discretion of the superintendent or designee to visit with his or her parent or legal guardian.

Upon the written request of a parent/guardian and in a reasonable period of time in advance of the absence, a student may be excused by the principal to participate in any activity having substantial educational value, such as: (a) a documented educational trip; (b) a visit to a college or military facility; or (c) or participation in civic or community events.

8. Absences due to out-of-school suspension are neither excused or unexcused.

Early Dismissal

1. Students will be permitted to leave school before the end of the school day only in the company of a parent/guardian or in accordance with specific written instructions from a parent/guardian. If an emergency requires a student to leave during the school day, the school will contact a parent/guardian for instructions.

2. Students must sign out in the office when leaving school before the end of the school day.

3. Students who leave early will be recorded as absent from any classes missed.

4. Absences will be excused or unexcused as defined in B and C above.

5. To be counted present, a student must be in attendance at least 80% of the class period **in high schools**.

Tardiness Guidelines

The Stokes County Board of Education expects all students to be on time for school and to participate in the entire school day. In order to benefit from the instructional program, students should develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline and responsibility. It is the joint responsibility of students, parents/guardians, teachers and administrators to teach and monitor the importance of school attendance.

Middle and High School Guidelines

1. Stokes County Schools believe that each student should receive uninterrupted instruction each class period. Each student, therefore, is expected to be in class and prepared to receive instruction. Each student should arrive at school by the designated start time. Any student who has to go to the Counseling Center, Administrative Offices, or any other area must report to their assigned class to receive permission and a visible hall pass to be dismissed from class. Students will be readmitted to class with an appropriate pass for the school-related appointment.
2. Students should be in their assigned seats, ready to begin class when the tardy bell rings. Students who have classes in the gym or any other areas outside the main building should be in the proper building and in their seats, or assigned area, by the ringing of the tardy bell. **All tardies will be counted unless the student has a note from a licensed healthcare provider or a note from the courts and approved through the school office.**
3. Sufficient warnings have been placed throughout this policy to cover unexpected emergencies. Disciplinary consequences for tardiness are cumulative for each semester. After the first semester, a student's tardy record will be cleared.

Tardy to Class/School - Middle and High School

Secondary students who arrive late to school after the start of the school day must go directly to the administrative office to sign in. Likewise, students leaving school early should sign out in the administrative office before leaving campus. Tardiness to school and early dismissals will be documented in the administrative office. Teachers of students late to class notify administration and/or document each tardy. Students who are habitually late to school or class will be subject to the Student Code of Conduct.

Elementary School Guidelines

1. Stokes County Schools believe that each student should receive uninterrupted instruction each class period. Each student, therefore, is expected to be in class and prepared to receive instruction. Each student should arrive at school by the designated start time. Any student who has to go to the Counseling Center, Administrative Offices, or any other area must report to their assigned class to receive permission and a visible hall pass to be dismissed from class. Students will be readmitted to class with an appropriate pass for the school-related appointment.

2. Students should be in their assigned seats, ready to begin class when the tardy bell rings. Students who have classes in the gym or any other areas outside the main building should be in the proper building and in their seats, or assigned area, by the ringing of the tardy bell. All tardies will be counted unless the student has a note from a licensed healthcare provider or a note from the courts.

3. When a student leaves school early, they miss opportunities to learn and grow academically and socially. In order for an early pick up time to be excused, it must meet the same criteria as an excused absence as defined in Policy 4400. Unexcused early pick-ups will be grouped with tardy offenses for this procedure.

4. All offenses regarding this procedure will be documented. Parents/guardians will be notified of excessive tardiness by teachers and/or administrators

Tardiness and Early Pick Up - Elementary

Elementary students who arrive late to school should be signed in by a parent/guardian in the main office. Likewise, students who leave school early should be signed out in the administrative office. Teachers and/or office personnel document each tardy. Students who are habitually late to school or class may be subject to the Student Code of Conduct.

Extracurricular Activities

1. The value of extracurricular activities to the total curriculum of the school and to the education of the student cannot be denied. Missing class due to a school-sponsored activity, therefore, will not count as an absence.

2. Each student will be responsible for notifying the teacher prior to missing class to participate in a school-sponsored activity. The student will be responsible for obtaining assignments and completing make-up work in accordance with a plan developed with the teacher. If the student fails to notify the teacher prior to missing class, then the missed class will be treated in the same manner as an unexcused absence.

3. Students may not be counted present when away from class/school participating in non-school sponsored activities. Such absences may be recorded as excused based on educational opportunity if approved in advance by the principal.

Make-Up Work

1. Upon request of the student or his or her parents/guardians, faculty members will assist students in arranging make-up work when absences are excused or unexcused.

2. Within three days after returning to school following an absence, a student and his or her teachers may develop a written plan for the student to make up missed assignments; this plan may outline the work to be made up and include due date(s). (Under extenuating circumstances, the principal or **Intensive Support Team** may modify this requirement.)

Class Participation

1. To emphasize the importance of attendance and the relationship between attendance and achievement, class participation may be considered in the calculation of students' grades.

2. The **Intensive Support Team or School Attendance Committee** will develop such procedures as may be appropriate to provide for the inclusion of class participation in the grading process.

Excessive Absences

1. If a student accumulates three unexcused absences in a school year, the principal will notify the student's parents/guardians.

2. If a student, who falls in the compulsory attendance age, accumulates six unexcused absences in a school year, the principal will notify the student's parent/guardian by mail that the parent/guardian may be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law and may be subject to prosecution.

3. If students are absent or are expected to be absent for three consecutive days, parents/guardians should notify the school (in writing or by email) to explain the cause for the absence.

4. Maximum Number of Absences:

   Grades K-8 Year Courses: If a student accumulates three (3) unexcused absences in a school year, the principal will notify the student's parents/guardians. If a student, who falls in the compulsory attendance age, accumulates six (6) unexcused absences in a school year, the principal will notify the student's parent/guardian by first class mail that the parent/guardian may be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law and may be subject to prosecution. Parents/guardians of a student who has accumulated ten (10) absences (unexcused) will be notified of the student's excessive absences. The student may be notified in person. Beyond the tenth absence (excused or unexcused), the principal may require a note from a licensed healthcare provider in order for subsequent absences to be excused. When a student accumulates fifteen (15) absences another notice may be sent to the parent/guardian. Please be aware excessive absenteeism (excused or unexcused) may negatively impact your child's ability to meet grade level standards. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the appeals procedures.

   High School Semester Courses: After three (3) absences (excused or unexcused) are accumulated a warning notice will be sent to the student's parents/guardians. A second notice will be sent by first class mail after six (6) absences. Beyond the sixth absence (excused or unexcused), the principal may require a note from a licensed healthcare provider in order for subsequent absences to be excused. The student also shall be notified in person. Please be aware excessive absenteeism (excused or unexcused) may negatively impact a student's ability to meet content standards.

Exam Exemptions

1. To promote exemplary attendance and conduct, students may be exempt from taking exams in certain courses. No students may be exempt from taking final exams in courses requiring North Carolina End-of-Course tests or North Carolina CTE Assessments. Students in grades 9-12 may be exempt from the final exam in a course, provided one of the following criteria is met:

   a) The student maintains an "A" average and accumulates no more than 6 absences per semester;

   b) The student maintains a "B" average and accumulates no more than 4 absences per semester;

   c) The student maintains a "C" average and accumulates no more than 2 absences per semester;

   d) The student maintains a "D" average and accumulates no more than 1 absence per semester.

2. Students whose behavior results in out-of-school suspension will automatically lose exam exemption privileges for the semester in which the suspension occurs.

3. Students who are assigned to in-school suspension more than once during a school semester will lose exam exemption privileges for the semester in which the suspension occurs.

4. Students are encouraged to take all exams, regardless of their exam exemption status. Students who meet exam exemption criteria may choose to take the exam in that course. If a student chooses to take the exam, the exam grade will be counted as 20% of the semester grade only if it improves the student's grade. A student's grade cannot be lowered because he/she chooses to take an exam if exemption is granted and not taken.

Buses

The school system's policy on school bus scheduling and routing is available for review in the Superintendent's office. In general, the policy provides as follows:

- School buses will operate to and from school based on approved school bus routes, and no variation will be made without prior approval. The Superintendent will require routes to be established and pupils assigned to ride buses that travel the established routes.
- No person other than assigned students or authorized employees may board or ride school buses.
- Buses will be routed so that they pass within one mile of the assigned pupil's primary residence. Bus routes will be planned in a manner designed to conserve fuel and use buses efficiently.
- With few exceptions, school buses will be routed on state-maintained primary roads only and not on private roads. Bus service into housing developments will be limited to the main road into the development and not side roads or cul-de-sac streets within the development. The local board of education will not be responsible for damage to the roadway.
- Unless safety or other conditions make it inadvisable to do so, buses will not deviate from a general path of direction for a distance of less than one-half mile and then return to the original path except for

  - groups of 10 or more pupils;
  - unescorted pupils in grades pre-kindergarten through three; and
  - pupils with special needs as defined by an Individual Education Program (IEP).
- Specialized bus transportation will be arranged to provide appropriate transportation for students with disabilities according to their Individual Education Plan.

- Unless safety or other conditions make it inadvisable to do so, bus stops will not be closer together than .2 (2/10s) of a mile (one city block).
- Parents/guardians of students assigned to school bus routes will be informed of the scheduled school bus arrival time and are responsible for making sure that students are at the school bus stop prior to that arrival time.
- Buses will not be redirected to go back to an assigned stop to pick up a student that missed the bus unless the driver missed the assigned stop.
- Additions and/or deletions of bus stops and assigned students occur frequently throughout the school year.
- Additions and/or deletions may affect established pick up and drop off times.
- When additions or deletions result in a schedule change, parents/guardians will be notified by the school prior to the change taking place.
- There is a turn-around period of up to (5) days for Bus Transportation Requests made during the regular school year.
- **Parents/guardians that wish for their student(s) to be re-assigned, must submit a Transportation Request form and allow up to a (5) day turn-around period for the reassignment to be added.**
- The final day to request or change bus transportation prior to the start of the school year is August 1st.
- If parents/guardians request bus transportation after the August 1st deadline, they will have to provide transportation for their children to and from school until bus transportation arrangements can be determined – **this can take up to 10 days after school has started to be added.**
- No student in 3rd grade or below shall be discharged at a school bus stop without the supervision of an accompanying adult unless written permission is provided by the student's parent or guardian. Please see your school's office for this form.

Bus Change Request

Students are not allowed to leave their regular bus to ride another bus without a written note signed by their parent/guardian. The bus request must include the complete 911 address of the destination, specific reason, the date of the request, and a telephone number where a parent/guardian may be reached to verify the note. The request for change of bus must be presented to the school's office staff in the morning. If the request is approved, the student will receive a bus pass to give to the bus driver.

- **Please note that bus requests received after 11:00 A.M. may not be processed.**

Bus Conduct

Bus transportation is provided for many Stokes County students. This service exists not only for the elementary, middle, and high school-aged youth to and from school, but also is available for instructional field trips, athletic trips, and special after-school activities. In addition, school buses transport children from their base schools to other locations where particular educational programs are available. As a result, the county's buses travel over 1.5 million miles annually in service to the youth of Stokes County.

Of foremost importance is the realization that riding the bus, for whatever purpose, is a privilege. Should that privilege be abused, it may be revoked for a specified period of time or permanently. The safety and well-being of the driver and passengers cannot be jeopardized for any reason. Those few who do not subscribe to the rules governing behavior on the bus will not ride the bus.

The driver of the bus is responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle and the driver's attention should not be distracted, particularly when the bus is in operation. Authority to maintain order and the resultant safe environment rests with the driver, and this represents an awesome task. When the driver requires assistance to resolve a potentially harmful or negative situation on the bus, the principal(s) of the school(s) served by the driver is/are charged with the obligation of rendering assistance. Proper behavior is required at bus stops to ensure that the property rights of others, residential or otherwise, are respected.

At all times while riding a school bus or other school-owned or operated vehicle, students shall observe the directives of the school bus driver and/or bus/contract vehicle safety monitor. The following conduct is specifically prohibited and may result in revocation of transportation privileges provided by the school system: delaying the bus schedule; fighting, smoking/vaping, using profanity or refusing to obey the driver's instructions; tampering with or willfully damaging the school vehicle; getting off at an unauthorized stop; distracting the driver's attention by participating in disruptive behavior while the vehicle is in operation; throwing objects from the bus; failing to observe and obey safety regulations; willfully trespassing on a school-owned or operated vehicle; or violating any other Code of Conduct rule while on the school bus. **The use of a cellular phone by an elementary school student while on a yellow bus is prohibited.** The use of a cellular phone while on an activity bus will be at the discretion of the supervising coach or teacher.

In addition, the following acts are prohibited:

- Delaying the bus schedule.
- Fighting, using tobacco products (including cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, JUULs, cigars, blunts, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and any other item containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products), using alcohol or drugs, using profanity, or refusing to obey instructions.
- Tampering with the bus.
- Refusing to meet the bus at designated stops.
- Unauthorized leaving of the bus when in route.
- Distracting the driver's attention while the bus is in operation by horseplay, throwing objects in the bus or out the window, making loud noises, moving from your assigned seat without permission from the driver or otherwise failing to observe established safety rules and regulations.
- Violating any other rule contained in the student handbook while on the bus.
- Riding a bus to which the student is not assigned without an approved bus pass.

- Entering a public school bus or public school activity bus after being forbidden to do so by the authorized school bus driver in charge thereof, or the school principal to whom the public school bus or public school activity bus is assigned.
- Unlawfully and willfully stopping, impeding, delaying, or detaining any public school bus or public school activity bus being operated for public school purposes.
- Having in your possession any type of weapon or object(s) that could be used as a weapon while on a bus.
- Having in your possession any incendiary device such as a lighter or matches while on a bus.

Here Comes the Bus App

Here Comes the Bus® is available to parents/guardians of Stokes County Schools students

- View the real-time location of your child's bus
- Access the app from your smartphone, tablet or computer
- Receive push notifications or email alerts
- Send your child to the bus stop at the right time, every time

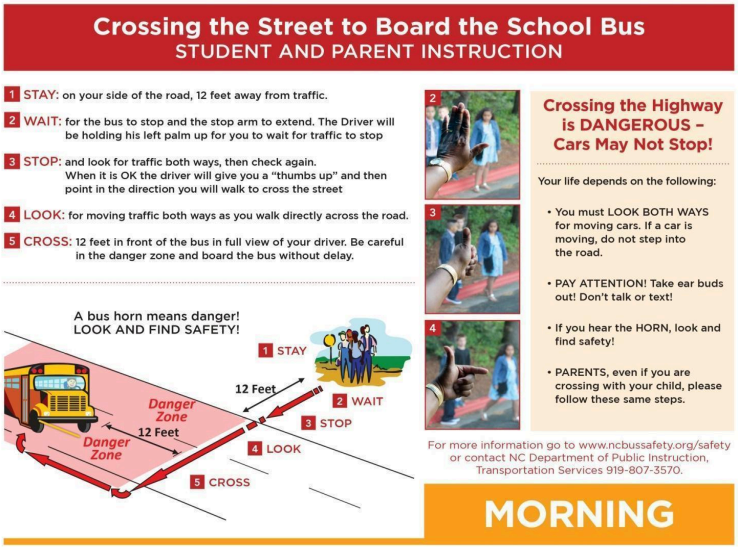
How to get started:

1. Download the Here Comes the Bus app* or visit herecomesthebus.com
2. Click the **Sign UP** button
3. Enter school code **73851** and click "Next" followed by "Confirm"
4. Complete the "User Profile" box
5. Under "My Students," click "Add." Enter your child's last name and student ID number
6. Once you confirm your information, you're ready to begin using Here Comes the Bus!

*Available at the App Store and Google Play Here Comes the Bus® is a registered trademark of Synovia Solutions. LLC

Bus Safety

Stokes County Schools' bus drivers utilize the North Carolina crossing hand signals to communicate to students when it is safe to cross the street to board the bus and when it is safe to cross the street after exiting the bus. **We encourage all parents/guardians to talk with their children about being safe at the bus stop; and, to follow the instructions from the bus driver and wait at a safe location until they get a signal from the bus driver that all traffic has stopped and it's safe to cross the road and board the bus.** The students should also look both ways before stepping out onto the street and they should avoid using any electronic device (no texting or talking on the cell phone or listening to music) while boarding the bus.



Child Custody Issues

If there are court papers regarding the custody of a child or children, please see that the school's office has an official and current copy on file. Many parents/guardians verbally notify the school of issues, but it is important to remember that school personnel must have official documentation to support decisions that sometimes have to be made. It is also good practice to notify the principal of any concerns regarding difficult domestic affairs.

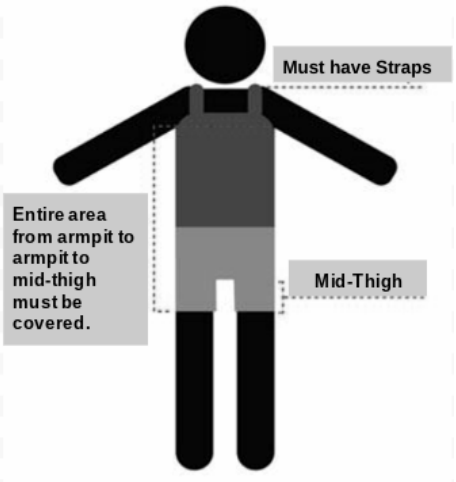
Child Find

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) includes the Project Child Find mandate. The Project Child Find mandate applies to all children who reside within a state, including children who attend private and public schools, highly mobile children, migrant children, homeless children and children who are wards of the state. (20 U.S.C.1412(a)(3)) Child Find requires all school districts to identify, locate and evaluate all children with disabilities.

Dress Code and Appearance

The Stokes County Board of Education respects a student's right to choose his or her dress or appearance. However, the Board of Education will require that students adhere to standards of dress that are compatible with the requirement of a good school environment. All students are expected to be groomed and dressed appropriately for school and school activities. If, in the opinion of the principal or his/her designee, a student's dress or appearance is such that it (1) disrupts the learning environment, (2) constitutes a threat to health or safety, (3) is construed as provocative or obscene, or (4) is lacking in cleanliness, the principal or the principal's designee may require the student and student's parent/guardian to take appropriate action to remedy the situation.

The principal shall have the authority to implement the school dress code and appearance policy in a manner that is age-appropriate. Reasonable consideration will be made for those students who, because of sincerely held religious beliefs, cultural heritage, or medical reasons, request, in writing, a waiver of a particular guideline for dress or appearance. Reasonable accommodations shall be made by the principal to accommodate students involved in special duties, activities, or projects approved by the school. This would include but is not limited to athletics, vocational classes, projects, P.E. classes, special events, science activities/labs, or other activities that would allow for the non-conforming dress.



A student who is not in compliance with this policy or a school dress code will be given a reasonable period of time to make adjustments so that he or she will be in compliance. Failure to comply will result in the student being removed from school until his or her appearance or clothing meets school system policy or rules. See the Code of Conduct at the end of this handbook for consequences for violating the dress code.

<u>Guidelines:</u> All students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines.

1. Shorts, skirts, and dresses should be no shorter than mid-thigh.
2. Shirts, tops, and dresses must have straps or sleeves.
3. Shirts should cover from shoulder to waist.

4. Undergarments are not to be visible whether sitting or standing.

5. Appropriate footwear should be worn at all times.

6. Students shall not wear clothing with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, pornography, and clothing with images or language depicting or advocating violence or the use of alcohol or drugs.

7. Hats, caps, toboggans, bandannas, hoods and sweatbands will not be worn in the classroom, unless they have been approved by the administration. Sunglasses will not be worn inside the school building.

Driver Education and Driver Eligibility

Stokes County Schools provides driver education to all students at the expense of the school district except for the $65.00 fee charged to all students who elect to participate in driver education. High school students with physical disabilities may need additional accommodations or services in order to participate in the behind-the-wheel component of driver education instruction, including specialized occupational therapy evaluations and specialized vehicle modifications. Specialized services will be provided as needed at no additional cost to students or parents/guardians. Stokes County Schools' personnel will discuss with students and parents/guardians the evaluation and vehicle modification process, including the availability of both governmental and private-sector options for facilitating this process. To obtain specific information regarding occupational therapy evaluations and specialized modifications contact the Department of Exceptional Children at (336) 536-9010.

Driver education is offered at each of the three traditional Stokes County high schools and is scheduled before and after school hours and during the summer. No driver education classes are held during the school day. Eligible students must be at least 14.5 years of age. The driver education program at each school consists of 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction. Check with the driver education instructor at your student's high school for information about when classes are held. Students at Stokes County Academy and the Stokes County Early College High School may take driver education at the school that is most convenient for them.

Upon satisfactory completion of both the classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction, students receive a Driver Eligibility Certificate. Students who are between the ages of 15 and 18 must present the Driver Eligibility Certificate to the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles in order to obtain a learner's permit. Because North Carolina believes safe driving requires a combination of instruction in driving and experience, driving privileges are granted first on a limited basis and then expanded under the following graduated system:

Limited Learner's Permit

Students who are at least 15 years of age but less than 18 years of age may obtain a limited learner's permit after passing a driver education course, obtaining the Driver Eligibility Certificate, and passing the written

test administered by the NC Division of Motor Vehicles. The limited permit allows the holder to drive between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. for the first six months after the permit is issued. The student's parent/guardian must be seated beside the permit holder while the vehicle is in motion.

Limited Provisional License

Once the student is 16 years of age but less than 18 years of age, he may obtain a limited provisional license if he meets the following conditions:

- Has held a limited learner's permit the prescribed time period determined by NCDMV;
- Has not been convicted of a motor vehicle moving violation or seat belt infraction during the preceding six months;
- Passes a road test administered by the Division of Motor Vehicles;
- Has a Driver Eligibility Certificate or a high school diploma or its equivalent;

The limited provisional license authorizes the license holder to drive without supervision between 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. and with supervision at any time.

Full Provisional License

A student who is at least 16 years of age but less than 18 years of age may obtain a full provisional license once he has held the limited provisional license for at least six months so long as the person has not been convicted of a motor vehicle moving violation or seat belt infraction during the preceding six months and has a Driver Eligibility Certificate or a high school diploma or its equivalent.

In addition, under North Carolina law, **in order to be eligible to obtain and maintain driver eligibility, students must be currently enrolled in school and "making progress toward obtaining a high school diploma," which is defined as passing at least 70% of the maximum possible courses each semester and meet promotion standards established by the school district. Passing 70% of the maximum possible courses in Stokes County high schools means students must pass three out of the four courses they are taking each semester and meet local promotion standards.** High schools are required by law to notify the Department of Motor Vehicles at the end of each semester of any students who have failed to "make progress toward obtaining a high school diploma" by failing to pass 70% of the maximum possible courses in a semester, failing to meet local promotion standards, or if they drop out of school.

Lose Control, Lose License NCGS § 20-11(n) (1)

In addition, under North Carolina law, **in order to be eligible to obtain and maintain driver eligibility, a student may not have an** expulsion, a suspension for more than 10 consecutive days, or an assignment to an alternative educational setting for more than 10 consecutive days for one of the following behaviors:

- The possession or sale of an alcoholic beverage or an illegal controlled substance on school property.
- The bringing, possession, or use on school property of a weapon or firearm that resulted in disciplinary action under N.C.G.S. §115C-390.10 or that could have resulted in that disciplinary action if the conduct had occurred in a public school.
- The physical assault on a teacher or other school personnel on school property. See: N.C.G.S. §20-11(n)(1)

Emergency Information

Parents/guardians are required to complete a *Student Emergency/Information Form* for their student. **This form covers emergency information which must be kept up-to-date at all times.** Items on this form include:

1. Name of parent or legal guardian
2. Complete up-to-date address
3. Home phone and work phone numbers
4. Mobile numbers
5. Email addresses
6. Physician's name and number
7. Medical alert information
8. Custody information
9. Social security number (last 4 digits)

Please notify the school immediately if any of the information on your child's "Student Information Form" changes. *The Student Emergency/Information Form* is located at the back of the handbook.

Exceptional Children's Services

Stokes County Schools follows the procedures for determining eligibility for students with disabilities as outlined in *NC Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*. These policies may be referenced at http://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/policies/nc-policies-governing-services-for-children-with-disabilities.

To determine if eligibility for special education may need to be considered, a referral is completed in writing noting strengths and weaknesses or needs when a student is still not making sufficient progress in general education even with interventions. The school's Problem Solving Team, school personnel or a child's parent/guardian may provide a written referral. If a child's physician or another outside party makes a referral or recommendation to school staff, a representative from the Individual Education Program (IEP) team will respond to the parent/guardian of that child.

A written referral is given to the IEP team to determine if a formal evaluation is needed given a thorough data review. Members of the IEP team include a representative of the local educational agency, a regular education teacher, a special education teacher, the parent/guardian of the student, and other relevant team members. If the need for evaluation is determined, the school system completes the assessments at no cost to the parent/guardian; however, written consent from the parent/guardian must be obtained before any evaluations can be conducted.

A variety of assessments may be conducted in the areas related to the concerns and suspected disability. The IEP team will collect all the available information, including evaluation results. It is the responsibility of the IEP team, including the parent/guardian, to determine if the student meets the eligibility criteria for a

disability. The evidence must support documentation of a disability, an adverse effect on educational performance, and the need for specially designed instruction.

If a child is determined to be eligible and in need of special education, the parent/guardian and other IEP team members will develop an IEP for the child. Eligible children may also receive related services if necessary to benefit from special education. Related services include, but are not limited to, speech-language therapy, audiology services, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. The IEP outlines the specially designed instruction the child requires to make progress in the general education curriculum, how progress will be measured, and who will be responsible for these services. A new IEP will be developed annually. State and federal laws require that a child undergo a reevaluation process at least every three years to determine whether he or she continues to meet eligibility requirements as well as requires specially designed instruction.

Transfer Students with Individualized Education Programs

Students with current IEPs from other school districts within North Carolina shall be afforded comparable special education and related services as soon as these services can be reasonably arranged. Parents/guardians of students with IEPs who transfer into a school within Stokes County Schools must make school staff aware of a previous IEP and services at the time of enrollment. Immediate knowledge of an existing IEP will allow for school staff to request educational records from other school districts and to begin the provision of special education services in a timely manner.

Students with current IEPs from other states shall be afforded comparable special education and related services as soon as student educational records can be obtained and verified from the previous school district in the other state. Stokes County Schools EC staff will develop a Comparable Services Agreement and provide special education and related services while the initial eligibility process takes place. Eligibility for special education services in NC must be followed in accordance with the policies outlined in NC Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities.

Dispute Resolution

Parents/guardians of students with disabilities and adult students (18 years and older) with disabilities are entitled to the due process rights that are outlined in the Handbook on Parent Rights, which can be referenced at http://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/parent-resources/parents-rights-_handbook. Parents/guardians and/or adult students will receive a copy of this handbook annually but can also request an additional copy from their child's EC Case Manager or the district's Exceptional Children's Director. Any questions regarding parents/guardians' or students' rights or dispute resolution may be directed to the Stokes County Special Programs Exceptional Children's Director at 336-536-9010. Parents/guardians may also contact the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC) at 1-800-962-6817.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Release of Student Information (Stokes County Policy 4700)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents/guardians certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

Parents/guardians or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents/guardians or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.

Parents/guardians or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent/guardian or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing in accordance with the Student and Parent Grievance Procedure, Policy 4010. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent/guardian or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.

Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):

- School officials with legitimate educational interest;
- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
- Accrediting organizations;
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific state law.

Disclosure of Directory Information and Right to Object. See Policy 4700

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, email address, telephone number, date and place of birth, photograph or video image, participation in officially recognized sports and activities; weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. Examples of the use of directory information include the following: honor rolls, club rosters, graduation programs, athletic team programs, school newspapers, and school yearbooks. The Stokes County Board of Education has designated the following as directory information: student's name, major course of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance (date of enrollment through date of graduation or withdrawal), degrees and awards received, date of graduation, and most recent previous educational agency or institution attended.

Within thirty days of the distribution date of this student handbook, parents/guardians and eligible students may request in writing to the principal that the school not disclose directory information about them. In

addition, parents/guardians and eligible students may at any time object to the disclosure of any or all directory information by notifying the school in writing of their objection. Parents/guardians or eligible students also may restrict the release of any or all directory information by notifying the school in writing that the information may not be released without their prior written consent. Schools shall notify parents/guardians of their FERPA Rights by use of a special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, school district's student handbook, or newspaper article.

(The following section applies to High School Students Only)

Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), all public schools receiving federal assistance must provide, on a request made by military recruiters or an institution of higher education, access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone listings.

A secondary school student or the parent/guardian of the student may request that the student's name, address, and telephone listing described above not be released without prior written parent/guardian consent, and the local educational agency or private school shall notify parents/guardians of the option to make a request and shall comply with any request. The request should be made within thirty (30) days of the distribution date of this student handbook, in writing, to the principal of the student's school.

Each local educational agency receiving assistance must provide military recruiters the same access to secondary school students as is provided generally to post-secondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of those students. (*Opt-In for School/District Communications* is located at the back of the handbook.)

Fees for Students

The Board recognizes that some courses and programs cost more to operate than others and cannot be fully supported by standard instructional funds. Each year, the Board approves a schedule of fees for those courses. No other fees are to be collected without Board approval. Instructional fees collected from students are to be used only to support the program for which they are collected. See your student's school if you need fee waiver information for school fees.

Instructional resource materials for certain classes (example: workbooks in math and foreign language) may be available for purchase by students on an optional basis. A high school course taught in middle school would require the same fee as high school.

Note: Instructional fees may be expended only to support the program for which they are collected.

SCHOOL FEES

ALL Levels	Technology Fee	$27.00
Subject Area	**Middle Schools**	**High Schools PER SEMESTER**

Art 6th – 12th	$6.50	$12.75
Band 6th	$6.50	
Band 7th - 12th	$10.75	$12.75
Chorus	$5.50	$10.75
Digital Photography		$12.75
Drama		$10.75
Math		$5.50
Physical Education	$5.50	$8.50
Science (Standard Course of Study)	$5.50	$5.50
Science (Honors or AP)		$10.75
Additional Fees	**Middle School**	**High School**
"It's My Call		$5.50
Parking Fee		$42.00
Drivers Education		$65.00
Lock Rental Fee		$3.25
JROTC Uniform Fee		$10.00
Stokes Early College Tuition Fee		$52.50/year

Field Trips

Field trips are designed to support and enhance the academic curriculum. Teachers will notify parents/guardians of field trips that are planned, and parents/guardians will need to sign a permission form for their child. The cost of field trips will be kept as low as possible. Parents/guardians wishing to transport their child back from the field trip must fill out a "Private Transportation Form" prior to the trip and have it approved by the principal. Only parents/guardians or grandparents are allowed to transport students from field trips. Under extenuating circumstances, with prior written approval from the school principal, the school principal may approve for a child to ride with a responsible adult other than parents/guardians or grandparents. All students must ride school-owned or school-approved vehicles to the field trip site.

Parents/guardians or other volunteers who wish to chaperone field trips shall be subject to criminal background checks. Chaperones will be responsible for paying the $16.45 fee to cover the cost of

the criminal background check. Those wishing to chaperone can fill out the form and make payment online by following the directions at: https://bib.com/SECUREVOLUNTEER/STOKES-COUNTY-SCHOOLS/. All school volunteers are expected to be professional and dependable in their volunteer activities.

Parents/guardians approved to be chaperones for field trips should not bring other children who are not a part of the class group on the trip. Additionally, any other individuals 18 years and older who attend the field trip with the chaperone must also have a background check in accordance with School Board Policy 5015 and the associated Background Authorization information. School administrators have the responsibility to ensure all school volunteers, including field trip chaperones, are in compliance with Board Policies and have the authority to determine plans and procedures for utilizing school volunteers.

Foreign Exchange Students

The Stokes County School System recognizes the value of study abroad opportunities. Careful planning is necessary in order to participate in "Study Abroad" and receive high school credit in Stokes County. Credits for courses taken abroad that are substantially equivalent to a high school course in Stokes County, as documented from the syllabus or transcript of the school will be awarded. Grades earned may receive a notation of "Pass" or "Fail" which may affect a student's ability to qualify as a "North Carolina Academic Scholar" or receive other academic recognitions.

Responsibility of the Student

1. By July 1 of the year preceding the Study Abroad Program, the student will submit the travel plan, course of study, and contact information for the upcoming year to the counseling department of their current high school.
2. Upon return to the student's home school, course information and transcripts will be submitted to the counseling department for course credit to be applied.

NOTE: Stokes County Early College Students will need to confer with Forsyth Technical Community College for additional requirements for college credit. This will be done on an individual basis in conjunction with the Stokes County Early College principal and the Forsyth Technical College Dean of Educational Partnerships.

Responsibility of the School

1. Approve or deny credit based on the initial course of study presented by the student.
2. Remove the student from school enrollment.
3. Enroll the student back into the Stokes County School System and add the received credits based on the student's transcript.
4. State testing for the courses taken will be given ONLY if the student is enrolled in a Stokes County School during testing OR if a student takes a follow-up course that requires the testing missed during the exchange program (ex. Biology taken during an exchange program and the student takes AP biology in a subsequent semester).

Grading System—Report Cards

Elementary and Middle School Report Cards/Grading System

There are four nine-week grading periods. Report cards (or assessments) go out at the end of the nine weeks. Progress Reports go out every 4 ½ weeks.

Student progress in grades K-2 is assessed using the following codes:

3 - Consistent performance on grade level
2 - Inconsistent performance on grade level
1 - Below grade-level performance

Student progress in grades 3-8 is assessed using the following:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = Below 60

High School

Official report cards of student progress will be distributed after each quarter. Teachers will consistently report academic progress via Infinite Campus and/or personal communication in lieu of written progress reports. Students and parents/guardians should consult the district calendar or individual school calendar for dates when report cards are scheduled to be released.

Grade points represent a numerical value (0-100) for all grades received on all courses taken in grades 9-12. No differentiation is made in the value of a grade earned in courses at various curriculum levels. Grade points provide an equal reward for achievement at all levels of the curriculum. At those grade levels where letter grades based on numerical averages are used for reporting purposes, the following grading scale will be in effect:

<u>High School</u>
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = Below 60

<u>Weighed Scale</u>
According to State Education Board Policy Number GCS-L-004, the following chart depicts the weighing of courses in grades 9-12.

Course Type	Weight
Honors Course	One-half (.5) quality point
Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Courses	One (1) quality point
Community College, Four Year University and College Courses	One (1) quality point

Graduation Requirements

Course	Students Entering 9th grade 2021-2022 or afterwards	Students Entering 9th grade 2025-2026 or afterwards	Students Entering 9th grade 2026-2027 or afterwards	OCS*
English	4	4	4	4*
Math	4	4	4	4*
Social Studies	4	4	4	4*
Science	3	3	3	3*
World Language***	See below***	See below***	See below***	Not Required
PE/Health	1	1	1	1
CPR Required	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Electives	6** (at least 2 must be from CTE, Arts Education, or World Languages)	6** (at least 2 must be from CTE, Arts Education, or World Languages)	5** (at least 2 must be from CTE, Arts Education, or World Languages)	4 CTE Electives
				2 Additional Employment Prep
Arts Education	1 course in an arts discipline recommended but not required	at least 1 course in an arts discipline required in 6-12 grade span	at least 1 course in an arts discipline required in 6-12 grade span	at least 1 course in an arts discipline required in 6-12 grade span
Computer Science			at least 1 credit fulfilling Computer Science requirement in grades 6-12	at least 1 credit fulfilling Computer Science requirement in grades 6-12
Total	22	22	22	22 plus any additional requirements****

* OCS courses include courses aligned with Future Ready Core Courses in English 1, English 2, Math 1, and Biology. Employment Preparation hours are built into four of the required core courses. For detailed information, please consult your case manager or school counselor.

** For additional information on CTE courses that meet requirements for selected Courses of Study, refer to the CTE Clusters chart located at https://center.ncsu.edu/nccte-cms/career_pathways.php

*** Not required for graduation but 2 levels required for College/UNC System Endorsement.

**** Completion of a career portfolio and 150 hours of school-based training, 225 hours of community-based training, and 225 hours of paid/unpaid employment or training.

For more detailed information about graduation requirements including courses offered at Stokes County High Schools, diploma endorsements, community college courses, and online courses consult the Stokes County Schools High School Course Selection Guide.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery

The North Carolina State Board of Education Policy GCS-M-001.13, Course for Credit, Credit by Demonstrated Mastery, specifically offers NC students the opportunity to personalize and accelerate their learning by earning course credit through a demonstration of mastery of course material.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery may be offered in grades 9-12 for high school courses and in grades 6-8 for high school courses offered in middle school. Certain courses such as internships and CTE Advanced Studies are not eligible for this option to earn credit.

Students shall demonstrate mastery through a multi-phase assessment, consisting of (1) a standard examination, which shall be the EOC, NC Final Exam, or a final exam developed locally and (2) an artifact which requires the student to apply knowledge and skills relevant to the content standards. Additional requirements, such as performance tasks may be required for certain courses. This multi-phase assessment process builds a body-of-evidence that allows a committee to determine if the student has a deep understanding of the standards for the course or subject area, as defined by the North Carolina Standard Course of Study, thereby earning credit for the course without experiencing it in the school setting.

Health

Illness: When to Keep/Send a Child Home

Deciding if a sick child can be sent to school, or if a sick child should be sent home from school, can be a difficult task. The following student health guidelines will make decisions easier for both parents/guardians and school officials.

Students shall be kept at home for at least 24 hours if, they have any of the following:

- Nausea/Vomiting (2 or more times)
- Diarrhea (2 or more loose watery stools)
- Any drainage from the ear
- Skin sores that are oozing or crusted with dry drainage
- Wheezing or croupy cough or cough with yellow or green sputum
- Any unknown rash
- Fever (temperature of 100 degrees or greater)**

** Students should be fever free for 24 hours without the use of medications to reduce fever in order to be at school.

Please call your child's doctor or clinic for advice about treatment. Some conditions will require a doctor's visit and prescription medication. The school may ask you to furnish proof of treatment. Follow the medical advice about the safe return to school. Students are excluded from school in cases of communicable diseases. When a student is suspected of having one of the following communicable diseases, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to take the child to the health department or family physician for verification and treatment before that student can return to school.

1. **Chicken Pox:** The student is excluded for at least 5 days after the rash appears or until all blisters have formed scabs.
2. **Measles:** The student is excluded until the physician's approval is given and the student is no longer contagious.
3. **Head Lice:** Schools will ask parents/guardian of students with live bugs to be picked up from school and receive one lice treatment. Students will be rechecked upon return to school for live bugs and nits. Students will be allowed to return to school with nits.
4. **Scabies:** The student is excluded until one treatment with prescription medication for 24 hours is completed.
5. **Pink Eye:** The student is excluded if eyes are swollen, red, have yellow drainage and/or excessive itching and have not had at least 24 hours of treatment.
6. **Impetigo:** The student is excluded if they have draining sores and until seen by a physician and treated with a prescription antibiotic for 24 hours.
7. **Strep Throat:** The student is excluded until treated with a prescription antibiotic for 24 hours and fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication or released by the physician.
8. **Strep or Staph Infections:** The student is excluded until treated with a prescription antibiotic for 24 hours or released by the physician. The area involved must be covered with a bandage if draining.
9. **Hand, Foot and Mouth:** The student is excluded when sores are draining and until fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication.

Chronic Conditions (Asthma, Seizures, Diabetes, Nosebleeds, Allergic Reactions)

Please inform your child's teacher and school nurse of any medical conditions your child has and any medications being taken (even if these are taken only at home).

Immunizations Required and Health Assessments

Pre-K/ Kindergarten/New Out of State Students

The Board requires all students to meet the eligibility requirements for school admission established by the state and the board, including immunization and health assessments (SCS Board Policy 4110; G.S. 130A-152; G.S. 130A-440).

Within thirty calendar days of their first enrollment date, all students, including pre-kindergarten students, must show evidence of immunization against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, red measles, German

measles (rubella), poliomyelitis, and such other immunizations as may be required by law. Such evidence must be shown in the form of a certificate furnished by a licensed physician or by the health department. A student who received immunizations in a state other than North Carolina must present an official certificate that meets the immunization requirements of G.S. 130A-154(b).

Within thirty calendar days of their first enrollment date, all students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and out-of-state students going to Stokes County Schools for the first time must show evidence of a current health assessment as required by law.
Principals are required to refuse admittance to any child whose parent or guardian does not present a required health assessment or a medical certification of proper immunizations within the allotted time. An exception to the immunization requirement is made only for religious reasons or for medical reasons approved by a licensed physician.

Immunization Requirements for Entering Seventh Grade

Prior to the start of school, students entering the 7th grade during the school year are now required to receive a booster dose of Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) vaccine and Meningococcal (MCV) vaccine.

If it has been five years since your child received a tetanus-containing vaccine, he/she will need a dose of Tdap. If it has been less than five years, talk to your child's doctor about the need to receive a dose of Tdap.

You will need to present proof of vaccinations on or before the first day of your child's attendance in the 7th grade. If proof of vaccinations is not provided within 30 days of enrollment, your child will be suspended from school until he/she provides proof of immunizations as required by law. Please be prepared to provide proof of immunizations (Certification of Immunizations) on the first day of school.

Questions should be addressed to your health care provider, health department, or school nurse.

Immunization Requirements for Entering Twelfth Grade

Prior to the start of school, students entering 12th grade are required to receive a booster dose of the Meningococcal (MCV) Vaccine.

You will need to present proof of vaccinations on or before the first day of your child's attendance in the 12th grade. If proof of vaccinations is not provided within 30 days, your child will be suspended from school until he/she provides proof of immunizations as required by law. Please be prepared to provide proof of immunizations (Certification of Immunizations) on the first day of school.

Immunization Requirements for 2026-2027 School Year

NC Immunization Law -10 A NCAC 41A.0401

Pre K 4 DTAP
3 Polio
4 ActHib or 3 PedvaxHib, last dose must be on/after 1st birthday/not given after 5 years of age.
Number of doses of Hib may vary from 1 to 3 or 4 depending on at what age started.
1 Measles*, 1 Mumps*, 1 Rubella*
3 HepB, last dose must be on/after 6 mos./24 wks. of age, if combo vax used may have 4
1 Varicella OR history of disease <u>documented</u> by <u>healthcare provider</u>, not parent
4 Pneumococcal (see below) ***

K-4 4 or 5 DTP/DTaP (last dose must be on/after 4th birthday if no Dtap needs 3 Td/Tdap**)
3 or 4 Polio (last dose must be on/after 4th birthday and 6 months after previous dose)
2 Measles* (1st dose must be on/after 1st birthday, 2nd dose usually given between age 4-6 yrs, and must be at least 28 days after 1st dose)
2 Mumps*
1 Rubella*
3 HepB (last dose on/after 6 mos. or 24 wks. of age, if combo vaccine used may have 4 doses)
2 Varicella OR history of disease documented by healthcare provider, not parent

5-6 4 or 5 DTP/DTaP (last dose must be on/after 4th birthday if no Dtap needs 3 Td/Tdap**)
4 Polio (3 doses are acceptable, if last is on/after 4th birthday and 6 months after previous dose)
2 Measles* (1st dose must be on/after 1st birthday, 2nd dose usually given between age 4-6 years, and must be at least 28 days after 1st dose)
2 Mumps*
1 Rubella*
3 HepB last dose on/after 6 mos./24 wks. of age, if combo vaccine used may have 4 doses
2 Varicella OR history of disease (history of disease documented by healthcare provider; 2nd does not required for students entering K or 1st grade before 7/1/2015)

7-11 4 or 5 DTP/DTAP** (last dose must be on/after 4th birthday, if no Dtap needs 3 Td/Tdap**)
1 Tdap after age 10 (may need 2 if 1st given between ages 7-10 as part of catch up schedule**); but before entering 7th grade or by 12 years old
4 Polio (3 doses are acceptable, if last is on/after 4th birthday and 6 months after previous dose)
2 Measles* (1st dose must be on/after 1st birthday; 2nd dose usually given between age 4-6 yrs., and must be at least 28 days after 1st dose)
2 Mumps*, 1 Rubella*
3 HepB last dose on/after 6 mos./24 wks. of age, if combo vaccine used may have 4 doses
1 or 2 Varicella OR history of disease (history of disease documented by healthcare provider; 2nd does not required for students entering K or 1st grade before 7/1/2015)
1 Meningococcal conjugate on/after age 10; **possibly 2** if they turn **17 yrs. old** before they enter 12th grade (whichever comes 1st). If the 1st dose is given after 16th DOB, a booster is NOT required.

12th 4 or 5 DTP/DTAP** (last dose must be on/after 4th birthday, if no Dtap needs 3 Td/Tdap**)
1 Tdap after age 10 (may need 2 if 1st given between ages 7-10 as part of catch up schedule**); but before entering 7th grade or by 12 years old
4 Polio (3 doses are acceptable, if last is on/after 4th birthday; not required if 18 yrs. or older)
2 Measles* (1st dose must be on/after 1st birthday; 2nd dose usually given between age 4-6 yrs., and must be at least 28 days after 1st dose)
2 Mumps*, 1 Rubella*
3 HepB last dose on/after 6 mos./24 wks. of age, if combo vaccine used may have 4 doses
1 Varicella OR history of disease (history of disease documented by healthcare provider; 2nd does not required for students entering K or 1st grade before 7/1/2015)

2 Meningococcal conjugate (if the first dose was administered on or after 16th birthday, a booster dose is not required). Booster dose for individuals is required entering the 12th grade or 17 years of age beginning August 1, 2020.

The number of doses listed is with the assumption doses properly spaced and given at appropriate age, if not, may require more.

*Will usually be listed as MMR on an immunization record.
**Td/Tdap can be given if a student was > or = 7 yrs. of age when the series started. Complete series of Td/Tdap is 3 doses (2nd dose 28 days after 1st, 3rd, dose 6 mos. after 2nd). Students w/combo of DTap/Td/Tdap must have 4 doses if 1st dose is before 1st birthday.
***Four doses of pneumococcal. Three doses by age seven months and a booster dose at 12 through 15 months of age. Individuals who receive the first dose of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine on or after seven months of age and before 12 months of age are required to have two doses at least four weeks apart; and a booster dose at 12 through 15 months of age. Individuals who receive the first dose on or after 12 months of age and before 24 months of age are required to have two doses at least eight weeks apart to complete the series. Individuals who receive the first dose on or after 24 months of age and before five years are required to have one dose to complete the series. No individual who has passed his or her fifth birthday shall be required to be vaccinated against pneumococcal disease. Individuals born before July 1, 2015, are not required to receive pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

NOTE: NC State Law allows a 4 day "grace period" for all minimum intervals and ages. Doses **previously** given 4 days or less before the required minimum age/interval will be accepted; **doses given more than 4 days prior to the minimum age/interval must be repeated.**

Medication Administration

Although medications should be taken at home rather than at school whenever feasible, at times students may need to take medication during school hours. The health and welfare of the student must be of paramount concern in all decisions regarding the administration of medicine. The school district is not required to administer any medication that could be taken at home.

The administration of medication (including both prescription and non-prescription drugs) to students by school employees will be permitted according to the procedures outlined below and only upon the proper authorization by a physician and/or the student's parent/guardian.

The administration, including by parents, school employees, or self-administration, of any substance containing cannabidiol (CBD) or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) at school is prohibited unless in accordance with Stokes County Schools Policy 6125 and G.S. 90-94.1.

Parent's/Guardian's Responsibilities

1. The parent/guardian must complete, sign and return to the school a "Stokes County Schools Medication Form" (or its equivalent) to authorize the administration of any prescription or non-prescription medication. A separate form must be completed for **each** medication. (Form is located at the back of this handbook.)
2. In addition, a licensed healthcare practitioner must prescribe the medication for use by the student and provide explicit written instructions for administering the medication.
3. In order for students to self-administer, a medicine prescribed for the treatment of asthma or anaphylactic reactions, including a prescribed asthma inhaler, epinephrine auto-injector, or medication for diabetes such as insulin, or source of glucose on school property during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to or from school or school-sponsored events, the parent/guardian must provide the following to the school:

a. Written authorization, (provide information-*Stokes County Schools Medication Form,* pg.130) from the student's parent/guardian, for the student to possess and self-administer medication to treat asthma, an anaphylactic reaction, or diabetes.

b. A written statement from the student's health care practitioner verifying:
   - That the student has diabetes, asthma and/or an allergy that could result in anaphylactic reaction;
   - That he/she prescribed medication for use on school property during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to or from school or school-sponsored events; and
   - That the student understands, has been instructed in self-administration of the medication, and has demonstrated the skill level necessary to use the medication and any accompanying device.

c. A signed emergency action plan and/or a written treatment plan formulated by the prescribing health care practitioner for managing the student's diabetes, asthma or anaphylaxis episodes and for medication use by the student.

d. A statement provided by the school district and signed by the student's parent/guardian acknowledging that the board of education and its agents are not liable for injury arising from the student's possession and self-administration of the medication.

e. Any other documents or items necessary to comply with state and federal laws.

4. All prescription medications must be in a pharmacy labeled prescription container that includes the student's name, the name of the medicine, unit dosage, and instructions for administration.
5. All non-prescription, over-the-counter medicines must be in the original container and be labeled with the student's name.
6. The healthcare practitioner must specify the exact time a medicine is to be given; the school will not give medicine on an "as-needed" basis. Exceptions to this rule will be made on an individual basis if the student has a special health problem. The medication form should be signed by the parent/guardian and the health care provider specifying the medication needs to be given on an as-needed basis. The medication form needs to specify the name of the medicine, the dosage, and the minimum intervals it can be given.
7. New, properly labeled containers must be provided whenever medication changes are made.
8. Parents/guardians are encouraged to bring medications directly to the school. If medication must be transported on a school bus, the medication must be given to the school bus driver, who will deliver it to the school office.
9. Medications must be removed from school premises when treatment has been completed. Parents/guardians must collect remaining medication from the office. Parents/guardians are encouraged to send only the amount of medication needed to school. At the end of each school year, the school will dispose of all medications in its possession.
10. Although efforts should be made not to disrupt instructional time, a parent/guardian has the right to administer medicines to his or her child at any time while the child is on school property.
11. **Students involved in after-school care at any school will <u>not</u> have access to medications located in the school office. Arrangements must be made with the childcare provider for medication administration**.

School's Responsibilities

1. Medicines must be kept in a secure, locked area. Exceptions may be made for medicines that require refrigeration, although students must have limited access to the area.
2. Each school principal will designate at least two persons to be responsible for the security and/or administration of medications.
3. Personnel administering medications should take care to ensure that the right medication is given to the right child in the right dosage at the right time and in the right method.
4. Students must take medications in the presence of the designated school personnel.
5. The school must maintain appropriate records of the administration of all medications to students: properly executed "Medication Forms", a log of medications received, a log of medications administered, and any reports of medication administration errors.
    a. Designated personnel must record in a medication log the date, time and amount given each time a medication is administered; the log should also reflect any time a medication is not administered as scheduled and the reason (absence, error, etc.). Each entry must be signed or initialed by the appropriate school personnel.
    b. If an error is made in the administration of any medication, the designated official should report the error to the immediate supervisor and to the student's parent/guardian or physician as appropriate. A "Medication Administration Error Report" must be completed.
    c. At the end of each school year, all records related to medication (parent/guardian consent forms, medication logs, error reports) should be collected and filed according to the school year. Files should be kept in a central location and maintained at the school until ten years after the class has graduated.
    d. The school will provide appropriate safeguards to ensure the confidentiality of student medication/health records.
6. Students with diabetes, asthma and/or subject to anaphylactic reactions will be allowed to possess and self-administer medication on school property (see Stokes County School Board policy 6125).
    a. The student's parent/guardian should provide the school backup medication to treat asthma, diabetes or an anaphylactic reaction and the school must keep this medication in a location to which the student has immediate access in the event of an emergency.
    b. All information provided to the school by the student's parent/guardian must be kept on file at the school in an easily accessible location. Any permission granted by the school for a student to possess and self-administer diabetes or asthma medication or epinephrine auto-injector will be effective for the school system for 365 calendar days and must be renewed annually.
    c. A student who uses his/her prescribed diabetes or asthma medication or EpiPen in a manner other than as prescribed may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school's disciplinary policy. A school may not impose disciplinary action that limits or restricts the student's immediate access to the medication.
7. Students will not be allowed to possess or to self-administer medications unless documented by the school nurse and the medication form signed by the parent/guardian and the health care provider specifying the medication needs. The medication form needs to specify the name of the medicine, the dosage, and the minimum intervals it can be given.
8. The only responsibility or liability that can be assumed by the school district or its personnel is to comply with the instructions provided by the student's parents/guardians or physicians.

9. The school nurse will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy and for providing appropriate training to school personnel.
10. Students with special needs will be afforded all rights provided by federal and state law as enumerated in the Procedures Governing Programs and Services for Children with Special Needs. Students with disabilities also will be accorded all rights provided by anti-discrimination laws, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
11. Written information maintained by the school or school personnel regarding a student's medicinal and health needs is confidential. Parents/guardians and students must be accorded all rights provided by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and state confidentiality laws. Any employee who violates the confidentiality of the records may be subject to disciplinary action.

Routine Health Screenings and Health Services Available

Stokes County Schools provides health services to address students' individual health needs, including working with parents and healthcare providers to create and implement Individual Health Care Plans, Emergency Action Plans, and medication administration plans. Staff are also trained in emergency and injury care to meet the immediate needs of students at school.

Stokes County Schools recognizes the link between student health and learning. In an effort to ensure all students are free of hearing and vision difficulties that might impede learning, routine vision and hearing screenings are conducted each year. School nurses and school speech therapists coordinate and conduct grade-level screenings as a service to help identify and refer students for diagnosis and treatment in their early stages. Other health screenings such as dental screenings may also be offered by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services personnel. Parents and guardians of students who are identified as needing follow-up care after screenings will be notified and encouraged to schedule an appointment with a healthcare provider. Other providers such as the friendly dental van may also be available.

Vision screenings typically occur in 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th grade. Parents/guardians will be notified of school health screenings and provided the opportunity to opt out of those screenings. If you have questions about health screenings or need assistance obtaining medical care for your student, please contact your child's principal or school nurse.

Garrett's Law

Garrett's Law (Senate Bill 444) mandates that parents/guardians and guardians be provided with information about meningococcal meningitis, influenza, Human Papillomavirus (HPV), and their vaccines.

Meningococcal meningitis is a form of bacterial meningitis. The bacterial infection can cause severe swelling or fluid around the brain and spinal cord or a serious blood infection. The disease can be spread through coughing, sneezing, kissing, or sharing items like a drinking glass or utensils. A safe and effective vaccine is available to protect against four of the five most common types of meningitis. This vaccine protects for approximately three to five years.

Influenza, commonly called "the flu," is a respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses and can be easily spread to others. Symptoms include fever, headache, tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches. Other symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, are more common among

children than adults. The following steps may help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses like the flu. People should avoid close contact with people who are sick; stay home when you are sick; cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing; wash your hands to protect you from germs; and avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a disease that is transmitted by skin to skin contact. HPV may lead to cancer. The Centers for Disease Control encourages students from 5th to 12th grades to get the vaccine to prevent the contraction of HPV. If you would like information about this and other vaccines, you may go to www.cdc.gov/flu , https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/vaccines/ , or www.cdc.gov/vaccines/. You may also contact the Centers for Disease Control information line at 1-800-232-4636 or you can contact the Stokes County Health Department at (336) 593-2400.

You may also visit the School Nurse Resource page on the Stokes County Schools website for downloadable copies of pamphlets that contain information about preventing the flu, meningitis, and human papillomavirus (HPV).

Parent and Guardian Information Regarding Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes

Stokes County Schools is committed to supporting the health, safety, and academic success of all students. The following information is provided to parents and legal guardians at the beginning of each school year to increase awareness of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, promote early recognition of symptoms, and ensure students with diabetes receive appropriate support while at school.

What Is Diabetes?

Diabetes is a chronic health condition that affects how the body uses glucose (blood sugar), the body's primary source of energy. Insulin, a hormone produced by the pancreas, helps move glucose from the bloodstream into the body's cells. When the body does not produce enough insulin or cannot use insulin effectively, blood glucose levels become too high.

Type 1 Diabetes

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system attacks and destroys the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas. As a result, the body produces little or no insulin. Type 1 diabetes is not caused by diet or lifestyle choices and cannot be prevented. It most commonly develops during childhood or adolescence but can occur at any age. Individuals with Type 1 diabetes require lifelong insulin therapy.

Type 2 Diabetes

Type 2 diabetes occurs when the body becomes resistant to insulin or does not produce enough insulin to maintain normal blood glucose levels. Although Type 2 diabetes is more common in adults, it is increasingly diagnosed in children and adolescents. Healthy eating, regular physical activity, and maintaining a healthy weight can help reduce the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes in many individuals.

Risk Factors and Warning Signs

Type 1 Diabetes	Type 2 Diabetes
Risk Factors ● Family history of Type 1 diabetes ● Personal or family history of autoimmune diseases ● Certain genetic factors **Warning Signs** ● Increased thirst ● Frequent urination ● Increased hunger ● Unexplained weight loss ● Fatigue or unusual tiredness ● Blurred vision ● Fruity-smelling breath ● Nausea or vomiting ● Rapid or deep breathing ● Confusion or difficulty concentrating Symptoms of Type 1 diabetes may develop quickly over a period of days or weeks and require prompt medical attention.	**Risk Factors** ● Being overweight or obese ● Physical inactivity ● Family history of Type 2 diabetes ● High blood pressure or abnormal cholesterol levels ● History of prediabetes ● Certain racial and ethnic backgrounds associated with increased risk **Warning Signs** ● Increased thirst ● Frequent urination ● Increased hunger ● Fatigue ● Blurred vision ● Slow-healing cuts or sores ● Frequent infections ● Darkened areas of skin, particularly around the neck or underarms (acanthosis nigricans) ● Unexplained weight loss (in some cases) Type 2 diabetes may develop gradually, and some children may have no noticeable symptoms.

Recommendations for Parents and Legal Guardians

If your child is displaying any of the warning signs listed above, Stokes County Schools strongly recommends that you consult your child's primary care provider as soon as possible to determine whether immediate screening for diabetes is appropriate. Early identification and treatment can help prevent serious health complications.

Diabetes Screening and Stages

A healthcare provider may screen for diabetes by:

- Reviewing medical history and symptoms.
- Performing a blood glucose (blood sugar) test.

- Ordering an A1C blood test, which measures average blood sugar levels over the previous two to three months.
- Conducting other laboratory testing as medically appropriate.

Only a licensed healthcare provider can diagnose diabetes.

Stages of Diabetes

Normal Blood Glucose

- Blood glucose levels are within the healthy range.

Prediabetes

- Blood glucose levels are higher than normal but not high enough for a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes.
- Lifestyle changes may help delay or prevent progression to Type 2 diabetes.

Diabetes

- Blood glucose levels meet the criteria for Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes.
- Individuals with diabetes require ongoing medical care and management.

If Your Child is Diagnosed with Diabetes

If your child receives a diagnosis of diabetes, Stokes County Schools recommends that you consult your child's primary care provider or diabetes care team to develop an appropriate treatment plan. Parents and guardians should also notify the school nurse or school administrator as soon as possible so the school can work with the family and healthcare provider to support the student's medical needs during the school day.

The treatment plan may include:

- Blood glucose monitoring
- Insulin administration or other prescribed medications
- Meal and snack planning
- Physical activity considerations
- Emergency treatment for high or low blood glucose
- A Diabetes Medical Management Plan (DMMP) or other healthcare provider orders

School Support for Students with Diabetes

North Carolina law requires schools to assist students with diabetes in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-12(31).

Stokes County Schools is committed to providing appropriate care and accommodations for students with diabetes so they can safely participate in school and school-sponsored activities. School personnel work with families, healthcare providers, and school nurses to implement individualized diabetes care plans and respond appropriately to diabetes-related medical needs.

For additional information or to discuss your child's diabetes care needs, please contact your child's school nurse or school administrator.

Homebound Services

Homebound Services provide **temporary** instructional services in private homes (or public locations) for students who are referred from appropriate school system sources. A highly qualified teacher instructs students for a **very limited amount of time** each week. Homebound instruction can never replace classroom learning. It is essential that students return to school as soon as possible.

A student is medically eligible for homebound services if the absence from school is anticipated to be a minimum of four consecutive weeks. Extending homebound services beyond six weeks (or anticipated date of return) requires a physician's reassessment (at the cost of the parent/guardian) of the student's medical condition with written recommendations sent to the Homebound Coordinator.

In order for a student to be considered for Homebound services, documentation of a serious medical condition that prevents the student from attending school must be provided. Parents/guardians may obtain the appropriate Homebound referral paperwork from the school counseling office:

- A Physician's Referral for Medical Conditions
- A Psychiatrist's Referral for Mental Health Conditions
- An Ob/Gyn Referral for Pregnancies
- A Physician's Referral for Medically Fragile Student

Parents/guardians must return all of the completed referral paperwork to the school counseling office and a school-based committee will determine the appropriateness of Homebound services. Final approval will be determined by the Homebound Coordinator at the Central Office.

If approved, parents/guardians are responsible for having an adult chaperone present during all instructional sessions. In addition, the explanation of services and parent/guardian responsibilities must be strictly followed. If a student with a disability is to be considered for medical Homebound services, these approved conditions also apply. In addition, the change must be documented and approved through a new IEP for a change in placement to occur. The plan must be approved by the IEP team.

Homeless Students - McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

In accordance with Title IX, Part A of the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA),* any homeless student, as defined by federal law, will be enrolled without delay in the school to which he or she presents himself or herself for enrollment. A homeless student will be enrolled even if he or she does not have proof of residency, birth certificate, immunization or other medical records, school records, or other documents normally required for enrollment, and even if he or she is not accompanied by a parent/guardian, or another adult. Once a homeless student is enrolled, the district liaison for homeless students will provide assistance in obtaining the necessary records.

A student who becomes homeless during the school year will be allowed to remain in the school he or she attended prior to becoming homeless or the school he or she was enrolled in last, even if the student resides outside the school's attendance area. A homeless student may finish the school year in his or her school of choice even if he or she subsequently loses homeless status.

The district liaison for homeless students will resolve any questions or disagreements about the eligibility of a homeless student to attend a particular school; the homeless student will be allowed to attend his or her school of choice until the issue has been resolved.

Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

What is a Multi-Tiered System of Support?
You may hear your child's school refer to developing "MTSS" or a Multi-Tiered System of Support. By definition, NC MTSS is a school improvement framework that encompasses academic, behavioral, social, and emotional instruction and support. NC MTSS employs a systems approach using data-driven problem-solving to maximize growth for all students.

MTSS QUICK FACTS:

- All staff and students are part of a multi-tiered system of support.
- MTSS utilizes a systematic problem-solving model to analyze multiple pieces of information to determine how all students are responding to classroom instruction.
- School teams look at instructional practices, curriculum, and environment to ensure students get the help they need when they need it.
- MTSS is a layering of academic and behavioral supports.

If you have questions about the Multi-Tiered System of Support at your school, please contact your school administrator.

Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences and Parent/Guardian Night Activities

All schools encourage parent/guardian attendance at parent/guardian-teacher conferences and at parent/guardian night activities. This is the best way for parents/guardians to determine the progress students are making and to learn firsthand the school's student expectations. There are several conference days and parent/guardian nights set up in each school's calendar. Please take note of these special opportunities whenever they are announced. In addition, parents/guardians may call for an appointment to talk with the teacher whenever they have questions.

Pest Management

In accordance with Board Policy 9205, Stokes County Schools utilizes Integrated Pest Management programs or procedures throughout the district to prevent and solve pest problems. Maintenance personnel and contracted pest control agencies monitor school campuses to 1) minimize any potential health, environmental and economic risks from pests or from the use of pest control methods; 2) minimize loss or damage to school structures or property from pests or from the use of pest control methods; 3) minimize the risk of pests spreading into the community; and 4) enhance the quality of facility use for the school and community. Schools are inspected at least once monthly for pests and non scheduled inspections may occur as needed. Pesticides are not regularly used on school campuses and any identified need for the use of pesticides to achieve pest management goals would be addressed outside the scheduled school day. Parents and guardians may request notice of non scheduled pesticide use by contacting the school administrator.

Records of pest management activities can be found at each school. If you have questions about pest management, please contact your school administrator or Stokes County Schools Director of Maintenance.

Pets on School Grounds

Pets are not allowed at any time in school buildings, facilities or on any school grounds and property, including athletic fields, gymnasiums and parking lots. Approved service animals are allowed.

Random Drug Screening

Students who participate in high school athletics, extracurricular after-school activities, and students who are issued a high school parking permit are subject to random drug screening. This is not applicable to students enrolled in courses that meet after school hours. This service is provided by Insight Human Services. The "It's My Call" form can be found in the back of this handbook.

Remote Instruction

Remote instruction may be provided on a day that schools are closed to students due to inclement weather. North Carolina §S.L. 2022-74/HB 103 authorizes the use of Remote Instruction for emergency closures from §S. L. 115C-84.3 (b). Expectations for Remote Learning Days are outlined below.

1. Chromebooks, chargers, and any needed materials will be sent home prior to a remote learning day. Paper materials will be sent with students who do not have access to a Chromebook. For students with limited internet access, materials may also be downloaded to their Chromebooks before leaving school when possible.
2. Due to the variability of support students have during remote learning days and the availability of internet access, no new learning will be introduced on remote learning days. Material provided may be review materials or content that prepares students for new learning.
3. The primary structure for remote learning days for students in grade K-8 involves grade-specific choice boards offering various learning activities. While these boards serve as a base, teachers retain the flexibility to develop individualized learning plans for students. Importantly, assigned work will be clearly communicated by educators and will include offline options for students with limited connectivity. Students also have the opportunity to address incomplete assignments or engage with teacher-provided tasks alongside the choice board activities.
4. Teacher support hours will be available to all students and families. All teachers will have a minimum of two hours of accessibility to students with at least one hour scheduled in the morning and one in the afternoon during normal school hours. Support may be provided via Google Meet, Class Dojo, Remind, email, phone, or other established lines of communication between school and home. School personnel will communicate with students and families regarding student support hours and how to contact teachers.

5. Technology support will be provided to the extent possible. The teacher is the first point of contact for technology support.
6. Students have five (5) days after returning to school to submit assignments for attendance, feedback to students, and/or potential evaluation purposes.
7. Teachers of students served through the Exceptional Children's Program may provide adjusted assignments based on the individual student's needs.

Contact teachers or principals with any questions regarding remote learning days or assignments for remote learning days.

Safety Tip Line

Stokes County Schools has the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System for reporting any safety or bullying concerns to administration. This may be anonymous; however, disciplinary action may not be taken solely on an anonymous report. Students, parents, guardians and community members may submit concerns on the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System which can be found on the district website and on all school websites. *Students are **strongly** encouraged to report to any school official any actual or suspected incidents of discrimination, harassment or bullying as well as any safety concerns.*

School Closing/Delays

The Superintendent will make a determination by 6:00 am as to whether schools will be (a) open, (b) delayed in opening, or (c) closed, whenever inclement weather exists. At a minimum, the Superintendent will send a ThrillShare Phone message to notify students and parents/guardians of the operating status of school for the day. The following television stations will be notified to make public announcements regarding school operations for the day:

WFMY TV (Channel 2)	WXLV TV (Channel 45)
WGHP TV (Channel 8)	News 14 Carolina
WXII TV (Channel 12)	

In the event a decision is made to close school during the school day due to inclement or hazardous weather, parents/guardians will be notified via a ThrillShare Phone message to all emergency telephone numbers provided by the parents/guardians. Information about closings and delays will also be posted on the Stokes County Schools website and social media accounts. School officials will make every attempt to update their school's social media pages in the event of closing and delays as well.

In notifications about school closures due to inclement weather, the superintendent or designee may announce a Remote Learning Day. General information about remote learning can be found in the student handbook. If you have questions, please contact your student's teacher or principal.

School Insurance

Optional school insurance will be offered at the beginning of each school year. Payments need to be mailed directly to the insurance company, **NOT** to the school.

According to Stokes County Board of Education policy 4220, students who choose to participate in programs which "may have a higher risk of physical injury than most school activities, including off-site internship programs, football and other interscholastic sports, cheerleading, and optional field trips, are required to furnish proof of accident insurance through the group plan or furnish proof of comparable coverage through another plan."

School Nutrition Program

School Meal Prices

Breakfast No Cost for Elementary and Middle School Students
$ 1.50 for High School Students
Adult meals will be at A La Carte prices

Lunch No Cost for Elementary and Middle School Students
$ 3.25 High School students
Adult meals will be $4.00 for a meal and a drink (water or milk)

Stokes County Schools participates in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Program. This allows a district to provide meals at no cost in select schools. For the 25/26 school year, Stokes County Schools is able to provide all reimbursable meals at no cost in elementary and middle schools.

Every student will have a variety of menu items to choose from to make a reimbursable meal. In addition to the meal, A La Carte items may be purchased. A La Carte items include any extra menu selections over the reimbursable meal to include juice, bottled water, snacks, ice cream and selected dessert items. Prices vary according to the item purchased. A La Carte items **CANNOT** be charged. Each meal served in the school nutrition program is designed to provide adequate calories, nutrients and dietary fiber while reducing or limiting saturated fat and cholesterol. Each breakfast provides 1/4 of the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) for key nutrients. Each lunch provides 1/3 of the RDA for key nutrients. Stokes County Schools participates in the N.C. Farm-to-School Program and strives to deliver a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables to our students on a daily basis.

Pre-Payment Option

Stokes County Schools offers a pre-payment system for your convenience. You may pay for meals by the day or place money on the account for the week, month or longer. Cash, checks and money orders are acceptable forms of payment. Each student is assigned an identification number that is unique so that each account is confidential. Money on your student's account is kept until it is used and will carry over from one grade level to the next, even if the student is advancing to middle or high school. When sending money with elementary students it is a good practice to place your payment in an envelope marked "lunch money" and with your student's name on it. Check payments must include the student's name, cafeteria account number #, and a workable phone number.

On-line Pre-Payment Option

Stokes County Schools provides availability to an on-line account management service for school meals, www.linqconnect.com. This secure site allows parents/guardians the option to pay on-line and to monitor a student's account. Using www.linqconnect.com is an easy, secure and convenient way to pay for lunch, as well as receive text message alerts that keep you aware of your child's account balance. To verify your student's identification and get started please call (336) 593-1100 or visit our Stokes County Schools' School Nutrition website.

Free and Reduced Meals

Free and reduced price meals are provided for those who qualify based upon income and family size. All information is strictly confidential. Free & Reduced Meal Applications are provided to all students on the first day of school or the first day of enrollment. Additional copies are available at the school office or on the SCS School Nutrition website. Families are encouraged to take advantage of this service. Only one application per family is required. You must complete a new Free and Reduced Meal Application each year. If you need assistance, please contact the School Nutrition Department (336) 593-1100 or your school's cafeteria manager. Information and forms are available on the Stokes County Schools' School Nutrition website. Please note, due to the CEP program, you only need to complete an application if you have students attending a high school.

School Nutrition Charge Policy

Policy

Due to reporting requirements, the School Nutrition Program cannot incur a loss due to charges of food and beverages. Students may pay for meals in advance or temporarily charge a reimbursable meal from the main line. Parents/guardians will be responsible for payment of the charge to the school. Furthermore, Federal policy prohibits the withholding of meals from a student as a form of discipline.

Procedure

- Pre-paid meal plans are encouraged. Efforts are made by the school system and the individual schools to encourage students and parents/guardians to participate in the pre-paid meal plan as an alternative to the purchasing of meals on a daily basis in order to reduce the incidence of students forgetting or losing their meal money.

- All school cafeterias possess computerized point of sale/cash register systems. The computerized system will maintain a record of all monies deposited and spent for each student. A copy of this report will be available to parents/guardians upon request. It is strongly encouraged that parents/guardians keep themselves informed of their child's account balance.

- Elementary and middle school students will not be allowed to charge A La Carte items.

- **All food and beverage charges are due to be paid within seven days. Each week, reminders of charges and amount owed will be sent home in book bags and/or ThrillShare Phone Messaging will be used to notify parents/guardians of charges.**

- If a student is without meal money on a consistent basis, the principal is encouraged to investigate the situation more closely, including contacting the parent/guardian to bring money to the school and/or encouraging the parent/guardian to apply for free or reduced price meals. The school principal reserves the right to withhold report cards and /or class schedules pending payment of charges. The school principal also reserves the right to restrict participation in selected extracurricular activities until charges are cleared.

- Federal law prohibits the charging of adult meals.

- The School Nutrition Program of Stokes County Public Schools is dedicated to meeting the needs of all students. Students with medical dietary needs must complete a dietary medical statement form and return it to the cafeteria manager and school nurse. This form can be found on the Stokes County Schools' School Nutrition website.
- Stokes County Schools will comply with all Federal, State and Local law and policy regarding the sale of competitive foods.

Stokes County Academy—Referrals

Stokes County Academy serves as an alternative school for students in grades 6-12 who have struggled in traditional settings. Students can be referred voluntarily by a multidisciplinary team, or involuntarily due to disciplinary issues, academic struggles, or safety concerns, sometimes as an alternative to suspension or expulsion. Before an involuntary transfer, schools document interventions and seek parental consensus. The goal is typically to transition students back to their regular schools when they meet specific academic, behavioral, and attendance criteria, with careful consideration for students with IEPs. If a student involuntarily returns to the academy a second time, their stay may be longer. Students assigned to Stokes County Academy may be subject to random drug screenings .

Voluntary Transfers to Stokes County Academy

Voluntary transfer to Stokes County Academy is encouraged by the Stokes County School system as an effective option for addressing concerns regarding a child's behavior or academic performance. The process unfolds as follows:

- A multidisciplinary team at the referring school including the parent or guardian and the principal review whether a voluntary transfer to Stokes County Academy would be in the best interest of the student and the efficient administration of the school.
- If the multidisciplinary team determines a voluntary transfer is appropriate, the referring school will submit the application for voluntary referral to the superintendent's designee.
- The principal of Stokes County Academy will review approved referrals and work with the principal of the traditional middle or high school to arrange the process and timeline for the transfer. It is important to note that the enrollment timeline for voluntary transfers may vary depending on the enrollment numbers at Stokes County Academy at the time of the request.

Involuntary Transfers to Stokes County Academy

An involuntary transfer to Stokes County Academy may occur under any of the following circumstances:

- the student is a significant disruption to the educational environment at the regular educational setting;
- the student is at risk of dropping out or not meeting standards for promotion and additional or different resources from what is available at the regular educational setting are needed to address the issue;
- the student has been charged with a felony or a crime that allegedly endangered the safety of others and it is reasonably foreseeable that the educational environment at the regular educational setting will be significantly disrupted if the student remains;
- if the Code of Student Conduct provides for a transfer as a consequence of the student's behavior

Prior to recommending an involuntary transfer, the principal and a multidisciplinary team at the referring school will document their efforts to assist the student, which may include a Behavior Intervention Plan. They will also document the student's behavior and academic performance.

Since voluntary transfer is preferred, the school will first meet with the parents/guardians to try to reach an agreement on resolving the issues.

If no agreement is reached, the principal can recommend an involuntary transfer to the superintendent's designee, providing a written explanation of the student's behavior or academic issues, documentation of assistance efforts, and other supporting circumstances. For students with an IEP, the IEP team makes the placement change decisions.

For involuntary transfers, parents/guardians will receive a copy of the recommendation. The parent/guardian may request an informal meeting with the superintendent's designee to discuss the transfer if desired. If an involuntary transfer is approved, the principals of both schools will make the necessary arrangements for the transition to occur.

The parent/guardian can appeal the multidisciplinary team's decision to the superintendent, and if still dissatisfied, they can appeal to the Stokes County Board of Education. The student may be transferred to Stokes County Academy during the appeal period.

Referral as Option to Long-Term Suspensions, 365 Days Suspensions and Expulsion

As outlined in board policy, if approved by the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, a student may be given the option or may be required to attend Stokes County Academy for violations of board policies, school standards, or rules that could result in a long-term suspension, 365 days suspension, or expulsion. Stokes County Academy placement may be considered as an option for a portion or the full duration of the period of suspension or expulsion. If Stokes County Academy does not have the capacity to accept the student immediately, the student may be suspended from school until Stokes County Academy can accept the student.

Transition from Stokes County Academy to the Traditional School

Return from Stokes County Academy (SCA) to the regular educational setting is based on several exit standards that students must meet, whether their placement at SCA was voluntary or involuntary. These criteria are reviewed regularly during progress reviews at Stokes County Academy. The specific criteria for being eligible for consideration for return are as follows:

- The student cannot transition from Stokes County Academy before the date of eligibility indicated on referral or reassignment letter.
- The student must have met attendance requirements in all classes.
- The student must demonstrate improved behavior while at Stokes County Academy including having no more than four days of ISS and no OSS (Out-of-School Suspension) assignments at Stokes County Academy during the semester of the exit review.
- The student must be in good academic standing and be capable of making progress towards graduation in the traditional school setting.

For students identified as eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the student's IEP team must determine a change in placement is appropriate.

Once a student is determined to be eligible for return based on these criteria, the administration at Stokes County Academy will inform the principal of the home school and the superintendent's designee. Stokes County Academy will then notify parents/guardians of the eligibility decision and coordinate the transfer back to the home school for eligible students. If a student who is eligible to return to the traditional school desires to stay at Stokes County Academy, a voluntary referral form must be completed for consideration of the request.

If a student does not return to the regular educational setting, Stokes County Academy will assist in the transition to other educational settings such as other district programs, community colleges, or vocational schools.

Stokes Early College High School

The Stokes Early College High School (SECHS) is a joint program of the Stokes County School System and Forsyth Technical Community College (Forsyth Tech) located on the Stokes County Campus of Forsyth Technical Community College in the Meadows community of Walnut Cove, NC. Students who apply and are accepted to attend this North Carolina Cooperative and Innovative High School will have the opportunity to complete the requirements for a North Carolina high school diploma while also earning college credits that could lead to early completion of an Associate Degree. The SECHS follows a different school calendar which is more in line with the Forsyth Tech academic calendar and bus transportation will be provided to enrolled students. College tuition and textbooks are free for college courses (certain associated fees may apply). Students are required to pay a tuition fee of $52.50 each year as a part of Stokes County School fees.

Students at the SECHS experience a rigorous academic schedule designed as a four or five year program (i.e. students can complete in four years at a rigorous pace, but some choose to "spread out" the college classes a little more and use the fifth year option). All high school required courses should be completed by the end of the fourth year. Students receive a high school diploma and up to a College Transfer Associate Degree in four to five years as opposed to the traditional six years (four years of high school and two years of community college).

The college courses count as high school elective credits and as college credit hours. As long as students take classes covered under the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement of the University of North Carolina Institutions, their college credits will transfer to the University of North Carolina System as long as grades are a "C" or better.

Upon admission to a college or university, students enter as freshmen with credit and often are classified as juniors their second semester of college.

The recruitment and application process for admission is typically in the January-February time frame, followed by interviews in March, and acceptance letters being mailed out in April. The majority of applicants are eighth grade students applying for the ninth grade year. At times and under certain circumstances, ninth and tenth grade students choose to apply and are accepted as upperclassmen.

Student Reassignment/Transfers to a Different School in the District

No student will be enrolled in a school other than the one to which he or she has been assigned without the approval of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee. Requests for reassignments are granted on a temporary basis, subject to the enrollment application being approved, and available space at the receiving school as stated in Stokes County School Board Policy 4150. Students or parents/guardians may petition the Board of Education for reassignment based on the following reasons only:

- Change in residence or family status.
- Medical hardship, including physical or mental disabilities.
- Parents or legal guardians are full time/permanent employees of Stokes County Schools.
- Documented proof of the need for the student to attend another school.
- Childcare for a student not yet entering 9th grade.
- Documented proof of hardship.

If a parent is dissatisfied with the superintendent's response, the parent may request an appeal with the Stokes County School Board as stated in board policy 4150.

Requests for renewal of transfers/reassignments must be completed on an annual basis according to the timeline specified by the district and will be considered only for the reasons listed above. Applications for student reassignment can be obtained at any school in the district and can be downloaded from the district website (www.stokes.k12.nc.us). Along with the application, the parents/guardians should include a written statement that explains why the student needs to attend another school.

The following conditions apply in regard to any reassignments or transfers that are approved.

- The parents/guardians are responsible for transportation to the school or to a designated bus stop within the school's geographical assignment area.
- The reassignment or transfer is valid for no more than one school year. A new application must be submitted each year that reassignment or transfer is requested. Requests that do not meet the specified timetable may be denied.
- Students who are reassigned or transferred based upon false or misleading information on the application will have their application voided and the reassignment or transfer rescinded.

Students must remain in good standing at the school during the term of the transfer. Good standing includes but is not limited to, attendance and punctuality, academic performance, student behavior, and meeting the standards set by this student handbook. If a student is deemed not to be in good standing due to any factor, the principal, in consultation with the superintendent or his/her designee shall have the authority to revoke the transfer and the student shall return to the school to which he or she was originally assigned.

The Board will not approve the reassignment of a student on the basis of athletic participation. A student is eligible to participate at the school to which he or she is assigned by the local Board of Education, within the administrative unit of residence, if the student meets all North Carolina High School Athletic Association requirements.

Students with disabilities who are placed in low-incidence or self-contained programs to meet their special needs may be limited to the schools where the programs are provided. To the extent practical, the school system provides a range of special education programs and services in each attendance zone.

Student Surveys

Per Stokes County School Board Policy 4720, parents/guardians have the right, on request, to review surveys that contain information concerning “protected topics”. “Protected topics” include political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent; mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s family; sex behavior and attitudes; illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior; critical appraisals of other individuals which whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers; religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent; or income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program). The school system will provide parents/guardians notice prior to the administration of a protected topic survey, be provided the opportunity to review the survey, and the process for providing consent to participate. The school system will take measures to protect the identification and privacy of students participating in any survey concerning any of the protected topics. These measures may include limiting access to completed surveys and to survey results, as allowed by law. If you have questions about any surveys being administered at school, please contact the principal.

Technology Responsible Use

Stokes County Schools is committed to using technology as a powerful tool for teaching, learning, and communication. Students and staff have access to a variety of technology resources to support academic achievement and prepare learners for success in a digital world.

Board Policy 3225/4312/7320 outlines expectations for the responsible, safe, and legal use of school technology resources.

Purpose of Technology Use

Students may use school-provided technology to:

- Access current and reliable information
- Collaborate with others
- Enhance classroom learning
- Stay informed and connected with the global community

Technology access is a privilege, not a right. Students and staff are expected to use these tools responsibly.

Expectations for Use

All users of school system technology must:

- Follow school and district rules, including the Code of Student Conduct
- Communicate ethically, respectfully, and honestly
- Support learning through appropriate use
- Protect personal and others' privacy
- Use good digital citizenship and network etiquette

This policy applies whether the technology is used on or off campus and includes all devices connected to the school network.

Internet Safety & Required Training

Before accessing the internet at school:

- Students must complete internet safety training (per Policy 3226/4205)
- Students and staff must review this policy each year
- A signed agreement is required from all users, confirming they understand and agree to follow the rules

Please note: All school technology use is monitored to detect inappropriate use and ensure compliance with district policies.

Consequences for Misuse

Misuse of school technology may result in:

- Loss of technology privileges
- Disciplinary action
- Possible legal consequences under state or federal law

Additional Resources

For full policy details and guidance, refer to:

- Stokes County Board Policy 3225/4312/7320
- Stokes County Schools Use of Technology Form
- Student/Parent Chromebook 1:1 Guidelines

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use in Stokes County Schools

Stokes County Schools is committed to preparing students for a future driven by innovation and global competitiveness. As part of this mission, the district supports the ethical and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), following guidance from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) and the "AI Roadmap for K-12 Schools."

AI tools are powerful when used properly—and we are dedicated to closing the digital divide while promoting academic integrity and responsible use across all grade levels.

Preparing for the Future

Our district is focused on:

- Providing professional development for staff
- Offering training and support for students and families
- Promoting a shared understanding of AI across our schools and community
- Encouraging thoughtful, informed use of generative AI tools in the classroom

Appropriate Uses of AI

AI can support learning when used properly. Examples of appropriate educational use include:

- Creating or enhancing content
- Supporting collaborative group work
- Learning about ethical and cultural issues
- Translating languages
- Creating interactive learning materials
- Offering personalized learning experiences
- Providing feedback and remediation
- Analyzing data and assessment results
- Supporting differentiated instruction
- Assisting with research and organizing resources

Inappropriate Uses of AI

Misusing AI can harm the learning environment. Examples of inappropriate use include:

- Plagiarism or cheating
- Cyberbullying or harassment through AI-generated content
- Relying too heavily on AI without critical thinking
- Sharing personal or private information
- Creating or using personal AI account to generate harmful content, deepfakes, or impersonation

Academic Integrity Matters

Students are expected to:

- Respect intellectual property and the work of others
- Avoid cheating, plagiarism, and unauthorized collaboration
- Follow teacher guidelines for each assignment involving AI
- Ask for help if they are unsure whether AI use is allowed
- Cite AI tools when used appropriately

Violations of these expectations will be addressed as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Grades K-5

Can I use AI on this Assignment?

Stokes County Schools AI Policy K-5

	Level of AI Use	What It Means	Do I Need to Say I Used AI?
0	NO AI ALLOWED	You must do all the work by yourself. Use only what you know and can do on your own.	Nope! Since you didn't use it, there's nothing to report.
1	AI CAN HELP YOU THINK AND EDIT	• You **can** use AI to: ○ Help you come up with ideas ○ Help organize your thoughts or plan your work ○ Help you improve your writing by making it clearer or easier to understand • You **can't** use AI to: ○ Write the final answer for you ○ Turn in work that was mostly made by AI	Yes. You must tell the teacher what AI tools you used and how you used them. Ask the teacher which format you need to use to cite your work.
2	FULL AI HELP WITH TEACHER SUPERVISION	• What it means: ○ Your teacher says it's okay to use AI through the project ○ You can use AI with almost everything, like ideas, writing, fixing mistakes, and more. • You are still the **boss**! ○ You must read everything the AI gives you to make sure it's right ○ You are responsible for the final project	Yes. You must tell the teacher what AI tools you used and how you used them. Ask the teacher which format you need to use to cite your work.

Adapted by Stokes County Schools from the work of Vera Cubero for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI)
from the work of Dr. Leon Furze, Dr. Mike Perkins, Dr. Jasper Roe FHEA, & Dr. Jason Mcvaugh
Link to Original Work

Grades 6-12

Can I use AI on this Assignment?

Stokes County Schools AI Policy 6-12

Level of AI Use	Full Description	Disclosure Requirements
0 No AI Use	• The assignment is completed entirely without AI assistance • AI must not be used at any point during the assignment • This level ensures that the student rely solely on their own knowledge, understanding, and skills	• No AI disclosure required • May require an academic integrity pledge that AI was not used
1 AI-Assisted Idea Generation	• AI can be used for brainstorming, structuring your work, and generating ideas for improvement • No AI content is allowed in the final submission of the assignment	• You must cite the use of AI using proper MLA/APA citation • Link(s) to AI chat(s) must be submitted with final submission
2 AI-Assisted Editing	• AI can assist in enhancing the clarity and quality of your original content to elevate your final submission • No new content can be created using AI • Student is responsible for providing human oversight	• You must cite the use of AI using proper MLA/APA citation • Link(s) to AI chat(s) must be submitted with final submission
3 AI-Specified Task Completion	• AI is used to complete certain elements of the assignment as specified by the teacher • AI should be a co-pilot/thought partner to enhance human creativity • Student is responsible for providing human oversight	• You must cite the use of AI using proper MLA/APA citation • Link(s) to AI chat(s) must be submitted with final submission
4 Full AI Use with Human Oversight	• AI can be used throughout the assignment to support your work in any way • The student is responsible for the accuracy, fairness, and originality of all AI-generated content • The student must provide human oversight and evaluate content	• You must cite the use of AI using proper MLA/APA citation • Link(s) to AI chat(s) must be submitted with final submission

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Link to Original Work

Updated May 2025

Parent/Guardian Permission for School Technology Use

To help students access the tools they need for learning, Stokes County Schools provides technology such as Chromebooks, online programs, and digital learning resources.

Each year, parents/guardians must complete the "Use of Technology" permission form (located in the back of this handbook) before the first day of school for their child to be granted access to school devices and technology services.

This annual form ensures that families are aware of and agree to the responsible use of school-issued technology.

Need Help or Have Questions?

If you have any questions about technology use, access, or permissions, please contact:

- Your child's Teacher, Media coordinator, school administrator, or
- The Director of Media and Technology or Instructional Technology Facilitator for Stokes County Schools

Cell Phone Use

Stokes County Board Policy 4318 addresses the use of wireless communication devices. The board recognizes that cellular phones and other wireless communication devices have become an important tool through which parents communicate with their children. Therefore, students are permitted to possess such devices on school property so long as the devices are not activated, used, displayed or visible during the instructional day

or as otherwise directed by school rules or school personnel. Wireless communication devices include, but are not limited to, cellular phones, electronic devices with internet capability, paging devices, two-way radios and similar devices.

Administrators may authorize individual students to use wireless communication devices for personal purposes when there is a reasonable need for such communication. Teachers and administrators may authorize individual students to use the devices for instructional purposes, provided that they supervise the students during such use.

Elementary School Students (these sections regarding electronic devices were previously in Code of Conduct)

With the exception of a laptop/notebook computer, calculator, or other similar item either furnished by Stokes County Public Schools for the purpose of educational instruction or similar personal items with the express permission of the principal for the purpose of educational instruction, use of any Portable Electronic Device, examples of which include but are not limited to cellular phones, digital cameras, earbuds and other electronic devices, during the school day (beginning bell to ending bell) is strictly prohibited. No student shall use, display, transmit or have in the "on" position any wireless communication device or personal entertainment device during the instructional day. The use of cellular phones while on an activity bus will be at the discretion of the supervising coach or teacher.

Middle and High School Students

With the exception of electronic devices furnished by Stokes County Schools for the purpose of educational instruction or similar personal items with the express permission of the principal, no student shall use any electronic device including but not limited to cellular phones, digital cameras, earbuds and other electronic devices, during instructional time. Students may use electronic devices during their lunch time, break and between classes.

Students and their parents/guardians are solely responsible for any loss or damage to their cell phones, earbuds, smart watches, smart glasses, other smart devices or any other similar electronic equipment in school while it is in their care, custody or control. Stokes County Schools accepts no responsibility for theft, loss or damage to a student's personal electronic equipment.

Textbooks and Supplies

Through state funds, the schools furnish textbooks and some supplies to students. Parents/guardians should be aware that traditional textbooks are not appropriate for all subjects/courses. In those cases, other materials may take the place of a textbook. Students are expected to use reasonable care in handling books; however, reasonable wear and tear is expected as a result of normal daily use. Parents may be financially responsible for any unreasonable damage to or loss of textbooks.

ThrillShare Phone Messaging Information

Stokes County Schools believes in keeping parents/guardians informed in a timely manner through a telephone messaging service. ThrillShare Connect is a communication tool that allows schools to send attendance, emergency, and community outreach messages.

Attendance calls can be made due to a student being absent or tardy from school. The majority of calls are considered outreach messages. **Outreach messages will dial the primary number and a second additional number simultaneously.** The second additional number can be completed in a situation of divorced parents/guardians or a joint custody situation where a student may live with each parent/guardian part of the time.

An emergency call is made when notification is needed to inform parents/guardians quickly. Emergency calls will be placed if inclement weather may force schools to close early or if any type of emergency occurs that may justify placing an emergency call. When an emergency call is placed, all phone numbers provided will be called at the same time.

If personal information should change during the school year, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to notify the school office. ***If the change of information is <u>not</u> provided to the school, please understand that information concerning school closings, events, etc. may not be received.***

Title I

The Stokes County School System receives Title I funding from the State Educational Agency to ensure that all children meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards. Title I is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in order to reinforce and amplify efforts to improve teaching and learning for students farthest from meeting state standards. The elementary schools in Stokes County with poverty rates of 40 percent or more and Stokes County Academy use Title I funds, along with other federal, state, and local funds, to operate a "school-wide program" to enhance the instructional program for the whole school. The program must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parent/guardian involvement.

Under Title I, Part A of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the ESSA does continue to require the provisions of the parents/guardians-right-to-know in the following ways:

- An LEA that receives Title I funds under this part must notify the parents/guardians of each student that the parents/guardians may request, and the agency will provide the parents/guardians on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers; and
- Each Title I school must provide timely notice to parents/guardians of any student that has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable State certification or license requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

Parent/Guardian Engagement and Communication

Parent/guardian engagement is defined as a regular, two-way, and meaningful communication about student learning, and other school activities, including:

- Assisting in their child's learning by engaging with school personnel;
- Being actively involved in their child's education at school;
- Serving as full partners in their child's education and being included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory boards or committees to assist in the education of their child; and the carrying out of other activities such as those described in section 1116 of ESSA and Public Law 107-110, Title IX, Section (9109 (32).
- When children are struggling at school, it is important to find out why and to identify supports that are matched to their needs. If you suspect your child is a child with a disability and may need special education services, you have the right to request a full and individual evaluation.
- You may access the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy 1320/3560 on the Stokes County Schools website.

Please contact the Title I Director for more information.

Tobacco Free Schools

The Stokes County Board of Education is required to adopt written policies prohibiting the use of tobacco products in school buildings, in school facilities, on school campuses, at school-related or school sponsored events, and in or on other school property. The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for students and recognizes it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and provide a healthy learning and working environment, free from second-hand smoke and tobacco use for the students, employees and visitors on the school campuses.

A student may not possess, display or use tobacco products (including cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, JUULs, cigars, blunts, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and any other item containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products) at any time in any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the Board or a school, on any school grounds and property, including athletic fields and parking lots, owned, leased, rented or chartered by the Board, or at any school-sponsored or school-related event on-campus or off-campus, including school trips. This prohibition applies even when a student is on school grounds as a visitor or spectator.

School employees, contractors, volunteers, community groups and visitors are prohibited from displaying or using tobacco products (electronic cigarettes, smoking, chewing or dipping) at any time in any building, facility, vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the Board or a school or privately owned vehicles, on any school grounds and property, including athletic fields, gymnasiums and parking lots, owned, leased or rented by the Board, or at any school-sponsored or school-related event on-campus or off-campus, including school trips. This prohibition applies even when such persons are on school grounds as a visitor or spectator, during school hours, after school hours and on weekends.

Students and school employees will not be permitted to leave the school campus or school property during the school day for the purpose of using tobacco products.

Tobacco products may be included in instructional or research activities in public school buildings if the activity is conducted or supervised by the faculty member overseeing the instruction or research and the activity does not include smoking, chewing, or otherwise ingesting the tobacco product.

Principals and assistant principals shall be responsible for the enforcement of this policy at their school. Consequences for students engaging in the prohibited behavior shall be as provided in accordance with the county's Student Handbook. Students who violate the school district's Tobacco Free Schools Policy will be referred to a school counselor, a school nurse, or other health or counseling services for health information, counseling and referral. The administration will consult with the county health department, school nurses and other appropriate organizations in order to provide student violators with access to an Alternative to Suspension Program. The Alternative to Suspension Program will provide up-to-date information on the many consequences of tobacco use, offer techniques that students can use to stop tobacco use at school and provide referrals to local youth tobacco cessation programs. Parents/guardians will be notified of all violations and actions taken by the school.

The highest ranking administrator at a non-school facility or his/her designee shall be responsible for the enforcement of this policy. Failure to adhere to this policy may end the contractual agreement with the school system. Visitors using tobacco products will be asked by school administrators or their designees to refrain from the use of tobacco products while on school property or to leave school property if they need to smoke or use tobacco. School Resource Officers and other law enforcement officers may be notified if the person refuses to comply with the policy. Visitors who repeatedly and intentionally violate the policy may be barred from school property.

Stokes County Schools Administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate health organizations to provide students and employees with information and access to support systems, programs and services to encourage them to abstain from the use of tobacco products. Administration will consult with appropriate health organizations to identify and provide programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use and the impact of tobacco use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean and inviting school environment.

Use of Physical Restraint/ Seclusion/Time-Out

Policy 4302-R

The Stokes County Board of Education believes that all public school students should be treated with dignity and respect in the delivery of discipline, use of physical restraints or seclusion, and use of reasonable force as permitted by law. These procedures and regulations apply to all students including regular education students, collaborative students, and students with disabilities. Nothing stated in these procedures shall be construed to prevent the use of force by law enforcement officers in the lawful exercise of their law enforcement duties. As well, nothing in this section modifies the rights of school personnel to use reasonable

force as permitted under G.S. 115C-390 or modifies the rules and procedures governing discipline under G.S.115C-391.1(a).

The two goals that these administrative procedures enforce, only after less intrusive methods have been attempted or considered are:

1. To administer a physical restraint only when needed to protect a student or member of the school community from imminent, serious physical harm: and,
2. To prevent or minimize any harm to the student as the result of the use of physical restraint.

Definitions

1. **Physical restraint** may be defined as "the use of bodily physical force to limit a student's freedom of movement."
2. **Mechanical restraint** may be defined as "the use of any device or material attached or adjacent to a student's body that restricts freedom of movement or normal access to any portion of the student's body and that the student cannot easily remove."
3. **Assistive technology device** may be defined as "any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capacities of a child with a disability."
4. **Aversive procedure** may be defined as "a systematic physical or sensory intervention program for modifying the behavior of a student with a disability which causes or reasonably may be expected to cause one or more of the following:
    a. Significant physical harm
    b. Serious, foreseeable long-term psychological impairment.
    c. Obvious repulsion on the part of the observers who cannot reconcile extreme procedures with acceptable, standard practice."
5. **Behavioral intervention** may be defined as "the implementation of strategies to address behavior that is dangerous, disruptive, or otherwise impedes the learning of a student or others."
6. **IEP** may be defined as "a student's Individualized Education Program."
7. **Isolation** may be defined as "a behavior management technique in which a student is placed alone in an enclosed space from which the student is *not* prevented from leaving."
8. **Seclusion** may be defined as "Confinement of a student alone in an enclosed space from which the student is:
    a. Physically prevented from leaving by locking hardware or other means.
    b. Not capable of leaving due to physical or intellectual incapacity."
9. **Time-out** may be defined as "a behavior management technique in which a student is separated from other students for a *limited* period of time in a *monitored* setting."
10. **School personnel** may be defined as:
    a. Employees of a local board of education.
    b. Any person working on school grounds or at a school function under contract or written agreement with the public school system to provide educational or related services to students.
    c. Any person working on school grounds or at a school function for another agency providing educational or related services to students.

Physical Restraint

While the Stokes County Board of Education believes that all public school students should be treated with dignity and respect in the delivery of discipline, according to public school law (G.S.115C-390) school personnel may use "reasonable force" to maintain discipline. North Carolina G.S. 115C-391.1 describes the following situations in which restraint or reasonable force could be used to remove a person from the scene:

1. To maintain order or prevent or break up a fight;
2. To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects on the person or within the control of the person;
3. For self-defense;
4. To ensure the safety of any student, school employee, volunteer or other person present; to teach a skill, to calm or comfort a student, or prevent self-injurious behaviors.
5. To escort a student safely from one area to another.
6. As provided in a student's IEP or Section 504 plan or behavior intervention plan.
7. As needed to prevent imminent destruction to school or another person's property.

The Stokes County Board of Education has developed procedures requiring the following: physical restraint documentation, parent/guardian notification of such events and a staff training system with emphasis on effective verbal intervention practices. The Board of Education has authorized the superintendent of the Stokes County Schools to develop, as needed, administrative regulations for the implementation of the Deborah Greenblatt Act (House Bill 1032), which was adopted on June 5, 2006.

Mechanical Restraint

Mechanical restraint of students by school personnel is permissible only in the following circumstances:

1. When properly used as an assistive technology device included in the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan or behavior intervention plan or as otherwise prescribed for the student by a medical or related service provider.
2. When using seat belts or other safety restraints to secure students during transportation.
3. As reasonably needed to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous objects on a person or within the control of a person.
4. As reasonably needed for self-defense.
5. As reasonably needed to ensure the safety of any student, school employee, volunteer or other person present.

Seclusion

Seclusion of students by school personnel must be monitored by an adult in close proximity who is able to see and hear the student at all times. The student should be released from seclusion upon cessation of the behaviors that led up to the seclusion or as otherwise specified in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan. The space in which the student would be confined has been approved for such use by the Stokes County Schools and is appropriately lighted, ventilated, heated or cooled. The space should be free of objects that unreasonably expose the student or others to harm. Seclusion of students by school personnel may be used in the following circumstances:

1. As reasonably needed to respond to a person in control of a weapon or other dangerous object.

2. As reasonably needed to maintain order or prevent or break up a fight.
3. As reasonably needed for self-defense.
4. As reasonably needed when a student's behavior poses a threat of imminent physical harm to self or others or imminent substantial destruction of school or another person's property.
5. When used as specified in the student's IEP, Section 504 plan, or behavior intervention plan.

Isolation

Isolation is permitted as a behavior management technique provided that:

1. The space used for isolation is appropriately lighted, ventilated, and heated or cooled.
2. The duration of the isolation is reasonable in light of the purpose of the isolation.
3. The student is reasonably monitored while in isolation.
4. The isolation space is free of objects that unreasonably expose the student or others to harm.

Time-Out

Stokes County Schools does not prohibit or regulate the use of time-out as defined in these procedures.

Notice, Reporting, and Documentation

School personnel shall promptly notify the principal or principal's designee of:

1. Any use of aversive procedures.
2. Any prohibited use of mechanical restraint.
3. Any use of physical restraint.
4. Any prohibited use of seclusion or seclusion that exceeds 10 minutes or the amount of time specified on a student's behavior intervention plan.

When a principal or principal's designee has personal knowledge or actual notice of any of the above mentioned events, the principal or principal's designee shall promptly notify the student's parent/guardian and will provide the name of a school employee the parent/guardian can contact regarding the incident.

As used in these procedures, "promptly notify" means by the end of the workday during which the incident occurred when reasonably possible, but in no event later than the end of the following workday.

The parent/guardian of the student shall be provided with a written incident report for any incident reported in these procedures within a reasonable period of time, but in no event later than 30 days after the incident. The written incident report shall include:

1. The date, time of day, location, duration, and description of the incident and interventions.
2. The events or events that led up to the incident.
3. The nature and extent of any injury to the student.
4. The name of a school employee the parent/guardian can contact regarding the incident.

Visitors and Volunteers

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit the schools and/or volunteer anytime. However, please do not go directly to a classroom. Sign in at the office upon arrival. Parents/guardians will be given visitor's and/or a volunteer's badge to wear while in the building. Parents/guardians wishing to visit or volunteer in a classroom should contact the teacher prior to the visit. If your volunteer activity includes direct contact with and supervision of students, a **Background Authorization & Release** form must be completed online at https://bib.com/SECUREVOLUNTEER/STOKES-COUNTY-SCHOOLS/ before participation. Volunteers will be responsible for paying a $16.45 fee to cover the cost of the criminal background check. Examples may include reading buddies, instructional volunteers, before or after school tutors, or field trip chaperones. Many schools provide parents/guardians with a volunteer survey to complete and return to the child or children's teachers. If you do not receive a volunteer survey and are interested in opportunities to volunteer, please contact the school.

Student Code of Conduct

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Introduction to Student Code of Conduct

The ability of the teacher to plan, organize, and diagnose pupil strengths and weaknesses and to prescribe a learning program are essential if effective learning is to take place. Equally important is the teacher's ability to maintain classroom order. The underlying factors in maintaining classroom order are teacher planning, organization, diagnosis and prescription, effective communication, and mutual respect between teacher and pupil. Discipline should be viewed as a part of the total learning process and not simply as a negative reaction to a negative act. The future should be considered when disciplining in the present. It is suggested that teachers and principals use constructive measures to deal with discipline problems.

In all cases, the punishment must be reasonable. Neither the law nor the above precautions protect the teacher when a pupil is unreasonably punished. Some practices which are to be avoided include:

1. Punishment of a group for an offense committed by an individual or a few pupils;
2. The lowering of a pupil's subject matter grade as a means of punishment.
3. Suddenly disciplining a pupil for an act which he has been allowed to commit without punishment on previous occasions.

Discipline should be consistent, although the means may vary with regard to the degree and type of misbehavior.

The discipline of all pupils is the responsibility of the total faculty. Cooperation among teachers is a must if school discipline and order are to be maintained. The pupil is a member of the school first and of the class second, with the discipline of students being the responsibility of the total faculty. The individual school shall be responsible for developing its philosophy and system of teacher cooperation pertaining to the subject of school discipline. Responsibility for each pupil's conduct shall be assumed by all teachers in a school. Teachers should accept this responsibility wherever they are—in the hallways, restrooms, auditoriums, classrooms or on the school grounds. It should be communicated to pupils that teachers have this responsibility and authority. Every teacher is on duty for any situation which needs attention. In keeping with Public School Law G.S. 115C-390 and the regulations stated above, the principal or teacher shall not be inhibited from taking whatever action is necessary in case of an attack on his person for the purpose of self-defense.

ALL TEACHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL STUDENTS ALL OF THE TIME

School disciplinary rules must be reasonable. A rule is reasonable if it is essential in maintaining order and discipline on school property and it significantly contributes to the maintenance of order and discipline within the school. School disciplinary rules must serve some legitimate educational purpose and must be reasonably related to the achievement of that educational purpose. Rules should be limited to those that are necessary to allow teachers to perform their duties, to create an educational environment that is conducive to learning, and to ensure the safety of students, staff, volunteers, and teachers for the school to achieve its educational purposes. Student conduct rules should be clear. They should be understandable by parents/guardians, students and school staff who administer them, identifying the specific conduct that is prohibited and indicating the specific consequences that result from the conduct. School conduct rules should not be limited to negative consequences for improper behavior. They should also reward proper behavior through positive discipline. School disciplinary plans must include the restriction of privileges for

students who behave inappropriately. Other measures should be considered on a continuum before immediately resorting to the most drastic measures.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

A student with disabilities recognized by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will be afforded all rights granted by federal and state laws and regulations. Discipline of students with disabilities must also follow Local Board Policy 4307: Disciplinary Action for Exceptional Children Students/Students with Disabilities.

The policies and procedures for the discipline of students with disabilities shall be consistent with federal and state laws and regulations. It is the responsibility of Stokes County Schools to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education for a student with disabilities under the provisions of state and federal laws. (G.S. 115C-106) A student with disabilities may be expelled only if it is determined that the student's misconduct was not caused by or related to the student's disability. If the student is expelled, the school system will continue to provide instruction in a setting deemed appropriate by school officials.

If the student's conduct constitutes a clear threat to the safety of students or staff, the student may be assigned to an interim alternative education setting for up to 45 school days regardless of whether the behavior was a manifestation of his/her disability.

Student Disciplinary Records

A student's official record shall include, at a minimum, notice of any suspension for a period of more than 10 days or of any expulsion and the conduct for which the student was suspended or expelled. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee may expunge from the record the notice of suspension or expulsion if the following criteria are met:

1. One of the following persons makes a request for expungement:
    a. The student's parent, legal guardian, or custodian.
    b. The student, if the student is at least 16 years old or is emancipated.
2. The student either graduates from high school or is not expelled or suspended again during the two-year period commencing on the date of the student's return to school after the expulsion or suspension.
3. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee determines that the maintenance of the record is no longer needed to maintain safe and orderly schools.
4. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee determines that the maintenance of the record is no longer needed to adequately serve the child.

If the student's parent/guardian or the student (if he/she is at least 16 years of age or older or emancipated) does not request that the record be expunged, the superintendent or the superintendent's designee may expunge from a student's record provided that all other criteria are met.

Disciplinary Procedures

Elementary, Middle and High Schools

Every student can learn, and effective discipline is essential to learning. Students can expect a positive, nurturing relationship with faculty, staff, and administration. Each student has the right to an education, free from distractions caused by inappropriate behavior. One role of the school, in cooperation with parents/guardians, and the community, is to teach responsible behavior. This discipline policy is one strategy toward achievement of these goals. The Stokes County Board of Education has established a Code of Student Conduct through School Board Policy, which sets forth rules of student conduct that the Board deems appropriate and necessary for the government and operation of the schools. The Stokes County Schools Code of Student Conduct shall apply to any student in any building or on any school premises before, during, and after school hours; on any school bus or vehicle on which the student is being transported as part of any school activity; during school functions, activities, or events, or at any time the student is subject to the authority of school personnel, either on or off school property; and to any student whose conduct at any time or place (whether on campus or off campus) materially and substantially interferes with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the schools. Examples of off-campus conduct that is prohibited include, but are not limited to, the following: bullying or harassment targeting particular individuals, threats aimed at school personnel or students, and failure to follow school district rules regarding academic course assignments, use of computers, and participation in school activities.
The Code of Student Conduct is not intended to restrict in any way the authority of the principal to make such rules, not inconsistent with this code, as they are authorized by law to make for the government and operation of the school, or with the authority of teachers to make such rules, not inconsistent with this code, as they are authorized by law for their respective classes.

Levels of Consequences and Interventions

With each out-of-school suspension, parents/guardians will be notified prior to suspension.

A parent/guardian conference with the school administrator shall be held prior to suspension for ten days or longer. The conference, or notification, can be held by phone upon request of the parent/guardian.

"At school" is defined as in any school building and on any school premises, off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity or function, during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel, or at any time when the student's behavior has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline and protecting the safety and welfare of students and staff.

All disciplinary actions are cumulative for the entire school year.

LEVEL 1 CONSEQUENCES

Minor classroom / school behavior incidents

Gravity and severity of the situation may dictate a higher level of action for any offense.
A third Level 1 offense may result in Level 2 consequences.

Response/Documentation:
In-class consequences for Level 1 behaviors will be entered in Educator's Handbook as minor offenses. Consequences assigned by the teacher may include a warning, individual conference, detention, parent/guardian contact, parent/guardian conference, student contract, referral to school counselor, isolation, time-out, or other minor consequences as outlined in the classroom behavior contract. Multiple Level 1 offenses may result in an office referral and higher level of action.

Level 1 Offenses:

Cell Phone Use 060-UB (See specific consequences for cell phone use) Disruptive Behavior 042-UB Inappropriate Behavior 114-UB	Inappropriate Items on Campus 040-UB Inappropriate Language/Disrespect 032-UB Tardy/Excessive Tardiness/Late to Class 064-UB (See specific consequences for Tardy/Excessive Tardiness/Late to Class)

LEVEL 2 CONSEQUENCES

Acts Covered Under School Board Policy

Gravity and severity of the situation may dictate a higher level of action for any offense.
A third Level 2 offense may result in Level 3 consequences.

Response/Documentation:
Teachers or Administrators will document violations of Level 2 offenses in Educator's Handbook. Students will be given due process in disciplinary investigations. Administrator assigns disciplinary actions and provides written and/or verbal notification to parent's guardians.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES	MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES
1st Offense - Written warning and administrative conference with student **2nd Offense** - Parent/guardian conference, time out, before or after school detention, lunch detention, partial day in-school suspension, up to 1 day ISS **3rd Offense** - Parent/guardian conference, time out, before or after school detention, lunch detention, partial day in-school suspension, ISS, up to OSS	**1st Offense** - Written warning and conference with student **2nd Offense** - 1 day ISS **3rd Offense** - 3 days ISS **4th Offense** - 1-3 days OSS **5th Offense** - 3 days OSS **6th Offense+** - 5 or more days OSS

Level 2 Offenses:

Cutting Class 074-UB Disruptive Behavior 042-UB Dress Code Violation 031-UB (See specific dress code violation consequences) Excessive Display of Affection 063-UB Inappropriate Behavior 114-UB	Inappropriate Items on Campus 040-UB Inappropriate Language/Disrespect 032-UB Misuse of School Technology 091-UB Tardy/Excessive Tardiness/Late to Class 064-UB (See specific consequences for tardiness) Unauthorized Area 059-UB

LEVEL 3 CONSEQUENCES

Acts Covered Under School Board Policy

Gravity and severity of the situation may dictate a higher level of action for any offense.

A third Level 3 offense may result in Level 4 consequences.

The superintendent or designee reserves the right to transfer any student who commits Level 3 offenses to Stokes Academy if he/she feels it would be beneficial to all involved.

Response/Documentation:

Teachers or Administrators will document violations of Level 3 offenses in Educator's Handbook. Students will be given due process in disciplinary investigations. Administrator assigns disciplinary actions and provides written notification to parent's guardians.

These offenses warrant in-school suspension. The degree of seriousness as perceived by the school administration and School Board Policy will determine the action taken.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES	MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES
1st Offense- Parent/guardian conference, time out, before or after school detention, lunch detention, partial day in-school suspension, up to 1 day ISS **2nd Offense** - Parent/guardian conference, time out, before or after school detention, lunch detention, partial day in-school suspension, up to 1-3 days ISS **3rd Offense**- Parent/guardian conference, time out, before or after school detention, lunch detention, partial day in-school suspension, 1-3 days ISS, up to 3 days OSS	**1st Offense** - 1-3 days ISS **2nd Offense** - 3-4 days ISS **3rd Offense** - 1-3 days OSS **4th Offense** - 3-5 days OSS **5th Offense** - 5-10 days OSS **6th Offense** - 10 days OSS and recommendation for transfer to alternative school See additional consequences for vaping and tobacco related offenses

Level 3 Offenses:

Aggressive Behavior 27-UB Bus Misbehavior 037-UB (See specific bus consequences) Disrespect of Faculty/Staff 061-UB Falsifying Information 035-UB Honor Code Violation 028-UB Inappropriate Items on Campus 040-UB Inappropriate Language/Disrespect 032-UB Gang Activity 079-UB Leaving Class without Permission 066-UB Leaving School without Permission 067-UB Misuse of School Technology 091-UB Pornographic and/or Profane Material 124-UB Possession of Graphically Violent Material 125-UB *See specific consequences for vaping and tobacco related offenses	Possession of Tobacco 041-UB* Possession of Vaping Device (Non-Tobacco, Non-Controlled Substance) 116-UB* Property Damage 039-UB Possession of Vaping Device - Tobacco 133-UB Skipping School 075-UB Theft 036-UB Unauthorized Area 059-UB Use of Tobacco 070-UB* Use of Vaping Device - Tobacco 134-UB* Use of Vaping Device (Non-Tobacco, Non-Controlled Substance) 117-UB *See specific consequences for vaping and tobacco related offenses

LEVEL 4 CONSEQUENCES

Acts Covered Under School Board Policy

Gravity and severity of the situation may dictate a higher level of action for any offense.

A third Level 4 offense may result in Level 5 consequences.

The superintendent or designee reserves the right to transfer any student who commits Level 4 offenses to Stokes Academy if he/she feels it would be beneficial to all involved.

Response/Documentation:

Teachers or Administrators will document violations of Level 4 offenses in Educator's Handbook. Students will be given due process in disciplinary investigations. Administrator assigns disciplinary actions and provides written notification to parent's guardians.

These offenses warrant out-of-school suspension (or possible long-term suspensions or expulsions). The degree of seriousness as perceived by the school administration and School Board Policy will determine the action taken. Expulsions may only be used with students ages 14 and older N.C.G.S. §115C-390.11.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES	MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES
1st Offense - Parent/guardian conference, time out, before or after school detention, lunch detention, in-school suspension, up to 1 day OSS **2nd Offense** - Parent/guardian conference, 1-3 days OSS **3rd Offense**- Parent/guardian conference, 3-5 days OSS ***See specific consequences for Hazing, Harassment, Bullying and Intimidation**	**1st Offense** - 1-3 days OSS **2nd Offense** - 3-5 days OSS **3rd Offense** - 5-10 days OSS **4th Offense** - 10 days OSS and/or recommendation for long-term suspension ***See specific consequences for Hazing, Harassment, Bullying and Intimidation**

Level 4 Offenses:

Affray 021-UB Disorderly Conduct 022-UB Disrespect of Faculty/Staff 061-UB Extortion 023-UB False Fire Alarm 029-UB Fighting 024-UB Inappropriate Items on Campus (Including "look-alike" weapons) 040-UB Indecent Exposure 115-UB	Insubordination/Noncompliance with Directives from Principals, Teachers and Other School Personnel 033-UB Misuse of School Technology 091-UB Mutual Sexual Contact Between Two Students 068-UB Pornographic and/or Profane Material 124-UB Possession of a Weapon (Excluding Firearms and Powerful Explosives) 008-RO Property Damage 039-UB Use of Counterfeit Item (Weapon) 047-UB

LEVEL 5 CONSEQUENCES

Acts Covered Under School Board Policy

Gravity and severity of the situation may dictate a higher level of action for any offense.

A third Level 5 offense may result in additional consequences.

The superintendent or designee reserves the right to transfer any student who commits Level 4 offenses to Stokes Academy if he/she feels it would be beneficial to all involved.

Response/Documentation:
Administrators will document violations of Level 5 offenses in Educator's Handbook. Students will be given due process in disciplinary investigations. Administrator assigns disciplinary actions and provides written notification to parent's guardians.

These offenses warrant out-of-school suspension or possible long-term suspensions or expulsions. The degree of seriousness as perceived by the school administration and School Board Policy will determine the action taken. Expulsions may only be used with students ages 14 and older N.C.G.S. §115C-390.11.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES	MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES
1st Offense - Parent/guardian conference, Up to 10 days OSS; **Assessment by Insight Human Services may be recommended for all Narcotics, Alcohol, Controlled Substance and Drug Offenses (Use, Possession, Under the Influence)** **2nd Offense** - Parent/guardian conference, 5-10 OSS and/or recommendation for long-term suspension; **Required Assessment by Insight Human Services for all Narcotics, Alcohol, Controlled Substance and Drug Offenses (Use, Possession, Under the Influence)**	**1st Offense** - 10 days OSS with recommendation for long-term suspension.; **Required Assessment by Insight Human Services for all Narcotics, Alcohol, Controlled Substance and Drug Offenses**

Level 5 Offenses:

Alcohol Possession 020-RO* Assault (Other) 045-UB Assault Involving the Use of a Weapon 002-PD Assault on Non-Student without Weapon (Minor Injuries) 071-UB Assault on School Personnel (Minor Injuries) 003-RO Assault on Student 044-UB Assault on Student without Weapon (Minor Injuries) 072-UB Assault Resulting in a Serious Injury 001-PD Bomb Threat 043-RO Burning of School Building 053-RO Communicating Threats 019-UB	Possession of Controlled Substance* Cocaine 005-RO Marijuana 006-RO Opioid 118-RO Ritalin 007-RO Other Controlled Sub. 017-RO Possession of Counterfeit Item (Drugs/Alcohol) 046-UB* Possession of Student's Own Prescription Drug 086-UB* Possession of Firearm or Powerful Explosive 009-RO Possession of a Weapon (Excluding Firearms and Powerful Explosives) 008-RO Taking Indecent Liberties with a Minor	Possession of Vaping Device - Controlled Substance (CS)/THC 131-RO* Possession of Vaping Device - Cannabinoid 135-UB* Sale of Controlled Substance* Cocaine 054-RO Marijuana 055-RO Opioid 119-RO Ritalin 056-RO Other Controlled Sub057-RO Sexual Assault Not Involving Rape or Sexual Offense 014-PD Sexual Offense 013-PD Under the Influence of Controlled Substance 096-UB

Disorderly Conduct 022-UB Distribution of Prescription Drug 088-RO* False Threat of Mass Violence 127-UB Physical Attack with a Firearm or Explosive Device 104-PD Possession of Another Person's Prescription Drug 087-RO* Possession of Chemical or Drug Paraphernalia 051-UB* *See specific consequences involving Narcotics, Alcohol, Controlled Substance and Drug Offenses (Use, Possession, Under the Influence)	015-PD Threat of Harm to Self or Others 129-UB Threat of Mass Violence 126-UB Threat of Physical Attack with a Firearm 105-UB Threat of Physical Attack with a Weapon 106-UB Threat of Physical Attack without a Weapon 107-UB Under the Influence of Alcohol 095-UB* *See specific consequences involving Narcotics, Alcohol, Controlled Substance and Drug Offenses (Use, Possession, Under the Influence)	Unlawfully Setting a Fire 018-UB Use of Alcoholic Beverage 048-RO* Use of Controlled Substance 049-RO* Use of Counterfeit Items (Drugs/Alcohol) 047-UB* Use of Counterfeit Item (Weapon) 047-UB Use of Narcotics 050-RO* Use of Vaping Devices - Controlled Substance (CS)/THC 132-RO* Use of Vaping Device - Cannabinoid 136-UB* Violent Assault Not Resulting in Serious Injury 090-UB *See specific consequences involving Narcotics, Alcohol, Controlled Substance and Drug Offenses (Use, Possession, Under the Influence)

Behavior Violations

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR/ASSAULT Students should avoid aggressive behavior towards adults and students. Students shall not fight or attempt to cause bodily harm to another student. When encountering a conflict, students should avoid engaging in a conflict and walk away and/or report the behavior of the aggressor. Retaliation by means of kicking, hitting, etc. the other student is considered fighting. Students who instigate fights through language or recording will be subject to the same consequences as those who are actually involved in fighting. Posting or recording an altercation between students and/or disseminating could result in consequences outlined in this section.							
Affray 021-UB				X		May be contacted for any offense	Fight between two or more people which causes terror (frightened) to the public.
Aggressive Behavior 027-UB			X				**Level 3:** Actions which are physically aggressive or abusive which disrupts the learning process for any student or which demeans or degrades another person. Includes physical or verbal behaviors such as spitting, hitting, name-calling, screaming, yelling, pinching, kicking, pushing, knocking things over, etc. In addition, any act of retaliation against an individual for reporting such actions is expressly forbidden.
Assault - Other 045-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Unprovoked physical attack or disproportionate physical response to an altercation not resulting in injuries
Assault on Non-Student without Weapon (Minor Injuries) 071-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Unprovoked physical attack or disproportionate physical response to an altercation with a non-student resulting in minor injuries

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Assault on School Personnel (Minor Injuries) 003-RO					X	WILL be contacted	Intentional offer or attempt by force or violence to do injury to a school official, employee, or volunteer that causes reasonable apprehension of immediate bodily harm while the school official, employee or volunteer is discharging or attempting to discharge his/her duties.
Assault on Student without Weapon (Minor Injuries) 072-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Unprovoked physical attack or disproportionate physical response to an altercation on student with minor injuries
Assault on Student 044-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Unprovoked physical attack or disproportionate physical response to an altercation not resulting in injuries
Fighting 024-UB				X		May be contacted any offense	Physical altercation that involves somewhat similar levels of violence by both people.
Violent Assault Not Resulting in Serious Injury 090-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Intentional physical attack resulting in pain and/or fear of severe harm for the victim but injury less severe
Assault Involving the Use of a Weapon 002-PD **Physical Attack with a Firearm or Explosive Device 104-PD**					X	WILL be contacted Weapon confiscated	Assault with a weapon that has the potential to cause immediate bodily harm (e.g firearm, dangerous weapon, explosive, etc.)

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Assault Resulting in a Serious Injury 001-PD					X	WILL be contacted	Assault resulting in serious personal injury (substantial risk of death, or causes serious permanent disfigurement, coma, permanent impairment, prolonged hospitalization, etc.). A student who is at least 14 years old and physically assaults and seriously injures a teacher or other school personnel will be suspended for at least 300 days and up to 365 days.
ARSON							
Burning of School Building 053-RO					X	WILL be contacted	Willfully burning a school building as defined by N.C.G.S. 14-60
Unlawfully Setting a Fire 018-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Participated in starting a fire or attempting to start a fire on school property or on school sponsored trips without proper authorization
BUS MISBEHAVIOR (Consequences may also include consequences for specific offenses as well)							
Bus Misbehavior 037-UB Note specific BUS consequences. ***Consequences of specific behaviors which occur on the bus may apply as well.***			X				BUS CONSEQUENCES*: **Elementary** **1st Offense:** Administrative or staff warning and parent/guardian notification; up to one day bus suspension based on severity **2nd Offense:** 2 days bus suspension **3rd Offense:** 3 days bus suspension **4th Offense:** 5 days bus suspension **5th Offense:** 7 days bus suspension **6th Offense:** 10 days bus suspension

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
							7th Offense: Revocation of bus privileges for remainder of year **<u>Secondary</u>** **1st Offense:** Administrative or staff warning and parent/guardian notification; up to one day bus suspension **2nd Offense:** 3 days bus suspension **3rd Offense:** 5 days bus suspension **4th Offense:** 10 days bus suspension **5th Offense:** Revocation of bus privileges for remainder of year
CELL PHONE USE See TECHNOLOGY VIOLATIONS							
CHEATING/PLAGIARISM/ISSUES OF INTEGRITY							
Falsifying Information 035-UB			X				Providing false information to school officials or parent/guardians regarding school information. Making, publishing on the internet, or by any other means of communication false or untrue statements that defame the character or reputation of a school employee or student. While students have a constitutional right to criticize school personnel or students, that right does not include making false statements accusing school personnel or students of engaging in criminal or immoral acts that are intended to injure, harass and/or harm an individual
Honor Code Violation 028-UB			X				Cheating, plagiarism, or falsifying notes or documents. Also include violating the acceptable use policy of the internet. A student's grade may be adversely affected if any of the mentioned actions are observed.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
DISORDERLY CONDUCT/DISRESPECT/DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR							
Disorderly Conduct 022-UB				X	X	May be contacted Level 5 - WILL be contacted	**Level 4:** Behavior that disrupts the school environment to unreasonably impair the operations of the school (Examples: Triggering false fire alarm and/or engaging intruder stops, protests, picketing, sit-ins, etc.). Students shall not, on or off school premises, engage in activities that disrupt any lawful function, mission, or process of the school to which the student is assigned or any other school in the district. **Level 5:** Inciting or participating in student disorder or rioting so as to cause or be likely to cause other students to join in disruption of school or resulting in any major disruption of school activities which results in substantial loss of instructional time or property and/or which creates a threat to the safety and well-being of students
Disrespect of Faculty/Staff 061-UB			X	X		Level 4: May be contacted	**Level 3:** Actions directed to faculty or staff which are insulting, abusive, profane, obscene, or seriously disrespectful which disrupts the learning process or demeans or degrades another person. Includes name-calling, humiliation, taunting, or using disrespectful language towards school personnel. **Level 4:** Profanity directed to faculty or staff, threats, and cyberbullying communicated in person or via computer/electronic devices.
Disruptive Behavior 042-UB	X	X					**Level 1:** Minor disruption due to failure to follow classroom rules **Level 2:** Behaviors that are disruptive to

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
							teaching, learning and order. These behaviors may include (bot not limited to) running through the school building or classroom, throwing objects, excessive loud talking or noise, horseplay, and leaving the classroom or event without permission.
DRESS CODE VIOLATION See Dress Code guidelines in Stokes County Schools Student Handbook							
Dress Code Violation 031-UB		X					Elementary: Principals have the option to implement age-appropriate consequences for dress code violations. **Middle & High School:** In addition to Level 2 consequences, violations of dress code: • Student will change clothes using available clothes at school or call parent/guardian to bring a change of clothes. If clothes are not available, student will spend the day in a supervised location so as not to cause a disruption to the learning environment.

DRUGS/ALCOHOL/TOBACCO

Students are prohibited from the use and/or possession of any electronic nicotine delivery system, tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs (whether prescription, over-the-counter, or illegal). Students shall not possess, smoke, sip, chew, or otherwise use any of these products at any time while at school, in any school building, on school premises, off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activities or function, or during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel maintaining order and discipline and protecting the safety and welfare of students and staff. Additionally, no student shall possess, use, distribute, sell, possess with intent to distribute or sell, or conspire or conspire or attempt to distribute or sell, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, rolling papers, anabolic steroids, or any other controlled substance, any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine, other intoxicating liquor, drug paraphernalia, counterfeit substance, any unauthorized prescription drug, or any other chemicals or products with the

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration, euphoria, or any other alteration or change in the student's mood or behavior. Violations of drug/alcohol and tobacco policies result in school-level consequences and referrals to Insight Human Services as indicated below. Failure to attend required Insight courses will be considered insubordinate and be assigned 3 days OSS for a first offense and 5 days OSS for a second second offense. Classes require the student and parent/guardian attend an initial meeting with Insight. Unless there is an emergency or prearranged circumstance, absence from the course causes consequences to advance to the next level of infraction. Attendance to the next scheduled Insight course is required.							
Alcohol Possession 020-RO					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.
Distribution of Prescription Drug 088-RO					X	WILL be contacted	**First Offense: Sale or Distribution.** Any student who is fourteen (14) years of age or older and who distributes, sells, possesses with intent to sell, or conspires to distribute or sell any Schedule I or Schedule II controlled substance as defined by the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act will receive a suspension up to 365 days or expulsion where permitted by law.
Possession of Another Person's Prescription Drug 087-RO					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Possession of Chemical or Drug Paraphernalia 051-UB					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.
Possession of Controlled Substance - Cocaine, Marijuana, Opioid, Ritalin, or Other Controlled Substance 005-RO 006-RO 118-RO 007-RO 017-RO					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.
Possession of Counterfeit Item (Drugs/Alcohol) 046-UB					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Possession of Student's Own Prescription Drug 086-UB					X	WILL be contacted	**Prescription Medications and Over-the Counter Medications.** The proper use of a drug authorized by valid medical prescription from a legally authorized health care provider shall not be considered a violation of this rule when the drug is taken by the person for whom the drug was prescribed. In accordance with the school's medical authorization policy, all prescription medicines must be dispensed through the school office. (Refer to guidelines on in Health section of the Student Handbook.) Like prescription medicines, over-the-counter medications must be dispensed through the school office in accordance with the school's medical authorization policy as well. Improper possession, use or distribution of prescription medication and/or over-the-counter medication will be considered a violation of this policy.
Possession of Tobacco 041-UB			X				**In addition to Level 3 consequences:** **1st Offense:** Required online cessation course; referral to Insight Human Services **Subsequent Offenses:** REQUIRED assessment and participation in Insight Humans Services cessation course Tobacco products will be turned over to SRO.
Possession of Vaping Device - CS/THC 131-RO **Possession of Vaping Device - Cannabinoid** - 135-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Vaping devices will be turned over to SRO. **First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
							school career.
Possession of Vaping Device - Tobacco 133-UB **Possession of Vaping Device (Non-Tobacco, Non-Controlled Substance)** 116-UB			X				**In addition to Level 3 consequences:** **1st Offense:** Required online cessation course; referral to Insight Human Services **Subsequent Offenses:** REQUIRED assessment and participation in Insight Humans Services cessation course Vaping devices will be turned over to SRO.
Sale of Controlled Substance - Cocaine, Marijuana, Opioid, Ritalin or Other Controlled Substance 054-RO 055-RO 119-RO 056-RO 057-RO					X	WILL be contacted	**First Offense: Sale or Distribution.** Any student who is fourteen (14) years of age or older and who distributes, sells, possesses with intent to sell, or conspires to distribute or sell any Schedule I or Schedule II controlled substance as defined by the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act will receive a suspension up to 365 days or expulsion where permitted by law.
Under the Influence of Alcohol 095-UB **Use of Alcoholic Beverage** 048-RO					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Under the Influence of Controlled Substance 196-UB					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.
Use of Controlled Substance 049-RO **Use of Narcotics** 050-RO					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.
Use of Counterfeit Items (Drugs/Alcohol) 047-UB					X	WILL be contacted	**First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.
Use of Tobacco 070-UB **Use of Vaping Device - Tobacco** 134-UB			X				In addition to Level 3 consequences: **1st Offense:** Required online cessation course; referral to Insight Human Services **Subsequent Offenses:** REQUIRED assessment and participation in Insight Humans Services cessation course

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Use of Vaping Device (Non-Tobacco, Non-Controlled Substance) 117-UB							Vaping devices and tobacco products will be turned over to SRO.
Use of Vaping Device - CS/THC 132-RO **Use of Vaping Device - Cannabinoid** 136-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Vaping devices will be turned over to SRO. **First offense ONLY:** 10 days OSS and principal will recommend the student be assigned to Stokes County Academy as an alternative to long-term suspension. Students must enroll in the substance abuse program with Insight Human Services prior to enrollment at Stokes County Academy. This alternative to long-term suspension shall be offered only one time to middle and high school students during their school career.

FALSE FIRE ALARM - See INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

GAMBLING - See INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

GANG ACTIVITY

No student shall commit any act that furthers gangs or gang-related activity. No student shall threaten or intimidate another individual or disrupt the learning environment by displaying gang colors, logos, or jewelry on one's person or possessions, using gang gestures or handshakes, or verbal communications for the purpose of gang identification. Students shall not "tag" or deface school property or personal property with gang-related symbols, drawings, or slogans. Violations also include soliciting or encouraging participation in gang activity; intimidation to deter from gang withdrawal; punishment or retaliation for gang withdrawal. If gang-related activity is associated with another act of misconduct, evidence of gang activity shall be considered an aggravating factor.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Gang Activity 079-UB				X		May be contacted	See also misuse of school technology violations related to gang-related images.

HAZING, HARASSMENT, BULLYING

It shall be a violation of board policy for any student to engage in what is known as hazing, harassment, bullying or to aid or abet any other student in hazing, harassing, or bullying. Furthermore, deliberate intimidation, bullying or harassment in any form is prohibited. Such messages or images, which occur during the school day or negatively impact the school day, may include direct conversation, telephone messages, text messages, instant messages, internet postings, emails, photographic images, posters, signs, and other means of disseminating hurtful, embarrassing, vicious, or scurrilous remarks or content (G.S. 14-35 and 115C-407.15). Students are strongly encouraged to report to any school official any actual or suspected incidents of discrimination, harassment, or bullying.

Students who violate board policy by Hazing, Harassment, and/or Bullying another individual are subject to the following consequences:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS
1st Offense: • Meeting with student, parent/guardian and administration; • Meeting with student/counselor and counselor provides outside referral • Up to one (1) day OSS 2nd Offense: • Meeting with student, parent/guardian and administration; • Three (3) days OSS 3rd Offense: • Meeting with student, parent/guardian and administration; • Revoke out-of-district admission (if applicable); • Five (5) days OSS 4th Offense:	1st Offense: • Meeting with student, parent/guardian and administration; • Meeting with student/counselor and counselor provides outside referral; • Loss of athletics/extracurricular activities for 90 school days • Five (5) days OSS 2nd Offense: • Meeting with student, parent/guardian and administration; • Loss of athletics/extracurricular activities for 365 school days • Revoke out-of-district admission (if applicable); • Ten (10) days OSS & Referral to Stokes County Academy 3rd Offense:

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
	• Meeting with student, parent/guardian and administration; • Up to ten (10) days OSS					• Meeting with student, parent/guardian and administration • Indefinite loss of athletics/extracurricular activities • Ten (10) days OSS & recommendation for long-term suspension	
Bullying 052-UB	Bullying includes, but is not limited to, a pattern of or a persistent engagement in name-calling and put downs, verbal taunts, epithets, derogatory comments or slurs, lewd propositions, exclusion from peer groups, extortion of money or possessions, implied or stated threats, assault, impeding or blocking movement, offensive touching, teasing, physical abuse, written or oral messages or visual images that deliberately intimidate, harass, or embarrass another individual.						
				X*		May be contacted	*See specific consequences for Hazing, Harassment and Bullying Above
Cyberbullying 094-UB	A person who uses a computer or computer network to do any of the following: I. With the intent to intimidate or torment a minor: A. Build a fake profile or Web site; B. Pose as a minor in 1) An Internet chat room; 2) An electronic mail message; or 3) An instant message; C. Follow a minor online or into an Internet chat room; or D. Post or encourage others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a minor. II. With the intent to intimidate or torment a minor or the minor's parent or guardian: A. Post a real or doctored image of a minor on the Internet; B. Access, alter, or erase any computer network, computer data, computer program, or computer software, including breaking into a password protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords; or C. Use a computer system for repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or other transmissions, to a minor. III. Make any statement, whether true or false, intending to immediately provoke, and that is likely to provoke, any third party to stalk or harass a minor. IV. Copy and disseminate, or cause to be made, an unauthorized copy of any data pertaining to a minor for the purpose of intimidating or tormenting that minor (in any form, including, but not limited to, any printed or electronic form of computer						

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
	data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network). V. Sign up a minor for a pornographic Internet site with the intent to intimidate or torment the minor. VI. Without authorization of the minor or the minor's parent or guardian, sign up a minor for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages, with the intent to intimidate or torment the minor. A person who uses a computer or computer network to do any of the following: I. With the intent to intimidate or torment a school employee, do any of the following: A. Build a fake profile or Web site. B. Post or encourage others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a school employee. C. Post a real or doctored image of the school employee on the Internet. D. Access, alter, or erase any computer network, computer data, computer program, or computer software, including breaking into a password-protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords. E. Use a computer system for repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or other transmissions, to a school employee. II. Make any statement, whether true or false, intending to immediately provoke, and that is likely to provoke, any third party to stalk or harass a school employee. III. Copy and disseminate, or cause to be made, an unauthorized copy of any data pertaining to a school employee for the purpose of intimidating or tormenting that school employee (in any form, including, but not limited to, any printed or electronic form of computer data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network). IV. Sign up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site with the intent to intimidate or torment the employee. V. Without authorization of the school employee, sign up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages, with the intent to intimidate or torment the school employee. VI. Sign up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site with the intent to intimidate or torment the employee. VII. Without authorization of the school employee, sign up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages, with the intent to intimidate or torment the school employee.						

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
				X*		May be contacted	*See specific consequences for Hazing, Harassment and Bullying Above
Harassment Disability, Gender Identity, Racial, Religious Affiliation, Sexual Orientation, Sexual, Verbal 102-UB 137-UB 101-UB 110-UB 109-UB 038-UB 025-UB	Harassment is unwanted, unwelcome, and uninvited behavior that demeans, threatens, or offends the victim and results in a hostile environment for the victim. The hostile environment may be created through pervasive or persistent misbehavior or a single incident if sufficiently severe. Sexual harassment as well as harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, socio-economic status, academic status, physical appearance, gender identity, sexual orientation, mental, physical, developmental or sensory disability is prohibited. Students have a right to be free from harassment at school or while attending school activities. **<u>Definition of Sexual Harassment</u>** 1. **Sexual Harassment** - It is sexual harassment when a student or an adult explicitly or implicitly conditions a student's participation in an educational program or activity or bases an educational decision on the student's submission to unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. 2. **Hostile Environment Sexual Harassment**. Sexual harassment also means and includes any unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and any other non-consensual and/or offensive verbal, nonverbal or physical contact of a sexual nature by another student that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or to create a hostile or abusive environment. It includes misconduct by males against females, by females against males and between students of the same gender. 3. **Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, National Origin, Ancestry, Religion, Gender, Socio-Economic Status, Academic Status, Physical Appearance, Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Mental, Physical, Developmental or Sensory Disability**. Harassment means and includes any pattern of gestures, written, electronic or verbal communication or any physical act or any threatening communication that: 1) places a student in actual and reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property; or 2) creates or is certain to create a hostile environment by substantially interfering with or impairing a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits. It includes, but is not limited to, abusive jokes about a student's race, national/ethnic origin, religion, gender or disability, crude name-calling, threats, and bullying.						

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
				X*		May be contacted	*See specific consequences for Hazing, Harassment and Bullying Above
Hazing 026-UB	For the purpose of this policy, hazing is defined as follows: "to annoy any student by playing abusive or ridiculous tricks on him/her; to frighten, scold, beat, harass him/her; or to subject him/her to personal indignity."						
				X*		May be contacted	*See specific consequences for Hazing, Harassment and Bullying Above
INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR							
False Fire Alarm 029-UB				X			Setting off or attempting to set off, or aids or abets someone in setting off a fire alarm or other emergency indicators
Gambling 034-UB			X				**Level 3:** Engaging in any game of chance or skill where money, property or other items of value may be lost and won.
Inappropriate Behavior 114-UB	X	X					**Level 1:** Minor disruption due to inappropriate behavior **Level 2:** Rowdy behavior, talking loud, horseplay, sleeping, minor class disruptions, skateboarding, etc.
Inappropriate Items on Campus 040-UB	X	X	X				Level of offense dependent on type of item. Possession of items deemed inappropriate on school grounds or school trips. Examples of inappropriate items are (but not limited to) stolen items or property, restricted food or beverages, toys, games, electronic equipment, vehicles without parking permits, and cigarette lighters.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Inappropriate Language/ Disrespect 032-UB	X	X	X				**Level 1:** Minor disruption due to disrespect/inappropriate language **Level 2:** Profanity or vulgar language **Level 3:** Actions directed to other students which are insulting, abusive, profane, obscene, or seriously disrespectful which disrupts the learning process or demeans or degrades another person.
Pornographic and/or Profane Material 124-UB			X				**Level 3:** Possession of lewd or sexually explicit materials on school property or while under the jurisdiction of school personnel. Includes printed materials and material stored in or viewed through electronic devices.
Unauthorized Area 059-UB		X	X				**Level 2:** Loitering after school **Level 3:** Being in any unauthorized areas which are off limits to students during the school day.
Possession of Graphically Violent Material 125-UB			X				**Level 3:** Possession of graphically violent material on school property or while under the jurisdiction of school personnel. Includes printed materials and material stored in or viewed through electronic devices.
INSUBORDINATION							
Insubordination/ Noncompliance with Directives from Principals, Teachers and Other School Personnel 033-UB				X		May be contacted with 4th Offense	Level 4: Failure to comply with directives of school personnel on school premises, at any school-sponsored event, or on or about any school-owned or operated vehicles when a student's behavior has a direct impact and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline and protecting the safety and welfare of students and staff.
OTHER							

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Other School Defined Offense 058-UB **Other** 069-UB	Level and associated consequences determined based on gravity and severity of offense.						Behavior code may be used when the behavior of the offender is not found to fall under the definitions of the available behavior. This behavior may be used when disciplinary action is taken on a student for conduct that occurred off school grounds, not on school property, and not on a school related or sponsored trip that is in violation of the student code of conduct.
PROPERTY DAMAGE							
Property Damage 039-UB			X	X		May be contacted for Level 4 Offense	Restitution will be required for all offenses. **Level 3:** Intentionally or attempting, either accidentally or intentionally, to damage property. Includes damage or defacement to school buildings, furnishing, statues, monuments, textbooks, etc. and to personal property. (Does not require repairs) **Level 4:** Intentional damage to school or personal property to which repairs are required.
SEXUAL CONDUCT							
Excessive Displays of Affection 063-UB		X					Behaviors involving consensual sexual behavior that is overly affectionate.
Indecent Exposure 115-UB				X			Intentionally exposing private body parts, such as the buttocks or breasts
Mutual Sexual Contact Between Two Students 068-UB				X		May be contacted	Students will not engage in any consensual sexual activity or inappropriate touching. This offense includes, but is not limited to, sending explicit images via electronic devices.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Sexual Assault Not Involving Rape or Sexual Offense 014-PD **Sexual Offense** 013-PD					X	WILL be contacted	Any form of sexual assault, sexual offense, or rape, as defined by NC General Statute, is prohibited by law in all Stokes County Schools. Mandatory out-of-school suspension will occur and law enforcement shall be notified immediately. Students are encouraged to report any forms of sexual assault to school officials immediately.
Taking Indecent Liberties with a Minor 015-PD					X	WILL be contacted	Students are restricted from any sexual contact on school grounds with a minor or adult. Sexual relationships with a minor, whether consensual or not, is a felony. Mandatory out-of-school suspension is required and law enforcement shall be notified immediately.
TECHNOLOGY VIOLATIONS Students will use computers and other electronic devices in accordance with Stokes County Policy #3220 (Technology in the Education Program) and Policy #3225 (Technology Responsible Use).							
Cell Phone Use 060-UB	X						**Level 1:** In addition to Level 1 consequences, violations of cell phone policy: **1st offense:** Student picks up device end of day **2nd offense:** Parent/guardian picks up phone **3rd offense+:** Office referral for additional consequences
Misuse of School Technology 091-UB		X	X	X		Level 4 - May be contacted	**Level 2:** Using proxy sites, using computers not assigned to a student, videoing/taping on school property when not related to assignment, emailing/chatting/online gaming during class when not related to assignment, using profanity, etc. **Level 3:** Include violating the acceptable use policy of the internet and possession of gang related images or documents; possession, manufacturing, or distributing images of

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
							weapons; possession, manufacturing, or distributing bootleg or illegal movies or music; or using another student's or teacher's login. **Level 4:** Including, but not limited to, sending explicit images via school-owned electronic devices. Manufacturing or distributing pornography or gang-related images or documents. Using a computer to plan a fight, cause harm or commit a crime. Profanity directed to faculty or staff, threats, and cyberbullying.
Pornographic and/or Profane Material 124-UB			X	X		May be contacted	**Level 3:** Possession of lewd or sexually explicit materials on school property or while under the jurisdiction of school personnel. Includes printed materials and material stored in or viewed through electronic devices. **Level 4:** Sending explicit images via electronic devices.
THEFT							
Theft 036-UB			X			May be contacted	Restitution will be required. Level 3: Stealing, attempting to steal, or be in possession of someone else's property without permission to do so.

THREATS

Students shall not, through written, electronic or oral communication, threaten to cause, cause or attempt to cause serious bodily harm to principals, assistant principals, teachers, substitute teachers, student teachers, teacher assistants, coaches, advisors, counselors, media specialists, bus drivers or monitors, or other adults or other students at any time while a student is at school in any school building and on any school premises, attending school-sponsored activities, on or about any school-owned or operated vehicle, off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity or function, during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel, or at

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
any time when the student's behavior has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline and protecting the safety and welfare of students and staff. An intentional offer or attempt by force to do injury to the person of another that causes reasonable apprehension of immediate bodily harm resulting in one of the following: (1) substantial risk of death; (2) serious permanent disfigurement; (3) a permanent or protracted condition that causes extreme pain; (5) permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ; or (6) that results in prolonged hospitalization. [1]The term "electronic" means and includes: email, voice mail, text messages, web postings, blogs and any other means of communicating via the internet, computers or hand held electronic devices.							
Bomb Threat 043-RO					X	WILL be contacted	Making bomb threats or engaging in bomb hoaxes.
Communicating Threats 019-UB					X	WILL be contacted	A person who (1) willfully threatens to physically injure an individual or willfully threatens to damage the property of another; (2) the threat is communicated to the other person, orally, in writing, or by any other means; (3) the threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out; and (4) the person threatened believes that the threat will be carried out.
Extortion 023-UB				X		May be contacted with 4th Offense	Level 4: Extorting or attempting to extort through verbal, written, or physical threats, coercion or intimidation anything of value (personal property, money, information, etc.) from any student or school employee.
False Threat of Mass Violence 127-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Communicating by any method to any person or group of people a report, knowing or having reason to believe the report is false, that an act of mass violence is going to occur on school property or at an extracurricular event sponsored by the school.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Threat of Harm to Self or Others 129-UB					X	WILL be contacted	An individual has inflicted or attempted to inflict or threatened to inflict serious bodily harm on another or has acted in such a way as to create a substantial risk of serious bodily harm to another or engaged in extreme destruction of property that threatens others.
Threat of Mass Violence 126-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Communicating by any method a threat to commit an act of mass violence on educational property or at an event sponsored by the school.
Threat of Physical Attack with a Firearm 105-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Threat of assault with a firearm or powerful explosive. The act (1) willfully threatens to physically injure the person or that person's child, sibling, spouse, or dependent or willfully threatens to damage the property of another; (2) the threat is communicated to the other person, orally, in writing, or by any other means; (3) the threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out; and (4) the person threatened believes that the threat will be carried out.
Threat of Physical Attack with a Weapon 106-UB					X	WILL be contacted Weapon confiscated	Threat of assault with a weapon. The act (1) willfully threatens to physically injure the person or that person's child, sibling, spouse, or dependent or willfully threatens to damage the property of another; (2) the threat is communicated to the other person, orally, in writing, or by any other means; (3) the threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out; and (4) the person threatened believes that the threat will be carried out.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Threat of Physical Attack without a Weapon 107-UB					X	WILL be contacted	Threat of an assault without a weapon. An act that (1) willfully threatens to physically injure the person or that person's child, sibling, spouse, or dependent or willfully threatens to damage the property of another; (2) the threat is communicated to the other person, orally, in writing, or by any other means; (3) the threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out; and (4) the person threatened believes that the threat will be carried out.
TRUANCY							
Cutting Class 074-UB		X					Level 2: Failure to report to and remain in their assigned class
Leaving Class without Permission 066-UB			X				Level 3: Leaving a classroom or assigned location without permission of the principal, teacher or supervising adult
Leaving School without Permission 067-UB			X				Level 3: Failure to remain at school unless they have been authorized to leave by parent/guardian AND signing out in the administrative office
Skipping School 075-UB			X				Level 3: Failure to attend school unless authorized by the principal or have an excuse pursuant to state guidelines and local board policy for attendance
Tardy/Excessive Tardiness/Late to Class 064-UB	X	X					**1st Offense** - Warning by the teacher and documentation **2nd Offense** - Warning by the teacher and documentation

Behavior Violation	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**	**School Resource Officer**	**NOTES** (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
See specific consequences for tardiness							**3rd Offense** - Parent/Guardian Notification by Administrator or his/her designee **4th Offense**---Parent/Guardian Notification by Administrator or his/her designee **5th Offense**---School detention during non instructional time (may include before school, after school, or lunch) as determined by school administrators. Referral to MTSS and appropriate school personnel for attendance concerns. (OR MOVE TO LEVEL 2 CONSEQUENCES) Any offense after the 5th will result in additional assignments to detention.
WEAPONS							
Inappropriate Items on Campus (Including "look-alike" weapons) 040-UB				X		Look-alike weapon confiscated	**Level 4:** Students shall not possess any "look-alike" guns, such as plastic gun, toy gun, rubber gun, candy gum, water pistol, etc. and shall not possess poppers, firecrackers, or any other device that mimics a firearm, weapon, explosive, or incendiary device.
Possession of Firearm or Powerful Explosive 009-RO					X	WILL be contacted Weapon confiscated	**Level 5:** Students shall not possess, conceal, or transport any weapon or instrument that could cause or that is intended to cause bodily injury or other harm to another or any firearm to include: handgun, rifle, shotgun, other firearm, or any powerful explosive such as a dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade or mine or other powerful explosive as outlined in G.S. §14-269.2(b) and G.S. §14-269.2(b1) at any time while a student is at school.

Behavior Violation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	School Resource Officer	NOTES (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
Possession of a Weapon (Excluding Firearms and Powerful Explosives) 008-RO				X	X	WILL be contacted Weapon confiscated	Students shall not possess, conceal, or transport any weapon or instrument that could cause or that is intended to cause bodily injury or other harm to another including, but, not limited to, BB gun, stun gun, air rifle, air pistol, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slungshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razors and razor blades (except solely for personal shaving), firework, or any sharp-pointed or edged instrument except instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction, and maintenance, on educational property. **Type and use of weapon will be considered when determining if behavior is Level 4 or Level 5 offense.**
Use of Counterfeit Item (Weapon) 047-UB				X	X	WILL be contacted Look-alike weapon confiscated	Students shall not possess or use any "look-alike" weapons such as a plastic gun, toy gun, rubber gun, candy gun, water pistol, poppers, firecrackers, and other items deemed by the administration to be a threat to the safety and well-being of students and staff. **Type and use of "look-alike" weapon will be considered when determining if behavior is Level 4 or Level 5 offense.**

OTHER VIOLATIONS OF NORTH CAROLINA CRIMINAL STATUTES

Students shall not violate any criminal statute or local ordinance or commit any act which could result in criminal prosecution or juvenile proceedings not previously covered elsewhere in these rules at any time while a student is at school, in any school building and on any school premises, attending school-sponsored activities, on or about any school-owned or operated vehicle, off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity or function, during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel, or at any time

Behavior Violation	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**	**Level 5**	**School Resource Officer**	**NOTES** (Some offenses dictate additional or different consequences than noted in above levels. Any additions or differences, as well as definitions for some offenses, will be noted in this column. List of examples for offenses is not exhaustive)
when the student's behavior has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline and protecting the safety and welfare of students and staff. • Any student who commits a crime of violence, felony or misdemeanor, against another student or a school employee off campus may be suspended or expelled if the student's continued presence in school constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or employees. • Any student who commits a felony on or off campus and whose continued presence in school constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or employees may be suspended or expelled.							
Violations of NC Criminal Statutes					X	WILL be contacted	Examples include Kidnapping, Homicide, Robbery, and other similar violations of the NC Criminal Statutes

Mandatory Reporting to Law Enforcement of Certain Offenses

All Principals must report immediately to law enforcement agencies the following acts:

1. Assault resulting in serious bodily injury or involving the use of a weapon
2. Rape
3. Sexual assault or sexual offense
4. Assault on school personnel
5. False report concerning destructive devices (bomb threat)
6. Kidnapping
7. Indecent liberties with a minor
8. Possession of a firearm or powerful explosive
9. Possession of a weapon
10. Possession of a controlled substance or alcoholic beverage
11. Death
12. Burning of a school building
13. Making a bomb threat or engaging in a bomb hoax

Personal Searches

A search of a student's person and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, etc.) is lawful if there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating a law or a school rule. A search of a student is permissible in scope when measures adopted are

reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction. Parent/guardian permission is not required when there is reasonable suspicion warranting a search, however, school administrators will make a reasonable attempt to notify parents/guardians when a search occurs.

Drug Testing

If a school official, after appropriate investigation, has reasonable grounds to suspect that a student is at school or at a school activity or event under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substance, and the student denies being under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substance, the student will be offered the opportunity for a drug or alcohol test with parent/guardian knowledge and consent. The test will be administered in accordance with applicable regulations adopted by the board for drug and alcohol testing Stokes County School Board Policy 4800. Refusal to submit to testing is considered an automatic "positive" and will subject the student to appropriate disciplinary action.

Search of Person

If a frisk or "pat down" search of a student's person is conducted, it must be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness present, when feasible.

If the school official has reasonable grounds to suspect that the student has on his or her person an item imminently dangerous to the student or to others, a more intrusive search of the student's person may be conducted. Such a search may be conducted only in private by a school official of the same sex, with an adult witness of the same sex present, and only upon the prior approval of the superintendent or his or her designee, unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay which might be caused by following these procedures.

Use of Metal Detectors

A metal detector can be used to search a student's person and/or personal effects whenever a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of a weapon. The search must be conducted by a school official. The search will be conducted in private, when feasible.

A school is authorized to conduct general searches of students and their personal effects with a metal detector and/or weapons detection systems before a student can gain entry to the school campus or any school-sponsored extra-curricular activity. The search must be conducted in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent or his or her designee. Prior to initiating general searches, the school must:

1. Substantiate to the superintendent the need for general searches based upon a pattern or expectation of violence or disruption; and
2. Provide written notice, if feasible, to students and parents/guardians of the school policy governing general searches, but not of specific times or places where searches will be conducted. Any search conducted pursuant to this policy must be conducted by a school official.

Metal detectors and/or weapons detection systems may be used for general admittance to school property during the school day and/or to extra-curricular activities and this handbook serves as notice as to their use on Stokes County Schools property.

Locker Searches

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school. However, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Student lockers may not be used to store illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials. Inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason consistent with board policies or school rules at any time, without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant. A student's personal effects found in a locker, such as backpacks, gym bags or purses, may be searched only pursuant to guidelines for personal searches described above.

Searches of Student Motor Vehicles

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to patrol student parking lots at any time, without notice or consent. The interior of a student's motor vehicle parked on the school premises may be searched if a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal, unauthorized or contraband items are contained inside.

Use of Trained Dogs in Conducting Searches

With the prior approval of the superintendent, school officials may use trained dogs in inspections for illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials in school facilities, grounds and school parking lots. All dogs must be accompanied by a qualified and authorized trainer who will be responsible for the dog's actions and who can verify the dog's reliability and accuracy in sniffing out contraband. Trained dogs may sniff lockers, student motor vehicles and other inanimate objects. Such inspections are not considered searches and do not require notice or consent. Dogs may not be used for random searches of students or other persons.

In-School Suspension

A. **Objectives:**
   1. To serve as an alternative to out-of-school suspension.
   2. To provide a highly structured environment conducive to instruction and learning.
   3. To help each student change inappropriate behavior prior to re-entry into the regular classroom.

B. **Procedure for Admission**:
   1. Only the principal or assistant principal may assign a student to the in-school suspension center.
   2. When a student is assigned to in-school suspension, he is considered present.

C. **Classroom Guidelines:**
   1. Parents will be notified of students being assigned to the in-school suspension program.
   2. Students must bring pencils, paper, notebooks, books and any other necessary materials when they report to in-school suspension.
   3. Students assigned to the in-school suspension program are expected to cooperate with the staff of the in-school suspension program. If a student refuses to cooperate, it will result in

suspension from the in-school suspension program with no re-admittance to that program for the remainder of the school year.

4. Teachers are required to put assignments and any other study aids in the box for in school suspension prior to the beginning of school on the day (s) the student is assigned to the in-school suspension program.
5. The in-school suspension staff will be responsible for collecting completed assignments and returning them to the respective teachers' boxes.
6. Each student will be assigned a desk.
7. Each student is responsible for the cleanliness of his assigned area.
8. Each student must remain quiet in the in-school suspension center as well as on those occasions when he is in the hallways, bathrooms, or cafeteria.
9. Students shall be accompanied to lunch at a time designated by the principal and the principal may direct that the lunches are to be eaten in the in-school suspension center.
10. The in-school suspension staff shall keep a written behavior chart as well as a record of time spent on each assignment

D. Participation in Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

1. Students are not allowed to participate in athletics, clubs, assemblies or other school activities during school hours while assigned to In-School Suspension. Student athletes in In-School Suspension (ISS) for more than one period during a school day will be allowed to practice, but they will not be allowed to participate in their athletic event on the day in which they serve ISS. Student-athletes suspended Out of School (OSS) will not be allowed to practice or play.

Appeals Process

Short-Term Suspensions

The principal has the authority to short-term suspend a student. For the duration of a suspension of 10 days or less, students will have the opportunity to take textbooks home and to inquire about homework assignments. Students suspended for less than 10 days will also have the opportunity to take any quarterly, semester or grading period examinations missed during the suspension period (G.S. 115-c391 (b)). Students and parents/guardians have no right to appeal a short-term suspension except as provided in Stokes County Grievance Procedures.

Long-Term Suspensions

1. Parents/guardians will be notified by registered mail of the principal's recommendation to the superintendent to long-term (11 days or more) suspend the student.
2. Within 3 days following the receipt of the letter, parents/guardians may give written notice to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee of their intention to appeal the principal's recommendation.
3. Upon notification of appeal, the superintendent or his/her designee shall convene a central office appeals committee to hear the appeal, establish a date and time agreeable to the parent/guardian for the appeals hearing, and give notification of the appeals hearing date and time to all parties involved.

4. The appeals hearing committee shall allow the school to present a summary report regarding the nature of the offense(s), provide the results of the school's investigation and outline the penalties the principal has recommended. The student and his/her parents/guardians will have access to all the information shared with the appeals committee and will be provided an opportunity to present evidence and be allowed to call witnesses and ask questions of the school's staff. The school's staff may ask questions of any witnesses called by the parent/guardian or student.
5. The "Rules of Evidence" of the North Carolina Rules on Civil Procedures shall not apply. The hearing committee may admit, consider and give probative weight to any evidence or information that is relevant to the matter at issue and is the kind of information commonly relied upon by reasonably prudent persons in the conduct of serious affairs. The hearing committee may refuse to admit evidence or information that is irrelevant, repetitive or the kind not commonly relied upon when making serious decisions.
6. An audio recording shall be made of the hearing.
7. The central office appeals committee, after hearing all the evidence and witnesses, shall decide whether or not the grounds for the principal's recommendation are true and have been substantiated by the greater weight of the evidence or information presented at the hearing. It will make findings of fact and render one of two decisions: (a) to affirm the decision of the principal or (b) to make a recommendation to the Superintendent for an alternative.
8. If the committee affirms the principal's recommendation, it will be forwarded to the superintendent for approval. The parent/guardian will be notified by letter of the central office appeals committee's findings and superintendent's decision.
9. If the superintendent approves the principal's and appeals committee's recommendation to long-term suspend, the parents/guardians will be notified and advised of their right to appeal the superintendent's decision to the board of education. Parents/guardians shall, within 3 days, give written notice to the superintendent of their intention to appeal the superintendent's recommendation to the Board of Education.
10. The decision of the board of education is subject to judicial review in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.

365-Day Suspension and Expulsion Recommendations

1. Parents/guardians will be notified by certified mail of the principal's recommendation to the superintendent to suspend the student for 365 days or to expel for an indefinite number of days, the student.
2. The due process procedures for a long term suspension set forth above shall apply to the recommended disciplinary action of 365 days or expulsion.
3. The superintendent shall suspend up to 365 days any student who brings a weapon, as defined in G.S. 14-269.2 (b) and (g), on school property. The board may modify the suspension upon recommendation of the superintendent. The board may also elect to provide educational services in an alternative setting. (G.S. 115C-391(d1))
4. The local Board of Education may, upon the recommendation of the principal and superintendent, expel any student 14 years of age or older whose behavior indicates that the student's continued presence in school constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students and employees. (G.S. 115C-391 (d))
5. The superintendent's decision may be appealed to the Board of Education.

6. The decision of the Board of Education is subject to judicial review in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.

Procedures for Appellate Review Hearings by the Board

1. An appeal must be submitted in writing to the superintendent within three (3) days of the receipt of the superintendent's decision. The appeal shall state the reason(s) why the student and/or the student's parents/guardians are appealing the superintendent's decision. Within 10 days of the receipt of an appeal, the Chairperson of the Board shall appoint a hearing panel of not less than three members of the Board to hear the appeal in the name and on behalf of the Board as authorized by N.C.G.S. § 115C-45. The hearing shall be scheduled as soon as practicable but in no event more than 30 days after the receipt of the appeal. The decision of the hearing panel shall be final. There shall not be a right of appeal to the full Board.

2. The appeal shall be based on the record of the hearing before the hearing committee appointed by the superintendent. A copy of the record shall be compiled by the superintendent or school attorney and submitted to the parents/guardians/student and hearing panel in advance of the hearing.

3. The appeals hearing shall be conducted as follows:

   a. The school administrator and the student or the student's parent/guardian each shall be allowed up to 15 minutes to make an oral presentation to the hearing panel.

   b. Members of the panel may ask questions of the school administrator and the student and/or the student's representative.

   c. Both parties may then make brief concluding or rebuttal statements not to exceed five minutes.

   d. The school attorney shall act as legal advisor to the hearing panel.

   e. No new or additional evidence may be presented at the hearing unless a written request is made not less than three days prior to the hearing. The hearing panel, at its discretion, may permit either party to submit new or additional evidence or information at the hearing that was not known or available at the time of the hearing before the hearing committee. Any witnesses presented may be cross-examined by the opposing party and questioned by the hearing panel.

   f. At the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing panel shall determine based on a review of the whole record whether or not there was substantial evidence in the record to support the decisions of the hearing committee and superintendent.

Glossary of Terms and Definitions

For the purpose of the Student Code of Conduct, the following definitions apply:

365-Day Suspension – the exclusion of a student from school attendance for disciplinary purposes for 365 calendar days. GS § 115C-390

Alternative Learning Program - any program designed by the Board to serve those students at risk of truancy, academic failure, behavior problems, and/or dropping out of school

Arson - the intentional burning or attempt to burn any building, structure, or property

Assault - an offer to do physical violence to another without striking, as well as the infliction of blows or any offensive touching, without the consent of the person to whom the offer of violence is made or who receives the blows or offensive touching

Assistant - the paraprofessional employed by the local Board of Education to assist the teacher

"At School" - at any time while at school, in any school building, on school premises, off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activities or function, or during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel maintaining order and discipline and protecting the safety and welfare of students and staff.

Behavior – a behavior observed or reported. The term is often used interchangeably with "act" and "offense".

Board - the Stokes County Board of Education

Classroom - the location over which school officials, primarily teachers, substitute teachers, and teacher assistants have supervisory responsibilities

Consequence – an action taken or a consequence that results due to a behavior that occurred. Actions can range from administrative conferences to the expulsion of a student offender.

Counterfeit Substance - any substance that is described or presented with the intention of deceiving another into believing that it is a substance prohibited under this policy

Distribute - to give, share, or pass a prohibited substance

Duties - the "duties" of a school official, employee, or volunteer include the following: (1) all activities on school property, (2) all activities during a school authorized event or the accompanying of students to or from that event, and (3) all activities relating to the operation of school transportation.

Employee - an "employee" includes (1) one who is employed by a local board of education, (2) one who is employed by a nonpublic school that operates under Part 1 or Part 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, or (3) an independent contractor if the independent contractor or employee of the independent contractor carries out duties customarily performed by employees of the school.

Explosive - a substance that, on ignition by heat, impact, friction, or detonation, undergoes very rapid decomposition. This includes substances such as dynamite, dynamite caps, gun powder, etc.

Expulsion – the indefinite exclusion of a student from school enrollment for disciplinary purposes. Expelled students are prohibited from entering the school or the school grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator), attending any day or night school function, or riding a school vehicle

In-School Suspension (ISS) – when students are reassigned to an area apart from the regular classroom for a relatively short period of time. In-school suspension is the temporary removal of a student from the student's regular classroom(s) for disciplinary purposes for a partial day or more. During this temporary removal of the student, the student remains under the direct supervision of school personnel. Direct supervision in this definition means, "school personnel are physically in the same location as the students under their supervision." With each out-of-school suspension, parents/guardians will be notified of the suspension by phone and in writing.

Local Education Agency (LEA) - Used interchangeably with Public School Unit (PSU). In this guide, refers to school district.

Long-Term Suspension (LTS) – the exclusion of students from school attendance for disciplinary purposes for 11 days or more. (GS § 115C-390.1) A parent/guardian conference with the school administrator shall be held prior to suspension for more than 10 days. The conference, or notification, can be held by phone upon request of the parent/guardian.

Offender – the perpetrator of a behavior or offense.

Offense – a behavior that occurs or is to be reported to have occurred. The term is often used interchangeably with the term "act" and "behavior".

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) - the exclusion of a student from school attendance from the school the student is assigned for disciplinary purposes for half of the student's school day or more. A parent/guardian conference with the school administrator shall be held prior to suspension of a student. The conference, or notification, can be held by phone upon request of the parent/guardian.

Parent/guardian - the natural parent, legal guardian or person serving in loco parentis having charge or control of any child in attendance at a school of the system

Possess - having the power or intent to control a prohibited substance and shall include, but is not necessarily limited to, the possession of a prohibited substance in a student's automobile, locker, book-bag, or desk, or on a student's person

Possess with intent to distribute/sell - intent to distribute or sell may be determined from the amount of the prohibited substance found, the manner in which it was packaged, the presence of packaging materials such as scales, baggies or other containers, or from statements or actions of the student that demonstrate an intent to distribute or sell

Principal - the school principal, assistant principal, or any other school professional to whom the principal may officially delegate his authority

Remainder of the School Year Suspension – the exclusion of student from school attendance for disciplinary purposes for the remainder of the school year if the length of days between the first day of the suspension and the last

day of school is 11 days or more or the suspension is carried over into the next school year and the number of suspension days is 11 days or more. The remainder of the school year suspensions are considered long-term suspensions.

Sell - the exchange of a prohibited substance for money, property, or any other benefit or item of value

School Personnel - school personnel include, but are not limited to, principals, assistant principals, teachers, substitute teachers, student teachers, teacher assistants, coaches, advisors, counselors, media specialists, bus drivers or monitors, volunteers or other adults responsible for providing services in schools.

Short-Term Suspension - any suspension for any period of time up to and including 10 days (See definition of suspension).

SRO - School Resource Officer

Substitute Teacher - any person who is approved according to local policy to take the place of the teacher during his absence.

Superintendent - the Superintendent of the Stokes County Public Schools or his chosen representative.

Suspension – the temporary removal or exclusion of students from their regular classroom or school setting. There are two general classifications of suspensions: In-School Suspensions and Out-of-School Suspensions. With each out-of-school suspension, parents/guardians will be notified of the suspension by phone and in writing. Students who are suspended are prohibited from entering the school, or school grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator), attending any day or night school function or riding a school vehicle.

Teacher - a person under contract or pending contract with the local board of education who is responsible for instruction.

Under the influence - the use of any prohibited substance at any time or place when the prohibited substance would influence a student's mood, behavior, or learning to any degree

Unauthorized Prescription Drug - any drug or medication that has not been prescribed for the student

Use - the consumption, injection, inhalation or absorption of a prohibited substance into a student's body by any means

Volunteer - a "volunteer" is one who volunteers his/her services or presence at any school activity and is under the supervision of an employee. See requirements for Visitors and Volunteers in the Stokes County Schools Handbook.

Warning - to give advance notice of possible consequences for specific behavior.

Stokes County Testing Calendars

Testing Calendar for 2026-2027 School Year

Elementary Schools			
Test	Date	Participating Grade Levels	Intended Mode of Administration
WIDA Screener - Initial and Reclassification	Within 30 calendar days of enrollment	ML/EL Students K - 12	Online K-12
Benchmark (DIBELS) - Beginning of Year	August 20 - September 10, 2026	Elementary	Online
Beginning of Grade 3 (BOG3) Reading Assessment	August 13 - September 2, 2026	Grade 3	Online
Read to Achieve Assessment (Fall)	October 26 - 30, 2026	Reading Retained 4th Graders	Online/Paper
NC Check-In Assessments - Window 1 (Required)	October 19 - October 30, 2026	Grades 3 - 5 Reading, Math, and Science	Online
Benchmark (DIBELS) - Middle of Year	January 8 - 29, 2027	Elementary	Online
Wida ACCESS and Wida Alternate ACCESS	January 11 - March 12, 2027	ML/EL Students K - 12	Online/Paper
NC Check-In Assessments - Window 2 (Required)	February 1 - 12, 2027	Grades 3 - 5 Reading, Math, and Science	Online
Cognitive Abilities Testing	February 16 - 18, 2027	Grade 3	Online
NC Check-In Assessments - Window 3 (Required)	April 4 - April 16, 2027	Grades 3 - 5 Reading, Math, and Science	Online
Benchmark (DIBELS) - End of Year	April 20 - May 11, 2027	Elementary	Online
NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment - Reading, Math, and Science	May 12 - 25, 2027	Grades 3 - 5	Online
End-of-Grade (EOG) Reading/Math/Science	May 12 - 25, 2027	Grades 3 - 5	Online/Paper
Read to Achieve Test	May 12 - 25, 2027	Select Grade 3	Online/Paper

Middle Schools			
Test	Date	Participating Grade Levels	Intended Mode of Administration
WIDA Screener - Initial and Reclassification	Within 30 calendar days of enrollment	ML/EL Students K - 12	Online K-12
NC Check-In Assessments - Window 1 (Required)	October 19 - October 30, 2026	Grades 6 - 8 Reading, Math, and Science	Online
Wida ACCESS and Wida Alternate ACCESS	January 11 - March 12, 2027	ML/EL students K - 12	Online/Paper
NC Check-In Assessments - Window 2 (Required)	February 1 - 12, 2027	Grades 6 - 8 Reading, Math, and Science	Online
NC Check-In Assessments - Window 3 (Required)	April 4 - April 16, 2027	Grades 6 - 8 Reading, Math, and Science	Online
NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment - Reading, Math, and Science	May 12 - 25, 2027	Grades 6 - 8	Online
End-of-Grade (EOG) Reading/Math/Science and End-of-Course (EOC) Math 1	May 12 - 25, 2027	Grades 6 - 8	Online/Paper

UPDATED 7/7/2026

Testing Calendar for 2026-2027 School Year

High Schools			
Test	Date	Participating Grade Levels	Intended Mode of Administration
Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments - Summer	July 20 - 31, 2026	Select Students	Online
WIDA Screener - Initial and Reclassification	Within 30 calendar days of enrollment	ML/EL students K - 12	Online K-12
Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments - Fall	September 15 - 24, 2026	Select Students	Online
PreACT	October 12 - November 20, 2026	Grade 10	Online/Paper
College/Career Readiness Alternate Assessment (CCRAA 10)	October 12 - November 20, 2026	Select Grade 10 Students	Online
NC Check-In Assessments - Fall Semester	September 1 - December 4, 2026	EOC - Biology, English II, Math 1, Math 3	Online
WorkKeys - Fall Window	October 5 - November 13, 2026	Concentrators	Online/Paper
Early College Exams, End-of-Course (EOC), and CTEs ***	December 16 - 22, 2026	Grades 9 - 12	Online
Traditional HS Exams, End-of-Course (EOC), and CTEs ***	December 16 - 22, 2026	Grades 9 - 12	Online/Paper
Wida ACCESS and Wida Alternate ACCESS	January 11 - March 12, 2027	ML/EL students K - 12	Online/Paper
Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 - Spring	March 9 - 18, 2027	Select Students	Online
ACT - College Readiness Assessment - Test Date 1 Paper	February 23, 2027	Grade 11	Paper
ACT - Standard and Accommodations (Online version)	February 23 - 26 & March 1 - 5, 2027	Grade 11	Online
Grade 11 CCRAA/Extend 1	February 23 - 26 & March 1 - 5, 2027	Grade 11	Online/Paper
ACT - College Readiness Assessment - Test Date 2 Paper	March 9, 2027	Grade 11	Paper
ACT - College Readiness Assessment - Test Date 3 Paper	April 6, 2027	Grade 11	Paper
NC Check-In Assessments - Spring Semester	February 1 - May 5, 2027	EOC - Biology, English II, Math 1, Math 3	Online
WorkKeys - Standard and Accommodated Administration - Spring Window	February 22 - April 2, 2027	Concentrators	Online/Paper
Early College Exams, End-of-Course (EOC), and CTEs ***	May 13 - 19, 2027	Grades 9 - 12	Online
NCEXTEND1 Alternate Assessment - English II, Biology, and Math 1	May 12 - 25, 2027	Grade 10	Online
Traditional HS Exams, End-of-Course (EOC), and CTEs ***	May 19 - 25, 2027	Grades 9 - 12	Online/Paper
Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Phase 1 Assessments - Summer	July 19 - 30, 2027	Select Students	Online

UPDATED 7/7/2026

*** EOC Assessments Biology, English II, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3

Guidelines and Information Regarding End-of-Grade and End-of-Course Assessments

The mission of the Stokes County Schools is to promote the academic achievement of all students in Stokes County and to assist parents/guardians and community leaders in understanding and gauging the achievement of the schools against state and national standards. As a measure of achievement, the state has designed assessments to be administered at various grade levels that assist in the collection of the needed data.

Students in grades 3 – 8 are required to take a reading and math assessment (EOG) at the end of the year to help evaluate their attainment of curriculum objectives. Students in grades 5 and 8 are also required to take an assessment in science. Students in learning programs such as the Exceptional Children's Program may be administered an alternative version of a state assessment based on the academic and developmental needs of the student provided they meet the necessary criteria for these assessments. All of these assessments are generally administered within the last 10 days of the school year based on state testing guidelines. North Carolina will continue administering assessments in the areas that are correlated with the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and the North Carolina Essential Standards adopted by the North Carolina State Board of Education.

Students in grades 9 -12 are required to take an End-of-Course assessment for certain specified high school courses. Students that are taking English II, Math 1 and Math 3, and Biology are required to be administered the appropriate state assessment at the end of the semester in which the student was enrolled. As with the elementary and middle school assessments, the high school assessments will also correlate with the NC Standard Course of Study and the North Carolina Essential Standards.

For high school students, the requirement to include the end of course test converted score as 20% of the course grade will remain in effect. The assessment score is converted to a 100 point scale for purposes of generating an exam grade.

After the administration of the EOG or EOC, the school administrator will use all data and classroom documentation to make final placement decisions for the grade or course for the students.

FORMS WILL BE LABELED REQUIRED OR OPTIONAL
COMPLETE FOR EACH CHILD ENROLLED IN STOKES COUNTY SCHOOLS

ALL REQUIRED FORMS ARE DUE TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL
BY SEPTEMBER 8, 2026
****

REQUIRED FORM

Student Handbook Acknowledgment*

*May be completed online through school website

REQUIRED TO BE SIGNED BY BOTH THE PARENT/GUARDIAN AND STUDENT IN GRADES 6-12

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Classroom Teacher (K-5) or Homeroom Teacher (6-12) _____

I have been provided with a paper copy of the Stokes County Schools Student Handbook and/or directed to the Stokes County Schools website to review the document click here to review The Student Handbook. I understand that I am responsible for reading and reviewing the rules and regulations stated therein. If I have a question or concern, I am encouraged to speak with the principal, or designee, of my student's school for clarification.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date_____

Student Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date_____

REQUIRED FORM

2026-2027 Student Emergency/Information Form*

*May be completed online through Infinite Campus Registration

Bus # _____(OR) Car Rider: _____

Basic Demographic

Student ID_____ Last 4 Digits of Social Security # _____ (Office Use Only)

Student's Full Name:_____

Student's Preferred Name: _____First _____ Middle

Gender**:** Male or Female Birth Date: (month/day/year) _____

Student's Phone: (_____) _____-_____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____-_____

Ethnic **(circle only ONE):** Are you Hispanic/Latino **OR** Non-Hispanic?

Country Born In _____

Race **(Circle ALL that Apply):** American Indian/Alaska Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander White

Grade (this year):_____ Homeroom Teacher: _____

Student's Address**:** _____

Student's Physical Address**:** (if above is a PO Box) _____

Student Lives With (**Circle one):** Both Parents Mother Father Guardian

Parent Demographics

Mother/Guardian's Name: _____Date of Birth:_____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip

Home Phone: (_____) _____-_____ Cell Phone:(_____) _____-_____

E-mail Address: _____

Employer's Name: _____ Phone:(____) _____-_____

Educational Level (**please circle**): High School GED Eight or Less Years of School More Than Eight Years(did not finish high school) Some Education After High School Some Education After College Community College Technical College Trade or Business College Four Year College Graduate School

Father/Guardian's Name: _____Date of Birth:_____

Home Phone: (_____) _____-_____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____-_____

Address:_____

Street City State Zip

Employer's Name:_____ Phone: (____) _____-_____

E-Mail Address:_____

Educational Level (**please circle**): High School GED Eight or Less Years of School More Than Eight Years(did not finish high school) Some Education After High School Some Education After College Community College Technical College Trade or Business College Four Year College Graduate School

Student Name: _____

Emergency Contacts

1st Person to contact in case of an **EMERGENCY** (other than parents):

Name: _____Relationship:_____ May Pick up Student? Yes or No

Address of emergency contact:_____

Emergency Contact Phone: (_____) _____-_____ Cell: (_____) _____-_____

2nd Person to contact in case of an EMERGENCY (other than parents):

Name: _____ Relationship:_____ May Pick up Student? Yes or No

Address of emergency contact:_____

Emergency Contact Phone: (_____) _____-_____ Cell:(_____) _____-_____

Medical Information

Family Doctor: _____ **Phone:** (_____) _____-_____

Doctor's Address:_____

Street City State Zip

Hospital Preference: Novant Health/Forsyth Medical Center, WFU Baptist Hospital, Northern Hospital of Surry County or other:_____

STATEMENT: In the event of a serious illness or injury, I request the school to contact me. If the school is unable to reach me, I hereby authorize the school to contact a physician, hospital, or emergency services and follow their instructions.

Please list any allergies, physical limitations, or chronic illnesses your child has: _____

_____

When was the last time your child saw a doctor regarding this health condition: _____

Please list any medications your child takes regularly:

_____

List medications to be taken during the school day: (A completed Stokes County Medication Form is required) _____

Has your child been diagnosed with a concussion by a physician? YES / NO If so, what was the date of the diagnoses :_____ Any recent complications: YES/NO, if so, what are the symptoms:

_____

Family Dentist:_____ Phone: (_____) _____-_____

Please list other brothers/sisters in school: _____

_____

Student Name: _____

Name:_____Grade:_____School:_____
Name:_____Grade:_____School:_____
High School Students Only Student Drivers License/Learner's Permit #:_____

Early Dismissal/Bad Weather Information

On early dismissal or bad weather days, my child needs to do the following: (Please check *ONLY* one)
____Ride regular bus home *OR* ____Ride bus number_____ to Where:_____
____Be picked up at school by: Name_____
____May drive himself/herself home
____As last resort only call: Name:_____ Phone Number: (_____)_____

NOTE: Calls cannot be made until all buses have departed. PLANS SHOULD BE MADE IN ADVANCE. YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE AWARE OF YOUR PLAN AND KNOW WHAT TO DO.

Are there any legal documents (custody) on file regarding your student? (circle one) YES NO

Who ***MAY* pick** up student – Relationship
_____
_____

Last school attended: _____
Address:_____ Phone:(_____)_____

Please list any school sponsored after school activities (band, sports, drama, tutoring, etc) in which your student plans to participate:_____

List any special education needs or classes of your student: _____
Does your student have an IEP or 504 Plan? _____
Are there any legal documents in place regarding your student? _____ If so, please share and discuss with the school data manager.

Any other information about your student you feel the school should be aware of: _____
_____
_____

_____ _____
Signature of Parent/Guardian **Date**
(Reference Handbook *Emergency Information* section of Student Handbook)

REQUIRED FORM

OPT-IN for School/District Communications*

*May be completed online through school website

Completing and SIGNING OF THIS FORM IS REQUIRED

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Classroom Teacher (Pre-K-5) or Homeroom Teacher (6-12) _____

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records (See FERPA section of Student Handbook for complete information). Parents/guardians and eligible students have a right to opt out of the inclusion of information about the student as directory information, photo/image and student work. If you wish to opt out, you must check the box(es) below and return this form no later than September 8, 2026, or ten days following the student's enrollment in the District, whichever is later. This election is good for the remainder of the current school year.

Please select all activities you would like to **opt-in** for the 2026-2027 school year:

_____ I **DO** allow for my student to be **any** school/district communications listed below for non-commercial purposes

OR only as indicated below (Select all that apply):

_____ Photo/image
_____ Student work
_____ Yearbook
_____ Social Media (school and district)
_____ Internal school communication platforms (i.e. Class Dojo, Canvas, Remind, etc.)
_____ Newsletters
_____ Brochures
_____ Award Recognitions, including Board of Education highlights
_____ Individual School Website and County Website
_____ Student contact information to be provided to the US Military for the sole purpose of informing students of potential career opportunities (9th-12th)
_____ Share student information with public universities and private colleges

_____ **I DO NOT** wish for my student to be **any** school/district communications.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____Date_____

Student Signature (6-12): _____Date_____

REQUIRED FORM
Use of Educational Technology*

*May be completed online through school website

Stokes County Schools utilizes a variety of instructional and academic technology resources and assessments. Stokes County Schools provides Internet access and student email accounts for instructional purposes outlined in the Technology Responsible Use Policy, 3225/4312/7320. Parents/guardians have the option to opt-out of their student having access to educational technology. Please select access level for your student below.

☐ I wish for my student to have access to instructional and academic technology resources which includes
- Granting my student access to their assigned school email account. I understand Chromebook fees will be charged for replacements/repairs.
- Assigning my students a chromebook (Grades PK-12)
- Providing my student a Google username/password which is necessary to use the chromebook.
  - Pre-K – 3 can only send/receive emails to/from (@stokes.k12.nc.us) their teachers
- Allowing my student to use the Internet.

☐ I wish for my student to have **LIMITED** access to instructional and academic technology resources which **excludes access to their assigned school email account.** Access will include:
- Assigning my students a chromebook (Grades PK-12). I understand Chromebook fees will be charged for replacements/repairs.
- Providing my student a Google username/password which is necessary to use the chromebook but the student will not have access to email.
- Allowing my student to use the Internet.

☐ I wish for my student to **NOT have access to a student email account or use the internet**. I understand a Chromebook will not be issued to my student and a device will only be provided for in-school use with Online testing and district/school digital instructional resources including curriculum supported platforms.

Damaged Part	Charge for Repair/Replacement*
Display	$45.00
Keyboard	$57.00
Charger	$29.00
Chromebook	$329.00
Case	$30.00

***Pricing can change without notice**

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to your school administrator.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student Printed Name: _____

If applicable:

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

SCS STUDENT/PARENT CHROMEBOOK 1:1 GUIDELINES

OVERVIEW/INTRODUCTION

Stokes County Schools (SCS) is committed to preparing students to be productive workers, responsible citizens, and lifelong learners in a technology-rich world. The One-to-One Mobile Computing program provides equitable access to technology and supports student readiness for college, careers, and life in the 21st century. Following these guidelines is necessary for the success of the program and the safety of students.

SCS also recognizes the growing role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education. Students are expected to use AI responsibly, ethically, and under teacher guidance. AI may support learning, but it must not replace student thinking or work.

DEPLOYMENT

Each school will distribute Chromebooks and explain the check-out process. Before a student is issued a device, the following must be completed:

- Parent/guardian attends a required orientation/meeting.
- Student attends an orientation/training.
- Parent/guardian and student sign the Student/Parent Chromebook Agreement.
- The non-refundable technology fee is paid.
- Students and parents receive guidance on responsible AI use.
    - https://www.stokes.k12.nc.us/page/gen-ai

A parent/guardian must grant permission before a student may receive a device.

TERMS OF DEVICE LOAN

Stokes County Schools will loan a Chromebook and case to students who complete the following:

- Student orientation/training
- Parent/guardian orientation/meeting
- Payment of the $27.00 non-refundable technology fee. This does not include lost or damaged power cords.
- Signed Student/Parent Chromebook Agreement

Legal title to the Chromebook remains with Stokes County Schools. Student possession and use are conditioned on full compliance with district policies and handbook expectations, including:

- 3220 – Technology in the Educational Program
- 3225/4312/7320 – Technology Acceptable Use
- 3226/4205 – Internet Safety
- 3227/7322 – Webpage Development
- SCSS AI Policy 3221
- Other guidelines in the Student/Parent Chromebook Handbook

Violations may result in loss of privilege, disciplinary action, and/or legal action. Device possession ends no later than the last day of the school year unless terminated earlier by the district, such as for withdrawal, expulsion, or transfer.

THEFT

If a device is stolen, the student or parent/guardian must immediately file a police report, notify the

school, and provide a copy of the report.
A $50 deductible will be due in cases of theft. The district may provide model, asset, and serial numbers to law enforcement and local pawn shops to assist in recovery.

DAMAGE OR LOSS

The $27.00 yearly technology fee is not insurance. Each school will cover one accidental repair per school year. This does not include lost or damaged power cords or repeated damage.
The student and/or parent/guardian is responsible for costs not covered by the technology fee, including loss, intentional damage, neglect, and repeated accidental damage.
Repair/Replacement Costs

- Chromebook: $329.00
- Charger: $29.00
- Display: $45.00
- Keyboard w/ TP: $57.00
- Chromebook Case: $30.00

***Students will be issued the same device each year while attending the same school.**

LOSS OF PRIVILEGE

SCS reserves the right to reclaim a Chromebook at any time if a student fails to comply with this agreement.

APPROPRIATION

Failure to return district property on time, or continued use for non-school purposes, may be considered unlawful appropriation of SCS property.

GENERAL CARE OF THE CHROMEBOOK

Students are responsible for the Chromebook issued to them. Any damage or need for repair must be reported promptly to the Media Coordinator or designated technical support person, and students must also notify their teacher(s). Technical support will determine whether the device can be repaired onsite or if a loaner will be issued. Loaner devices are subject to the same rules.
Guidelines:

- Keep and transport the Chromebook in the provided case.
- Close the lid before moving the device.
- Shut down the Chromebook during long periods of inactivity to conserve battery life.
- Do not overload the case or place books, binders, or other items inside it.
- Use the Chromebook on a flat, solid surface to prevent overheating.
- Keep food, drinks, wrappers, stickers, and writing utensils away from the device and case.
- Use extreme care with the screen. Do not pick up the device by the screen or close it with objects on the keyboard.
- Let the battery drain fully once a month. Lower screen brightness to extend battery life.
- Do not attempt repairs, reconfiguration, or tamper with internal components.
- Insert cords, cables, and storage devices carefully to avoid port damage.
- Do not expose the Chromebook to extreme heat, cold, direct sunlight, or UV light for long periods.
- Do not write on, decorate, or place stickers on the Chromebook or case.

- Keep the device away from strong magnetic fields.

CLEANING YOUR CHROMEBOOK

Routine maintenance will be performed by the district technology support team. Students may do basic cleaning as follows:

- Turn off and unplug the device before cleaning.
- Never use liquids directly on the screen or keyboard.
- Clean the screen with a soft, lightly dampened, lint-free cloth or anti-static wipe.
- Wash hands often to reduce buildup on the touchpad.
- Clean the touchpad with a lightly dampened cloth.

GENERAL SECURITY

Never leave a Chromebook unattended or unsecured. During after-school activities, students are still responsible for keeping the device secure. Unsupervised devices may be confiscated, and disciplinary action may follow.

Chromebooks have identifying labels and markings, including asset and serial numbers. These may not be removed, altered, or destroyed.

Students must not enter personal, confidential, or sensitive information into AI tools or other online platforms.

GENERAL USE OF THE CHROMEBOOK

- Students will access work through Canvas or Classroom Dojo.
- Do not delete files or folders you did not create or do not recognize.
- Do not install apps or change device settings.
- Chromebooks are monitored by teachers, administrators, and technology staff.
- Students must provide access to assigned devices and accessories upon request. Devices and stored files may be searched if there is reason to believe policies have been violated.
- Student files will be saved in Google Drive. Personal USB storage devices may also be used for backup.
- **Shut down the Chromebook nightly so updates can be applied.**
- Device use is not permitted on the bus. Chromebooks must remain in their cases.
- Students must bring their Chromebook to school each day fully charged.
- Students who leave devices at home must complete work by alternate means as determined by the teacher.
- Teachers will address repeated failure to bring a Chromebook to class. Intentional damage or misuse may result in office referrals.
- Use care with charging cords to avoid tripping hazards in class.
- Avoid using the device in places where damage or theft is likely, including around sporting activities.
- Chromebooks are not allowed on overnight trips or field trips without written approval from the lead chaperone and parent/guardian.
- Chromebook use is not permitted during lunch while students are eating or drinking. Devices may be used in designated commons areas away from food and drink.
- Chromebook use in ISS will be determined by the principal.

- After 13 unexcused absences in one school year, the student will become a day user. Overnight checkout for assignments will be at the principal's discretion.
- Use of AI tools for assignments must be approved by the teacher.
- Students must disclose when AI tools are used.
- Submitting AI-generated work as original work may be considered academic dishonesty.
    - Stokes County Schools Technology Guidance Documents
        - Parent AI Handout
        - Teacher AI Handout
        - AI Guidance for Students
        - Generative AI Guidance

MONITORING

Google Drive, email, calendar, and chat are not confidential and may be monitored by designated staff to ensure proper use. Gaggle monitors email, Google Drive, and chat. Use of AI tools on district devices may also be monitored and is not private.

School-issued email must be used for school purposes only. Students must follow all email guidelines in SCS Board Policies.

VIRUS PROTECTION

Chromebooks include built-in antivirus protection that updates automatically with the operating system. Do not add or remove virus protection software.

INTERNET ACCESS/FILTERING

As required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, SCS uses a filtering system (Zscaler) on Chromebooks at school and at home. The district cannot guarantee that all inappropriate content will be blocked. Students are responsible for appropriate use of the network and internet. SCS is not responsible for problems experienced while using the network or internet, and all internet use is at the user's own risk.
AI tools may produce inaccurate or inappropriate content. Students are expected to evaluate AI-generated information critically.
SCS does not provide home internet service. Families must arrange their own internet access and wireless capability for home use. Schools may provide information about free Wi-Fi locations in Stokes County.

LOGIN PROCEDURES

Students must log in to Chromebooks using their school-issued Gmail/email account and password at school and at home.
Do not share passwords. Students are responsible for all activity under their login.

COPYRIGHT

Students must comply with federal copyright law. Copyright protects creative works such as text, graphics, art, photographs, music, and software. Copying, downloading, uploading, or distributing protected material without permission may violate the law, even if done unintentionally. AI-generated content must also follow copyright and academic integrity rules, including proper attribution when

required. See Stokes County Policy 3230/7330.

INAPPROPRIATE/UNACCEPTABLE USE

INAPPROPRIATE USE

Includes, but is not limited to:

- Using proxy sites
- Using computers not assigned to you, unless allowed by a teacher for instruction
- Videoing or recording on school property when not assignment-related and teacher-approved
- Emailing or chatting during class when not assignment-related
- Gaming
- Creating or using personal AI accounts on school devices

UNACCEPTABLE USE

Includes, but is not limited to:

- Pornography, real or cartoon. This may be a felony offense and may be referred to authorities.
    - Possession
    - Manufacturing, including using a camera to create pictures or videos
    - Distributing or sharing with others
- Weapon-related files or references with intent to cause harm
- Gang-related files
- Bootleg movies or music
- Logging in with someone else's account
- Cheating
- Using a computer to plan a fight, cause harm, or commit a crime
- Profanity
- Threats or cyberbullying
- Using AI to generate harmful content
- Deepfakes
- Impersonation
- Academic cheating through AI

DISCIPLINE CONSEQUENCES WILL BE AS DIRECTED BY THE STOKES COUNTY SCHOOLS' STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK.

Revised: May 1, 2026

Stokes County Schools One-to-One Mobile Computing Student/Parent Chromebook Agreement*

*May be completed online through school website

- I have read and understand the terms of the Student/Parent Chromebook Agreement and agree to allow my student to participate in the SCS 1:1 Mobile Computing Project.
- I have discussed the Student/Parent Chromebook Handbook and SCS policies with my student and understand that my student will have internet access and may be exposed to risks associated with internet use.
- I understand that my student may have access to Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools and agree that they will use them responsibly, ethically, and according to school guidelines.
- I agree to allow my student to take the school-issued Chromebook home and to use it as an educational tool.
- I grant permission for examples of my student's schoolwork to be published online or through other public media as an extension of classroom studies.
- I grant permission for my student to use internet tools for class discussion, including blogs and wikis.
- I agree to pay the $27 yearly non-refundable insurance/maintenance fee and understand that I may also be responsible for costs related to non-accidental damage, theft, or repeated accidental damage.

Terms of Agreement

I agree to the statements above and understand that the right to use and possess the Chromebook ends on the last calendar day of the current school year unless ended earlier by the school. I also understand that if the property is not returned by the last day of classes, it may be considered stolen.

Print Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

BELOW SECTION - TO BE COMPLETED WHEN STUDENT IS ISSUED A CHROMEBOOK

BELOW SECTION - TO BE COMPLETED WHEN STUDENT IS ISSUED A CHROMEBOOK

SCS Asset ID: _____
(The above is a matching number found on the Chromebook, charger and case.)

Service Tag and/or Serial #: _____

Receipt #: _____ Homeroom: _____

Date: _____ Student Initials: _____

Required Form

Revised: May 1, 2026

MEDICATION USE FORM

IF MEDICATION IS TO BE TAKEN AT SCHOOL

Stokes County Schools attempts to discourage administration of medication in the schools. If medications must be given at school, we must have authorization and specific instructions. The child's physician should complete the top section of this form and sign his/her name for all prescription and non-prescription medications. Each medication form must have the parent/guardian signature at the bottom before the school will administer any medications. This permission form is valid for the current school year only. If your child's medication, dosage, or physician changes during the school year, a new permission form must be completed. **Medication forms for Pre-K Students must be updated every 6 months.**

Name of Child:_____Birthdate: _____

Medication: _____Color: _____
(include trade name and prescription #) (if possible)
Form of Medication: _____ Tablet _____ Ointment _____ Liquid _____ Inhaler _____ Other
Dosage (amount to be given): _____
Relationship to meals: _____
Time to be given: _____
Side Effects (expectable or predictable): _____
Contraindications for Administration: _____
What to do if side effects occur: _____

**Emergency Medications (ex: inhalers, epi-pens, insulin, source of glucose, etc):

_____ Student has been instructed on how to use and has permission to keep with him/her at school and self-administer if able to do so.

_____ Student can self-administer but emergency medication should be kept in the office (or with the homebase teacher).

_____ _____ _____
Physician's Signature Date Telephone Number

*Please use a separate form for each medication

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION

I request and give permission for the school to administer the above medication to my child during school hours. I hereby release the School Board and their agents and employees from any and all liability that may result from the administration of the above medication. I agree to send a medication form properly completed and the medication will be sent to school in an appropriate labeled container.

_____ _____ _____
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date Telephone Number

**Medications sent to school should be brought to the office upon arrival to school. If the student rides the bus, the student should give the medication to the bus driver when he/she gets on the bus. The driver will give the student the medication upon arrival at school. Students should bring the medication to the office immediately.

Students in after-school care will not have access to medications located in the school office.

OPTIONAL FORM*

*Form will be provided for students enrolled in applicable courses

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH and SAFETY EDUCATION

As required by law, in grades 7 through 9, reproductive health and safety education at your student's school will include age appropriate instruction on sexual abstinence until marriage, STDs, the human reproductive system, preventable risks for preterm births in subsequent pregnancies, effective contraceptive methods for preventing pregnancy, and awareness of sexual assault and sexual abuse. The curriculum has been approved by the local Board of Education and follows the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.

The outline for these education sessions includes discussions related to the following issues:

- Definition and purpose of reproduction
- Explanation of body parts involved in reproduction
- Explanation of differences between male and female reproductive systems
- Definition and explanation of menstruation and making menstruation a normal part of life
- Importance of discussing sex and birth control with parents/guardians
- Definition of abstinence and the advantages and benefits of abstaining from sexual intercourse
- Definition and explanation of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)
- Signs and symptoms, treatment options, and Food and Drug Administration approved methods of reducing the risk of contracting STDs, including the Human Papilloma Virus
- Information about local resources for testing and medical care of STDs
- Awareness of sexual assault and sexual abuse, risk reduction and emphasis on developing healthy relationships
- Information about what constitutes sexual assault and sexual abuse, the causes of these behaviors, resources and reporting procedures if students experience either sexual assault or sexual abuse, and common misconceptions and stereotypes about sexual assault and sexual abuse.

By state law and local board policy, parents/guardians wishing to withhold consent for their child to receive instruction in any of these topics in health class must do so in writing to the principal. Additionally, parents/guardians should be aware that they have the right to review objectives and materials prior to their child receiving instruction. If you wish to do so, please contact your child's teacher.

Please do not allow my child to participate in the reproductive health and safety education discussion at their school.

Student's Name: _____ Homeroom Teacher: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date _____

REQUIRED FORM

MILITARY CONNECTED STUDENTS*

REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED FOR ALL STUDENTS

EVEN IF YOU CHECK NO

*May be completed online through Infinite Campus Registration

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Classroom Teacher (K-5) or Homeroom Teacher (6-12) _____

In an effort to ensure that the unique needs of military-connected students are met, Session Law 2014-15 requires the North Carolina State Board of Education/North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to collect information on military-connected students. The goal is to help accommodate these students by providing them with support and consistency when their parents/guardians are deployed, when they are transitioning between schools, and other pivotal times during their academic career.

The Session Law 2014-15 that describes this requirement can be accessed at: http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/House/PDF/H1060v3.pdf .

To ensure compliance with this law please complete the following information:

Is an immediate family (defined as parent, step-parent, sibling, guardian or any other person that would normally live in the same household as the child) member of your child connected to the U.S. Military, including Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves, Retired Military, Disabled Veteran, or a Federal Civil Service Employee?

YES: _____ NO: _____
If YES, please complete the information for each family member:

EXAMPLES AND OPTIONS:
BRANCH: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy
STATUS: Active Duty, National Guard, Reserves, Retired Military, Disabled Veteran, Federal Civil Service)
INSTALLATION: The facility where the service member fulfills their duty role in the military i.e. Fort Bragg, NG Raleigh Armory, Knightdale Reserve Center, etc.
GRADE: Enlisted E-1 through E-9, Officer 0-1 through 0-10, Warrant Officer W-1 through W-5

RELATIONSHIP	BRANCH	STATUS	MILITARY INSTALLATION	GRADE
EXAMPLE: Father	Army	Active Duty	Fort Bragg	E-4

PLEASE COMPLETE A FORM FOR EACH CHILD IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD

REQUIRED for New Enrollees to Stokes County Schools only

Occupational Survey*

*May be completed online through Infinite Campus for New Enrollees

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Catherine Truitt, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*
WWW.DPI.NC.GOV

Occupational Survey

Student Name : _____
Last Name **First Name**

School: _____ **Grade:** _____

The Migrant Education Program, through the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, provides support and instructional services to children and families who have moved in the past three years and who have done agriculture or fishing work. We appreciate your help in determining if your children or relatives qualify to receive services in this program. Please answer the following questions and return the survey to the school.

1. **Have you or someone in your family worked in any of the following areas below in the last three years?**
   No_____ Yes _____ (Select all that apply and continue to question number 2)

2. **Have you or your family moved to another school district or to another city or county in the last three years?**
   No _____ Yes _____

Work in the harvest of fruits and vegetables, tobacco, sweet potatoes, nuts, cotton, or in agricultural farms, ranches, fields, and vineyards ☐	Working in a fruit or vegetable cannery or in a fruit or vegetable packing plant ☐	Working in a dairy ☐	Working in a fishery or on a shrimp or catfish farm ☐

Working in a slaughter house (chicken, cow,or pig) ☐	Working on a poultry or hog farm ☐	Working in a plant nursery or orchard; growing or harvesting trees ☐	Other similar work in agriculture, please explain: _____ _____ _____

3. **How long ago did you arrive to this school district?** _____ **Month** _____ **Year**
4. **Parent(s)' Name(s)**_____
5. **What is your current address?**

   _____
   Address

   _____
   City **State** **Zip Code**

6. **Phone Number(s):** _____

FEDERAL PROGRAM MONITORING & SUPPORT DIVISION
6351 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6351 | 984) 236-2786 | Fax (984) 236-2099
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

"It's My Call"

"It's My Call/ It's Our Call"

Mandatory for Extra-Curricular Activity Participation

Students making the choice to...

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

For further information, see Policy 4800 in the Stokes County Schools Student Code of Conduct

Q: What if I test "positive" and then choose not to participate in the assessment or recommended intervention program?

A: If you do not schedule and attend the assessment or if you choose not to participate in the recommended intervention program, a letter will be sent to the administrator at your school explaining that you have chosen to withdraw from "It's My Call/Our Call." Your test results remain confidential. Consequently, in accordance with Policy 4800, if this is your first offense, you have also chosen not to participate in extra-curricular activities at any school for 365 calendar days. The principal will privately notify your coach or club advisor that you will no longer be a participant. If at any time within that time period you choose to follow through with the recommended assessment and intervention, you may rejoin "It's My Call/Our Call" and return to extracurricular participation.

Q: What if I am attending or have completed the recommended intervention and I test "positive" a second time in a random test?

A: If you test "positive" a second time or if you choose not to participate in a second drug test, you will be withdrawn from "It's My Call/Our Call" by Insight Human Services and will be ineligible to participate in the program for 365 calendar days.

Q: What if I am taking prescription drugs?

A: If selected for a drug test, you will be asked to list the prescription drugs you are taking. If you test "positive" for any of these substances and your prescription and the dosage are confirmed to Insight Human Services by your physician, your test results will be considered "negative."

Updated 05/2021

Need to talk?...

Insight Human Services staff are available to discuss your concerns about substance use and abuse. Call 336-413-4237 to talk with someone by phone or arrange to meet at your school. Your information will always be kept confidential and no student will be penalized for reaching out and asking for help. Remember that your guidance counselors, coaches and other school staff are also available to listen.

STOKES COUNTY SCHOOLS
"IT'S MY CALL/IT'S OUR CALL" PARTICIPANT ENROLLMENT, PERMISSION AND RELEASE FORM

Student Name (Please Print): _____ School _____ Grade_____

Date of Birth: _____ Student ID #: _____

Parents/Guardians Name (s): _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Parent's Work/Cell Phone: _____

We, the undersigned student and parent, have read and understand the "It's My Call/It's Our Call" program brochure and its policies and procedures. We give our consent for the student to participate for **his/her high school career,** and understand that participation includes random selection for urinalysis drug testing. If selected, the student agrees to provide a urine sample for testing. We authorize the release of test results to Insight Human Services and to the student's parent(s). We agree to participate in the recommended intervention program in the event he/she tests "positive." Insight Human Services is authorized to release a student's decision about remaining a program participant to the student's principal (or designee). A student, with parental consent, may revoke this agreement at any time and withdraw from the program by notifying Stokes County Schools in writing. (Disciplinary actions currently in process will not be subject to this revocation.)
A fee of $5.50 will be collected each school year. The fee remains the same regardless of how many extracurricular activities you participate in.

Student's Signature _____ Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

"It's My Call/It's Our Call" is more than Drug Testing...

"WHO DO YOU WANT TO BE?"

"It's My Call" is an opportunity for students to self-evaluate and make a personal commitment. "It's Our Call" allows students participating in extra-curricular activities to **LEAD BY EXAMPLE** and demonstrate responsibility through their choices.

Both programs are important steps towards creating a CARING, ACHIEVING and SAFE school culture.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- A nationally recognized, exemplary random student drug testing program based upon RESPECT for all student participants and their families
- "It's My Call" is open to all high school students.
- Students who participate in extra-curricular activities are required to enroll in "It's Our Call."
- Private and Confidential
- Testing is conducted at school by Insight Human Services.
- Students to be tested are selected at random
- Results are confirmed by a certified laboratory
- If participation is for a grade, you are not required to enroll

Students understand how decisions they make today will affect their future—and they're taking a stand!

(Photos and clip art courtesy of Microsoft Office Online.)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is included in extra-curricular activities?

A: Initially, extra-curricular activities that will be addressed are athletics and those students who wish to drive to school.

Q: Do I sign a pledge card every year and what does it cost?

A: No. You enroll once and you are making a commitment for your entire high school career. The cost is $5.50 per year.

Q: What if I drop out of extra-curricular activities? Am I still enrolled in "It's My Call/Our Call?"

A: Yes, unless you and your parent submit a written request to your school.

Q: How many participants will be drug tested?

A: Up to 10% of all participants will be randomly selected by an independent agency this school year.

Q: How does the drug test work?

A: The test will be a urinalysis, the same type of test used by many employers. Procedures will adhere to strict standards to ensure privacy, respectful treatment, and the accuracy of the results. A NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse) certified lab will analyze the urine sample for a wide array of commonly abused drugs including alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, and other controlled substances.

Q: If I am tested, will I know the results?

A: You and your parent(s) will be notified by letter, usually within 10 school days, if the test is "positive" (substances are detected in the urine).

Q: What happens if my test is "positive?"

A: You and your parent(s) will be given the opportunity to participate in an assessment provided by Insight Human Services. Intervention, ranging from an educational program to intensive treatment, will be discussed with you and your parent(s). No one at your school, including principals and teachers, will be told of the test results.

Q: What is the cost of the intervention services?

A: There will be no cost for the initial assessment and intervention services provided by Insight Human Services for the first offense. If students and families choose alternative services, other than Insight, they must have the alternative services approved by Stokes County Schools Administration and are financially responsible.

Q: What if I cannot provide a urine sample?

A: You will be provided with water to assist with the process. If you cannot provide a urine sample at that time, you (with your parent) will be required to provide a sample on-site at Insight Human Services . If a medical condition prevents you from providing a sample, that condition must be confirmed by your physician.

Q: What if I am selected but choose not to take the drug test?

A: If you choose not to provide a urine sample, the test results will be considered "positive."

(Continued)

Stokes County Schools 2026-2027 Early College Calendar

*Stokes County Schools calendars can also be found on the Stokes County Schools website.

176 Instructional Days

Stokes Early College
2026-2027 School Calendar

Board Approved 1.5.26

JULY 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	🏫	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					16

SEPTEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	CC	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
						21

OCTOBER 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	CC	CC	CC	CC	17
18	CC	20	21	22	Ⓡ	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						18

NOVEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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DECEMBER 2026

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27	28	29	30	31		
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Open House Date
August 5

August

August 3-5.....Required TWD
August 6.....Optional TWD
August 7.....Required TWD
August 10.....First for Students
August 17.....College Classses Begin

September

September 7.....Labor Day Holiday
September 11.....High School Classes Only (College Workday)

October

October 12.....End of 1st 9 weeks (45 Student Days)
October 13..... HS Required TWD & College Workday
October 14-16.....HS Optional TWD & College Workdays
October 19..... High School Classes Only (College Workday)
October 23.....Report Cards

November

November 11.....Veterans Day Holiday
November 25.....HS Annual Leave Day
November 26-27.....Thanksgiving Holidays

December

December 18.....College Classes End
December 22...End of 2nd 9 weeks (43 Student Days)/Early Dismissal
December 23-25..... Christmas Holidays
December 28-31.....Annual Leave Days

January

January 1.....New Year's Holiday
January 4-5.....Optional TWD
January 6.....First Day of Semester for Students
January 8.....Report Cards
January 11.....College Classes Begin
January 18.....Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

February

February 26..... HS Optional TWD & College Workday

March

March 17.....End 3rd 9 weeks (44 Student Days)
March 8-12.....HS Annual Leave Days
March 9-12.....College Workdays
March 25.....Report Cards
March 26.....Good Friday Holiday

April

May

May 7.....College Classes End
May 19.....End of 4th 9 weeks (44)/Last Student Day/Early Dismissal
May 20.....Required TWD
May 21.....Optional TWD
May 24-27.....Optional TWD
May 28.....Memorial Day Holiday (Observed)

Inclement Weather Make Up Days

Please be aware that in the event we miss school, we will use Remote Instructional Days, Teacher Workdays, Annual Vacation Days, Spring Break Days, and add additional days to the end of the School year as needed.

Color/Symbol Key

	Vacation/Annual Leave		Early Dismissal
	Holiday		End of Grading Period
	Optional TWD		Required Staff Development
🏫	First Day of School		College Classes Begin & End
	Instructional Days	CC	No College Classes
Ⓡ	Report Cards		Remote Instructional Day

JANUARY 2027

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						17

FEBRUARY 2027

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28						
						19

MARCH 2027

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7	8	CC	CC	CC	CC	13
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21	22	23	24	Ⓡ	26	27
28	29	30	31			
						17

APRIL 2027

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MAY 2027

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30	31					13

JUNE 2027

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

School Closing Information
www.stokes.k12.nc.us

Calendar Prepared by Assistant Superintendent's Office

Stokes County Schools 2026-2027 Traditional Calendar

*Stokes County Schools calendars can also be found on the Stokes County Schools website.

Traditional Calendar

Stokes County Schools 2026-2027 School Calendar

Board Approved 1.5.26
*Subject to change, pending proposed legislative action.

JULY 2026

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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AUGUST 2026

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30	31					13

SEPTEMBER 2026

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OCTOBER 2026

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NOVEMBER 2026

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DECEMBER 2026

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
						16

August

August 5-6.....Optional TWD
August 7.....Required TWD
August 10-12.....Optional TWD
August 13.....First Day for Students

September

September 7.....Labor Day Holiday

October

October 9.....End of 1st 9 weeks (41 Student Days)
October 12.....Optional TWD
October 13.....Required TWD

November

November 3.....Optional TWD
November 11.....Veteran's Day Holiday
November 25.....Annual Leave Day
November 26-27.....Thanksgiving Holidays

December

December 22.....Early Dismissal
December 22 .....End of 2nd 9 weeks (45 Student Days)
December 23.....Annual Leave Day
December 24, 25 & 28.....Christmas Holidays
December 29 -31.....Annual Leave Days

January

January 1.....New Year's Day Holiday
January 4-5.....Optional TWD
January 18.....Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

February

February 15.....Optional TWD

March

March 5.....End of 3rd 9 weeks (41 Student Days)
March 8.....Required TWD
March 26.....Good Friday Holiday
March 29-31.....Annual Leave Days

April

April 1-2.....Annual Leave Days
April 23.....Optional TWD

May

May 25.....Early Dismissal/Last Day for Students
May 25.....End of 4th 9 weeks (49 Student Days)
May 26 -28.....Optional TWD
May 31.....Memorial Day Holiday

June

June 1.....Optional TWD

Inclement Weather Make Up Days

Please be aware that in the event we miss school, we will use Remote Instructional Days, Teacher Workdays, Annual Vacation Days, Spring Break Days, and add additional days to the end of the School year as needed.

Color/Symbol Key

	Vacation/Annual Leave		Early Dismissal
	Holiday		First Day of School
	Optional TWD		Required Staff Development
	Instructional Days		End of Grading Period
	Remote Instructional Days		

This calendar was approved on 1.5.26. It is subject to change pending proposed legislative action.

JANUARY 2027

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31						17

FEBRUARY 2027

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MARCH 2027

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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APRIL 2027

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25	26	27	28	29	30	
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MAY 2027

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					17

JUNE 2027

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

School Closing Information
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Calendar Prepared by Assistant Superintendent's Office