



**Superintendent of Education
Stephen Handley, Ed.D.**

Hinds County School Board
Ivan Smith – President, District 2
Carolyn Jacobs – District 1
Ivan Smith – District 2
Linda Laws– District 3
Angel Skinner – District 4
Dorothy Hicks – District 5

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to another school year in the Hinds County School District. I know that this will be a good year for you and your children. Our faculty and staff are dedicated to providing a quality education and a safe learning environment for every one of our students.

We ask for your support in helping your child understand the importance of regular attendance at school and consistent academic progress and of the need for proper student conduct at all times. In addition, we encourage you to communicate with your child's teachers on a regular basis. Our belief is that parents and schools, working together, will result in student success.

You may also wish to visit the district web page at www.hinds.k12.ms.us. We continue to expand the contents of this information source so that you can find the answers to the most commonly asked questions.

While no single handbook can ever cover every possible situation or question that may arise during your child's school year, we have attempted to provide you with a thorough handbook that should address most of your questions and concerns. In those areas that are not discussed specifically, you can be assured that your child's principal, the Board of Education, and I will work diligently to handle any question or concern you may have in a fair manner. If explanation of any of these policies or procedures is needed, please contact your child's principal. Also, please go over the rules with your child. We look forward to serving you again this year.

We look forward to serving you again this year.

Sincerely,

Stephen Handley
Superintendent

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ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORY

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Ivan Smith President, District 2
Mrs. Carolyn Jacobs District 1
Mrs. Linda Laws District 3
Mrs. Angel Skinner District 4
Mrs. Dorothy Hicks District 5

Dr. Stephen Handley, Superintendent

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS AND SUPPORT STAFF

Dr. Delesicia Martin Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Earl Burke Director of Operations & Business Affairs
Dr. Jocelyn Whipps Director of Exceptional Services
Mrs. Charletta Dill Innovative Projects Coordinator
Ms. Cindy Gipson Administrator of Teacher Quality
Mrs. Tara Crechale Teacher Quality Team Member
Mrs. Lisa Jones Technology Coordinator
Mrs. Burbette Taylor State and Federal Programs Coordinator
Mr. John Neal Director of Community Relations
Mrs. Christell Hicks Director of Child Nutrition
Durham Transportation Services Office: 601.857.5562
Mr. Fred Scott Maintenance Supervisor

Hinds County School District Administrative Office

13192 Highway 18

Raymond, MS 39154

Phone: 601.857.5222

Fax: 601.857.8548

www.hinds.k12.ms.us

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Schools/Grades/Principals/Assistant Principals	Phone (601)	Address/Web Page	Cafeteria
Bolton-Edwards Elementary/Middle School (K-8) Ms. LaShurn Taylor, Principal Mr. Glenn Kane, Assistant Principal	(Elementary) Phone: 866.2522 Fax: 866.2524 (Middle) Phone: 866.2163	9700 I-20 Bolton, MS 39041	866.4314
Byram Middle School (6-8) Mr. David Campbell, Principal Mr. Otha Belcher, Assistant Principal Dr. Laquanta Nelson, Assistant Principal	Phone: 372.4597 Fax: 346.2383	2009 Byram Bulldog Blvd. Terry, MS 39170 www.byrammiddleschool.com	373.7943
Carver Middle School (6-8) Dr. Bill Hardin, Principal Mr. DeSean Dyson, Assistant Principal	Phone: 857.5006 Fax: 857.4935	560 Port Gibson Street Raymond, MS 39272	857.8192
Gary Road Elementary School (K-2) Mrs. Cindy Martin, Principal Mrs. Gwendette McField, Assistant Principal Mrs. Lekeisha Sutton, Assistant Principal	Phone: 373.1319 Fax: 346.4165	7241 Gary Road Byram, MS 39272	373.3003
Gary Road Intermediate School (3-5) Mr. Chad Shealy, Principal Mrs. Roxie Baker, Assistant Principal Mrs. Kimberly Bishop, Assistant Principal	Phone: 372.8150 Fax: 372.5028	7255 Gary Road Byram, MS 39272	372.1065
Main Street RESTART Center Mrs. Kimberly Davenport, Principal	Phone: 866.2642 Fax: 866.4414	130 Champion Hill Road Bolton, MS 39041	
Hinds County Career Technical Center Ms. Patricia Ashmore, Director	Phone: 857.5536 Fax: 857.2212	14020 Highway 18 Raymond, MS 39154	
Raymond Elementary School (K-5) Mrs. Amanda Cook, Principal Mrs. Lisa Moore, Assistant Principal	Phone: 857.0213 Fax: 857.4156	417 Palestine Road Raymond, MS 39154 www.raymondelementary.com	857.5570
Raymond High School (9-12) Mrs. Shakinna Patterson, Principal Mrs. Daffonie Moore Assistant Principal	Phone: 857.8016 Fax: 857.2007	14050 Highway 18 Raymond, MS 39154 www.raymondhighschool.org/	857.8865
Terry High School (9-12) Dr. William Sellers, Principal Dr. Kerry Gray, Assistant Principal Ms. Amanda Taylor, Assistant Principal Mr. Gary Tabor, Assistant Principal	Phone: 878.5905 Fax: 878.2782	235 W. Beasley Street Terry, MS 39170 www.terryhs.com/	878.2369
Utica Elementary/Middle School (K-8) Mr. David Adams, Principal Mrs. Amanda Allen, Assistant Principal	(Elementary) Phone: 885.8765 Fax: 885.2083 (Middle) Phone: 885.2058	260 Highway 18 & 27 Utica, MS 39175	885.6095

DISTRICT MISSION

**The mission of the Hinds County School District is
for every student to experience success everyday.**

DISTRICT VISION STATEMENT

The Hinds County School District envisions its schools as learning environments that...

PROVIDE the safest possible learning environment;

TEACH so that every student masters the fundamentals;

CHALLENGE students to reach their potential;

ENSURE a broad range of experiences for students;

BUILD a strong partnership between school, home and community;

PREPARE students to live productive lives as informed, responsible citizens.

DISTRICT GOALS

Goal 1: Expand content knowledge

Goal 2: Enhance delivery of instruction

Goal 3: Explore and incorporate resources

Goal 4: Ensure individual professional growth

PROJECTED OUTCOMES

Outcome 1: Academic Growth as evidenced through state assessments

Outcome 2: Increased Average Daily Attendance

Outcome 3: Decreased Discipline Referrals

Outcome 4: Decreased Retention Rate

Outcome 5: Decreased Drop-out Rate

Outcome 6: Increased Graduation Rate

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS

MS Compulsory Attendance Law

The Mississippi State Code of 1972, Section 97-5-39 states that any parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child who refuses or willfully fails to perform any of the duties imposed upon him or her under the Mississippi Compulsory Attendance Law shall be guilty of contributing to the neglect of a child and shall be subject to punishment. Compulsory-school-age in Mississippi describes any child who is (6) years old on or before September 1 of the calendar year and who has not reached the age of seventeen (17) years on or before September 1 of the calendar year.

When a parent enrolls a child in kindergarten, the child is subject to the regular compulsory school attendance laws. Hinds County School District has the authority to retain children in kindergarten for an additional year if the district deems that placement of the student in the first grade would not be the most appropriate educational placement of the child.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Documents Required for Enrollment

The following items are necessary for enrollment: birth certificate; immunization certificate; previous school withdrawal and discipline records; social security number; and residency documentation. Some of these items are discussed in greater detail below.

Birth Certificates (Board Policy JBC)

All preschool pupils, first-grade pupils, and pupils new to the Hinds County School District shall submit a certified birth certificate ([Long Form Version](#)) upon enrollment. The principal may allow pupils to attend school for a period not to exceed sixty days before the birth certificate is presented if proof of application is submitted. The district may revoke the admission of or suspend students in Grades 2 through 12 who are not in compliance thirty days from the date of enrollment.

Application for a birth certificate may be made to the Division of Public Health Statistics, State Board of Health in the Felix J. Underwood Building, 2423 North State Street (by the Veterans Stadium Parking lot), Room 110 (phone: 601.576.7981). A \$12 fee is required for a certified copy. In the event that it is impossible to obtain a birth certificate, your principal can provide you with alternate approved evidence of birth as provided by the state law effective July 1, 2002.

Age Requirements (Board Policy JBB)

Students must be five (5) years old on or before September 1 to enter kindergarten and six (6) years old on or before September 1 to register for first grade.

Immunization Compliance (Board Policy JBC)

Students enrolling in the Hinds County School District must present a Mississippi Certificate of Compliance regarding vaccinations. Students enrolling for the first time or enrolling by transfer from an out-of-state school must present the certificate at the time of enrollment. Students enrolling by transfer from a school within the State of Mississippi may be temporarily enrolled for a period not to exceed 60 days until the cumulative folder is received. If the certificate is not received with the cumulative folder or if the folder is not received within 60 days, the parent must obtain and present a certificate within 90 days of the student's initial enrollment. No student will be allowed to enroll permanently without a valid immunization certificate. Valid certificates include: Form 121 (Certificate of Compliance); Form 121-A (Medical Exemption

Certificate); and Form 121-T (Temporary Compliance Certificate). The Temporary Compliance Certificate is not valid after the date shown. The Hinds County Health Department may be contacted at 601.364.2666 or 601.924.6012.

Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccination will be required for ALL students entering the 7th grade. In order to enter school, all students entering the seventh grade must have documentation from a physician verifying that they have received a recent Tdap vaccination (at age seven or later). This includes new students, current students and transfer students in both public and private schools.

School Records

Parents and guardians must provide the appropriate withdrawal records from the last school their child attended. These records shall include both their academic information (to include grades at the time of withdrawal) and disciplinary records.

Entry Records

1. When a new student enrolls in school, the parent must provide the discipline record as well as the withdrawal form with grades from the last school attended. The previous school may fax these records to the school office.
2. If a parent can/will not provide a discipline record, or the discipline record meets certain guidelines, the child may be assigned to the Main Street RESTART Center by Central Office administration for observation.
3. If the discipline record is provided and it contains level 4, 5, or 6 offenses from the district's Code of Conduct or any ten-day suspensions, the student will be assigned to Main Street RESTART Center for a transition period to be assured that the behavior exhibited at the last school is under control.
4. If the student has been in drug or alcohol treatment, a mental health facility, a correctional setting such as a detention center, a training school, military school, a private camp or ranch, he or she will enroll at the RESTART Center for a transition period and for observation to ensure that the student is in a small class so that he or she can transition more effectively to the regular school setting.
5. If the student's record is clear of level 4, 5, or 6 offenses and no ten day suspensions and is not coming from a treatment program or a disciplinary setting such as listed above, he or she may enroll at the school if the family meets the normal residency requirements.
6. The length of a student's stay at the RESTART Center will be determined by the student's behavior while there. If a student continues to display the inappropriate behavior that was exhibited at the last school or setting, a decision will be made in our district to determine whether or not the student will remain at the RESTART Center for a set period of time.

Social Security Numbers (Board Policy JBC)

All students are asked to present their original social security card when enrolling in the Hinds County School District. Disclosure of the student's social security number is voluntary, and failure to disclose the requested information will have no adverse effect on the student. If no social security number is made available, the student's assigned Mississippi Student Information System (MSIS) number will be used to identify and track the student.

Parent/Legal Guardian Communications

School personnel are able to discuss a student's enrollment, disciplinary record or academic status only with a parent or legal guardian. In unusual guardianship situations, the parent or legal guardian shall provide the school a copy of any valid court documentation regarding restricted rights of certain individuals.

Verification of Residence (Board Policy JBC)

The Mississippi State Board of Education passed a Verification of Residence policy on April 20, 1990. This policy requires that all public school districts in Mississippi verify the residency of students attending the district. School personnel may make calls or home visits to confirm residency.

Parents, legal guardians, or custodial adults seeking to enroll students in the Hinds County School District for the first time must provide documentation verifying that the student resides in the school district. However, transfer requests from other districts or within the district from one school to another must be completed on an annual basis prior to July 1st. Additionally, verification of residency is required in grades K, 3, 6, and 9. Students who are repeating these grades are still required to provide proof of residency as outlined above.

Upon enrollment, any parent seeking to enroll a student must verify full-time residency by submitting filed Homestead Exemption for the current year, mortgage payment documentation, property deed of trust for the family's residence, or an apartment/home lease **AND** a current utility bill. If the parent is unable to provide the items listed above, the parent must provide **THREE** pieces of business or government correspondence (dated within the last 30 days). HCSD does not accept affidavits, drivers' licenses/Mississippi state identification cards, or voter registration cards as proof of residence.

If an individual other than the mother or father listed on the birth certificate attempts to enroll a child, a copy of the filed petition for guardianship if pending and final decree when granted will be required. (No legal guardianship for educational purposes are allowed.)

Students who change schools during the school year due to a change of address must present proof of residency before they can be enrolled in their new school zone. If a change of address or home telephone number occurs at any time during the school year, the parent should report such change immediately to the school and provide the appropriate residency documentation.

Enrollment of Suspended/Expelled Students (MS Code Ann. § 37-15-13)

When any student applies for admission to or enrollment in any public school, the parent, guardian, or student must indicate on the school registration form if the student has been expelled from any public or private school or is currently a party to an expulsion proceeding.

If the cumulative record or application for admission or enrollment shows that the student has been expelled, the school district will deny the student admission until the superintendent or his/her designee has reviewed the cumulative record and determined that the student has participated in successful rehabilitative efforts including, but not limited to, progress in an RESTART Center or similar program.

If the student is a party to an expulsion proceeding, these proceedings must be completed. If the expulsion proceedings result in the expulsion of the student, HCSD will deny the student's admission to school.

If the student was expelled or is a party to an expulsion proceeding for an act that involves violence, weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, or any other felonious activity that may result in expulsion, the school district shall not grant admission or enrollment to the student before one (1) year after the date of the expulsion. Miss. Code § 37-15-9. Failure to reveal expulsion/expulsion hearings will result in revoking admission.

The school board has the authority and power to designate or assign the particular school or attendance center of the school district in which the student should be enrolled and attend.

Late Enrollees (Board Policy JBC)

Once school has begun, students who enroll in the Hinds County School District must provide documentation of school attendance prior to that date in accordance with the Mississippi compulsory attendance laws. If a parent cannot verify the attendance of his/her child in a recognized school program, the child will be counted absent for each day from the beginning of school in Hinds County School District until the student's enrollment. Each absence will count as an unexcused absence, and the student will be subject to the provision of the attendance policy as outlined in the handbook. In the event of extraordinary circumstances such as a student's moving into the district from out of state, the superintendent or his/her designated representative may excuse these absences as an exception to the policy. However, all work must be made up during the time frame outlined in the "Attendance Information" portion of this handbook.

Transfers (Board Policies JBCCA, JBCD, JBCD-F, JBAB)

Assignment of Pupils

The district recognizes transfers for a variety of situations outlined below. All transfers are contingent upon space being available at the requested school and the student's demonstrating appropriate discipline and attendance. The district provides general attendance zone maps and descriptions on the district web site. Exact addresses may need to be verified using the Hinds County Tax Assessor's records or the attendance zone legal descriptions. If a student enrolls in the HCSD and was administratively transferred from one grade to the next in the prior school without spending a full year in the grade from which he or she was transferred, the student will be placed back in the grade to spend an entire year at that grade level.

In District Transfers

Normally, students must attend the school in the attendance zone in which the parents/guardians are actually residing. Full-time employees of the Hinds County School District have the privilege of enrolling their children in any school within the attendance zone in which the employee currently works. Full-time employees of Hinds Community College (HCC), Raymond Campus, have the privilege of enrolling their children in the Raymond area schools. Utica campus employees have the privilege of enrolling their children in the Utica area schools. However, full-time employees must make application for such transfers on a yearly basis. A Request for Student Transfer (Form JBCD-F) must be received in the superintendent's office no later than two weeks prior to school opening. New hires during the school year, must apply for an out-of-district transfer within two weeks of reporting to work. Transportation for all such students shall be the responsibility of the parent. Full-time employees are defined as those actively participating in and contributing to the Mississippi Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and fulltime Durham employees hired prior to July 1, 2006.

Majority to Minority Transfers

Any student attending a district school in which his/her race is in the majority, may, where space is available, transfer to another school in the district where his/her race is the minority. (*United States of America vs. Hinds County Board of Education, et al*)

A Request for Student Transfer (Form JBCD-F) must be received in the superintendent's office no later than two weeks prior to school opening. These transfers must be renewed on a yearly basis. Transportation for such students shall be the responsibility of the parent. Any transfer student who rides a district bus will automatically forfeit his/her transfer. Student who are habitually tardy, absent or discipline problems will be denied such transfers.

Hinds County Agricultural High School Transfers

Students who reside in Hinds County and who enroll initially at Hinds County Agricultural High School (HCAHS) have the privilege of transferring to the Hinds County School District high school in their attendance zone. If, however, a student transfers from HCAHS to Raymond High School or Terry High

School and withdraws to return to HCAHS, that student may not be readmitted to a Hinds County School District high school during the course of an academic year.

Students who enroll initially in a Hinds County School District high school and who transfer to Hinds County Agricultural High School may not be readmitted to Raymond High School or Terry High School during the course of an academic year.

IDEA

IDEA transfers are granted due to a lack of an IDEA program in the student's home school. The transfer is granted to the school nearest the student's home. The transfer is valid as long as the student is enrolled in the IDEA Program at that school or until an IDEA program is available at the home school. These students are assigned through the Exceptional Services Office in accordance with their IEPs and are transported in accordance with district policies.

Assignment of Grades for Transfer Students

1. When a student transfers from another school system that does not use a numerical grading scale, grades earned at the previous school will be converted to the numerical values of this district and entered into the classroom record book with a transfer notation. Weighted grades will only be issued for those courses that Hinds County School District gives weighted credit as outlined in the Secondary Curriculum Guide. For schools using a 100-point numerical scale, no conversions will be made regardless of the previous district's grading scale. If the previous school does not send grades for a student, the student's grades will be calculated based upon the work he or she completes while in the district in accordance with all other district policies. If the school system's conversion scale is not included, the following scale shall be used:
 - A – 95
 - B - 85
 - C - 77
 - D - 70
 - F - 60
2. These numerical values are to be added to those earned in the district and the composite grade will be used to compute the final grade.

Transfers from Home Schooling or Non-accredited Institutions (Board Policy JBAB)

The Hinds County School District's Board of Education affirms the rights of parents/guardians to educate their children as they choose. Board Policy JBAB provides the procedure for testing home-schooled and/or transfer students from non-accredited institutions. These policies are applicable only to students who are eligible, by residence or other Board-approved requirements, to attend schools in the Hinds County School District. This policy pertains to all students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

If the student is transferring into grades 9-12 from home schooling or a non-accredited institution and requests that Carnegie units be awarded, then the student will be required to take each term examination in the subject(s) and/or standardized subject area tests for which the Carnegie units are requested. The Carnegie unit will be awarded a maximum grade of 80. No letter grades and/or number grades will be given for these courses under these conditions or for any courses completed in home schools or private schools that are not accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or the state accrediting agency in the state where the student completed the school work.

The principal shall make arrangements for the administration of the test or tests to home school or non-accredited school transfer pupils. Such test or tests shall be administered within a reasonable time period as determined by the principal after the filing of each such application for transfer or enrollment. The applicant will receive no less than five days notice prior to the date of administration. Tests are only available in core academic subjects: English, mathematics, science, and social studies. On the high school level,

documentation of successful completion of a formal program of instruction is required in order to test for course credit.

The Hinds County School District retains the absolute right of placement for all students at the appropriate grade level and in the appropriate class. The parent(s), a counselor, the student (when relevant), a building administrator, and, if required, a central office administrator will meet to consider appropriate placement.

The Hinds County School District will honor the grades and promotion status that are indicated on a student's transcript. High school grade classification will be based upon current HCSD policy. Parents should make every reasonable effort to withdraw their child properly from their previous school in order to avoid needless delays in transferring records to the gaining school.

In order to graduate, a student from a home schooled or non-accredited private school must have the required number of Carnegie units as specified by the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards* and the Hinds County School District policy, must have met academic end-of-year course test requirements, and must have been enrolled for at least the full senior year. Carnegie units will be awarded only for courses that are approved by the Mississippi Department of Education in the publication *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi*. In determining class ranking at graduation, only those courses having numerical grades are to be considered. No student with credits earned through home schooling or through a non-accredited institution shall be eligible for designation as valedictorian or salutatorian.

School officials are required by law to report students who are withdrawn for home schooling to the School Attendance Office. The Attendance Officer will contact the student's parent/guardian to ascertain that a home schooling program is in place.

Enrolling in Home School (MS Code Ann. § 37-13-91, 3c)

Parents and guardians have the right to home school their child(ren). State law requires that parents and guardians register their intent to home school their child(ren) with the attendance officer. If you have any questions regarding this process, please call the district attendance officer with the Mississippi Department of Education's Office of Compulsory School Attendance Enforcement at 601.366.3699.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

The Hinds County Board of Education believes that regular school attendance is crucial for students to obtain maximum benefits from school. The *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards* specifies that the awarding of Carnegie units in grades 8-12 is based on a specific number of hours of instruction and the number of hours that students are engaged in this instruction. It is the philosophy of the Board of Education, administrators, and faculty of the Hinds County School District that educational needs of students are best met when they are present for instruction in the classroom. The following summary of attendance regulations will apply in the Hinds County School District.

- a. Maximum Unexcused Absences. Students are allowed 10 unexcused absences a year. (Students are allowed 5 unexcused absences in a one-semester course that carries Carnegie Unit credit.) These absences are intended for sickness when a doctor's visit is not necessary, family trips/vacations, family emergencies, attendance at non-school functions, etc. The only days that do not count in this total are outlined in Section 1, Excused Absences, Tardies, and Early Dismissals, below.
- b. Tardies. Three unexcused tardies and/or three unexcused early dismissals will count as an unexcused absence in the class. Tardies are also a Class I behavior which will be dealt with in accordance with the Code of Conduct.
- c. Late Enrollees. When students are late in enrolling and have not attended another school, they will be reported to the Attendance Officer for lack of compliance with the compulsory attendance law. Once students enroll they will be allowed one week to make up any required assigned work. The counselor will

give this information to the student at the time of enrollment and to each of the student's teachers. Failure to prepare this work on time will result in a "0" for each assignment not completed. All days that a student is absent or off roll prior to registration and throughout the school year will be counted as unexcused absences.

- d. Perfect Attendance. Perfect Attendance is defined as being present for 100% of the time that school is in session while the student is enrolled in the district. This policy means that any tardy, absence or early dismissal makes a student ineligible for this recognition. School related absences for official school sponsored activities will not count as an absence.
- e. Reports to the School Attendance/Truancy Officer. In accordance with state legislation, any student who has five (5) unexcused absences will be reported to the Hinds County Attendance / Truancy Officer. These five absences are not required to be consecutive. This legislation does require that out-of-school suspension days be reported to the Hinds County Attendance/Truancy Officer. Schools shall report students to the attendance officer within 2 school days or 5 calendar days, whichever is less, upon reaching the fifth unexcused absence.
- f. Kindergarten Students. Once a parent enrolls a child in kindergarten, the child is subject to the regular compulsory school attendance laws.
- g. Exceptions to Policy. The superintendent or his/her designee has discretionary power to make exceptions to this policy as deemed appropriate in extraordinary individual circumstances. As a minimum, the parent must make a written request stating the reasons why the exception should be considered.

Excused Absences, Tardies, or Early Dismissals

While parent notes and contacts about absences are appreciated, **THEY DO NOT EXCUSE AN ABSENCE.** Excused absences/tardies/dismissals shall include:

1. Personal illnesses, injury, or isolation ordered by county health officer (Doctor's excuse required). Doctor's excuses/legal excuses must include an original signature and be brought in **within forty-eight (48) hours** upon return to school from the absence. No internet-based physician excuses are accepted. School personnel may verify the validity of an excuse with the indicated physician. The excuse must include the specific dates the child was seen and the expected duration of the illness. Blanket excuses for extended absences over ten days are not allowed.
2. Special circumstances, such as a court summons, or other legal situation that is governed by the Code of Conduct; or
3. Any condition sufficient to warrant nonattendance as demonstrated to the satisfaction of the superintendent or his or her designee.

Early Dismissals

Due to safety precautions for students, no student dismissals will be allowed during the last 30 minutes of the school day. Three unexcused early dismissals will count as an unexcused absence in the class. Additionally, students will not be dismissed during a district or state testing period in order to avoid distractions and potential test security violations. These testing dates are listed on the district web calendar at www.hinds.k12.ms.us and will include nine weeks tests, semester exams, and all state mandated tests.

Allowable Credit for Excused Absences

Excused absences, tardies, or dismissals will allow 100 percent credit for work required by the teacher, provided that work is requested by the student and/or parent, completed and submitted within a time period that is directly proportional to the days the student missed (for example, if two days are missed, two days are allowed to make arrangements with the teacher to submit the work). Teachers may make exceptions and extend deadlines as circumstances dictate with the approval of the building principal.

Absences and Extra-Curricular Activities

Students must be present 60% of a day in order to participate in any extra-curricular activities that day.

Make Up Work (All Schools)

1. Any scheduled test or work assigned prior to any absence must be submitted or completed on the day the student returns to school.
2. It is the student's responsibility to obtain make-up work upon returning to school.
3. When an unexcused absence, unexcused tardy, unexcused dismissal, or suspension causes a student to miss class time, that student shall be given the opportunity to make up work required by the teacher and may earn credit within the limitations of this policy.
4. Make-up work must be completed within a time period that is directly proportional to the days the student missed (for example, if two days are missed, two days are allowed to make arrangements with the teacher to submit the work); otherwise, no credit shall be given.
5. A student who is expelled shall not be permitted to make up missed work. However, enrollment at Main Street RESTART Center will allow students to continue schoolwork within the limitations of that program.
6. Students who miss any nine weeks tests or semester exams will be limited to a maximum of sixty-five (65%-D) on the tests unless a doctor's or legal excuse is provided.
7. Students will be limited to a maximum of sixty-five percent (65%-D) credit for any assignment, work, test, or exam missed due to suspension.
8. Students may not take a nine weeks test or semester exam early in order to go on vacation.
9. Doctor's excuses/legal excuses must include an original signature and be brought in within forty-eight (48) hours upon return to school from the absence.

Make Up Work (High Schools)

Once a student exceeds the maximum days for unexcused absences (10 for a full year course and 5 for a semester course), the student will not be allowed to make up any work missed during an unexcused absence. Students will receive a 0 for all tests, homework, class grades, etc. missed during that unexcused absence.

Make Up Work (Elementary and Middle Schools)

Sixty-five (65%-D) is the highest possible grade for each make-up assignment/test that a student can earn once the maximum 10 days for unexcused absences are exceeded.

Withdrawal Information

Students who change schools due to a change of address or by legal transfer must first withdraw from the old school. All textbooks and library books shall be returned before withdrawal can be completed.

EMERGENCIES/ILLNESS

Illness/Injuries (Board Policies JGCD, JGCD-F2)

A student who is injured or becomes ill during the school day will be sent or assisted to the principal's office and the parent/guardian will be notified. Students must notify their teacher or principal immediately after they are injured at any school activity.

Pick up of Sick Children

When a student is seriously ill and a parent or guardian either does not pickup the student within a reasonable time or refuses to pick up the student, the school will call for emergency medical service. To ensure that the student is properly cared for, the school will call the Department of Human Services and/or an emergency medical service will be called AT THE FAMILY'S EXPENSE.

Insurance

A group accident insurance policy is available to all members of the student body at a nominal cost when school activities begin each fall. All students who participate in or try out for interscholastic sports or cheerleading are required to provide proof of insurance along with parental consent in order to try out or participate in any sport. For more information parents may contact the school office or coach where appropriate.

The Hinds County School District will not be responsible for any bills or balances not covered under the student's insurance.

Telephone

The telephone in the school office is to be used for school business and emergencies only. A student may use the telephone if he/she first secures permission from the appropriate staff. The secretary has the authority to determine if the student's request to use the telephone is valid. Students will not be called to the telephone from a class unless it is an emergency. Any necessary long distance calls are to be charged to the home telephone of the person making the call.

Emergency Contact Information

The school must be able to contact parents/guardians or a designated adult. **PARENTS MUST PROVIDE THE SCHOOL OFFICE WITH CORRECT, UP-TO-DATE TELEPHONE NUMBERS upon enrollment each year.** Any changes in emergency contact names and telephone numbers must be updated throughout the year. Only simple first aid is administered at school.

Prescription and Non-Prescription Medicines (Board Policies JGCD, JGCD-F)

Hinds County School District recognizes that some students may require the administration of medication during school hours. All medication, both prescription and over the counter, will be administered by the school nurse/authorized personnel. The only exception to this rule is for self-administered asthma or emergency (EPI-PEN) medication by your child.

In order for your child to receive medication in school the following guidelines must be met:

1. Your child's physician must complete a medication authorization form
2. Parent must sign the parent authorization and indemnity agreement for prescription medicines on the enrollment card
3. Medication must be in the original labeled container as dispensed
4. Medication label must contain the student's name, name of medication, date, dosage, route, times, and frequency
5. Medication orders must be renewed in writing every school year
6. Any dosage changes or discontinuation orders must be in writing

Physicians will need to fill out a separate form for each prescription or over the counter medication given at school. Please feel free to contact your child's school if you have any questions.

Parents may come to school to administer medicine to their child if needed during the day.

Asthma/Epi Pen Medications

The Hinds County School District requires that each child with asthma have a current Asthma Action Plan (AAP) on file at the child's school, for use by the school nurse, teachers, and staff. Parents and guardians of the child with asthma are to have the child's AAP developed and signed by the child's health care provider. The AAP should include the child's asthma severity classification, current asthma medication and emergency contact information. The AAP must be updated annually. Students are permitted to self-administer asthma/Epi Pen medications with written consent from the parent and a statement from the health care provider outlining the proper process to administer the medication.

Head Lice

Students who show evidence of NITS or live head lice will be removed from the classroom. Parents will be called to pick up the student immediately. Students who show evidence of nits will receive office notification in writing for needed treatment. As soon as the student has been treated with an approved lice-killing product, he or she may return to school. To be readmitted to school the student must:

1. bring the empty treatment bottle, with the label on it, to the office, OR bring a note from the parent, to the office, stating the name of the product used and the date of use, AND
2. be re-checked for nits or live lice in the office before readmission to the classroom.
3. If the parent returns the student to school after treatment, the parent must follow the above procedure and wait until the student has been re-checked for live lice.

If a public school student has head lice on three separate occasions during any school year or if school officials have notified the student's parent/guardian that the student has head lice on three separate occasions during any school year, the principal shall notify the Hinds County Health Department of the recurring problem. The Health Department will instruct the student's parents or guardians on how to treat head lice, eliminate head lice from household items, and prevent the recurrence of head lice. The Health Department will charge the parent or guardian a fee to recover the cost of providing treatment and counseling. The school principal will not allow the student to attend school until proof of treatment is obtained.

The school is concerned about instructional time the student loses by being removed from the classroom; however, the school must also take measures to prevent the spread of head lice. If a student must be removed from the class setting and misses instructional time on five (5) occasions, a report will be made to the attendance officer.

Communicable Diseases (Board Policy JBC, JGCC)

Mississippi law states that "it shall be unlawful for any child to attend any school, kindergarten, or similar type facility intended for the instruction of children, either public or private, unless they shall first have been vaccinated against those diseases specified by the State Health Officer." To comply with this law, all Hinds County School District students must present to the school of enrollment a **Certificate of Compliance** regarding vaccinations. Enforcement of this law will require removal of children from classes if they are not adequately immunized.

A student with a communicable disease (chicken pox, measles, pink eye, etc.) shall remain at home until the disease is no longer a threat to that student or others. Principals should report to the health department any cases of communicable diseases that might pose a threat to the health of the school or community. While concerned with assisting and resolving individual cases, the welfare of all students is the prime consideration of the district and the Mississippi State Department of Health. In keeping with this concern, ringworm and impetigo sites must be covered to reduce possibility of spreading.

A student who is absent from school due to the presence or suspicion of a communicable disease **MUST** present, upon return to school, a statement from a physician or the health officer certifying that the student is not/no longer contagious. No student is allowed to return to the classroom without this statement. Parents must notify the school by phone when it is determined that their child has a contagious disease.

Decisions regarding an HIV infected student shall be made on an individual basis with regard to the behavior, neurological development, physical condition of the student, and the expected type of interaction with others in that setting. These decisions shall be made using a team approach including the student's physician, public health personnel, the student's parent or guardian, and personnel associated with the educational setting. In each case, risks and benefits to both the infected student and to others in the setting shall be weighed. As conditions change, cases may be reevaluated.

Emergency Drills (Board Policy EBBC)

Principals and teachers will instruct students in the methods of fire drills and other emergency drills and will practice the drills with the pupils until they are familiar with the methods of evacuating the buildings or moving to safe areas. Emergency bus evacuation drills will be conducted at least two times yearly.

Emergency Closings (Board Policy EBBC)

When any emergency necessitates the closing of a school, parents should monitor the local radio and television stations for information regarding the status of their child's school.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Durham Transportation Services (601.857.5562)

Parents should direct all questions regarding bus transportation, bus routes, time, etc. to Durham Transportation Services at 601-857-5562. Any concerns regarding safety, discipline, etc should first be addressed at the school level, then, if necessary, to the Athletic/Activities Director at 601-857-5222.

Interference with Operations of School Buses (MS Code Ann. § 37-41-2)

Only authorized students and school district personnel may ride or enter a school bus. It is unlawful for any person to abuse or interfere with any bus driver or district employee in the performance of their duties. Violations of these state laws are a misdemeanor offense and are subject to punishment of up to six (6) months in prison and/or a fine of up to \$500.

Arrival and Departure of Students

Students should arrive at school no earlier than the time designated by the student's building principal. Students who do not ride the bus and are not involved in an official after school sponsored activity must depart campus no later than 15 minutes after the final dismissal time/bell in the afternoon. Students staying for before/after-school detention must be picked up promptly at the time designated by the school or teacher. Parents will be notified prior to any student's staying for before/after-school detention.

Parents or guardians who drop off their children before the designated student drop off time indicated in this handbook will be referred to the Department of Human Services and/or local law enforcement officials for child neglect.

Parents or guardians who fail to pick up their child at the end of the school day will be referred to the Department of Human Services and/or local law enforcement officials for child neglect.

Supervision is the parent's responsibility when buses drop off students in the afternoon.

Bus Transportation and Bus Stops (Board Policy JCDAD)

Students who reside one mile or more from the school to which they are assigned may ride a school bus. Generally bus stops are located within 6/10 of a mile from all students' residences. Due to these requirements, it is impossible to provide 'house to house' stops for every student. Durham Transportation Services in conjunction with the Assistant Principal responsible for transportation at each school assigns students to buses. If some extenuating situation (such as a family emergency) dictates that a child temporarily (1 -3 days) rides home on a bus other than his/her originally scheduled bus, parents must make this request in writing with a contact phone number included to the appropriate Assistant Principal by noon. In case of an emergency, telephone notification will be accepted when possible. An attempt will be made to accommodate all reasonable requests if doing so will not overcrowd a bus.

Once a student is en route to school, he/she becomes the responsibility of the school district. Therefore, the same appropriate behavior required in the classroom is also required while a student is waiting at a bus stop and is en route to and from school. The district tolerates no students distracting bus drivers from transporting students safely. Students are expected to board and exit at their designated bus stops, to obey the bus driver and any other personnel assigned to bus duty, and to ride the regularly scheduled bus unless directed to do otherwise by the principal or assistant principal. Transportation is a privilege and may be revoked. Students are not allowed to board a bus with balloons or any other large objects that may impede the vision of the bus driver.

Vehicles (Board Policy JGFF)

Once on campus, students are required to park their vehicles only in the designated areas and proceed directly to the building. Students are not to sit in vehicles or be in the parking lot at any time other than arriving and departing. Extreme caution should be exercised at all times. Fast or reckless driving will not be allowed. No students may leave the campus during the school day for any reason unless the principal has consulted the parent/guardian. Only high school students in grades 10-12 may drive to school. The building principal may approve unique circumstances on an individual basis. All student vehicles parked on school property must prominently display a valid school-issued parking permit. Vehicles that are illegally parked or do not display a parking permit **may be towed at the owner's expense** without prior notification. All student vehicles on school campuses are subject to search and inspection at any time. Buying a parking decal does not insure the safety of the car or its contents. Anyone who brings a vehicle on school grounds assumes full personal liability for that vehicle and its contents.

Day Care and After School Program Bus Pick Up

The district does allow day care centers and after school programs to pick up children at the school as a privilege. Each of these service providers must comply with the above board policy in order to pick up students on campus. Parents and guardians are required to provide written approval that their child may ride this bus or van. If any service provider does not comply with these requirements, **pick up privileges will be withdrawn.**

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

Established in 1946, the National School Lunch Program assists in providing nutritious lunches to students in public and nonprofit schools. The Child Nutrition Act of 1966 established the School Breakfast Program. It is designed to provide nutritious breakfasts to students. USDA provides funding for the operation of these programs. Reimbursement for meals is received based on the number of free, reduced, and paid meals served. Local revenue sources are from daily sales in the cafeteria.

The cost of the adult meal must be priced to cover total costs. The Mississippi Office of Child Nutrition sets the minimum lunch price that can be charged to adults. Any adult loss incurred must be paid back to Child

Nutrition from another funding source other than Child Nutrition. Adults are to be served the same portion size as the high school students. Students in elementary, middle, and high schools in Hinds County School District are offered the same portion size (½ cup fruits and vegetables; 2-3 oz meat/meat alternate; 8 oz of milk, and 10 servings of bread per week) as required by USDA to meet the nutritional needs of all students.

The goal of the Child Nutrition Program in Hinds County School District is to meet the nutritional needs of the students by offering healthy food choices. The nutritional goals of the National School Lunch Program are to:

- Meet 1/3 of the Recommended Dietary Allowances
- Meet Calorie Goals (age appropriate)
- Meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans

Menus are prepared monthly and nutritional analysis is compiled to ensure all required nutrient standards are met when averaged for each week. Menus are posted on the school district website. Menus are subject to change due to the availability of product.

Breakfast

Breakfasts served in Hinds County School District meet the requirements of the National School Breakfast Program. USDA guidelines require that we **offer** for breakfast the following four component parts:

1. ½ pint of milk
2. ½ cup fruit or fruit juice or vegetable
3. Two bread servings

OR

4. Two meat/meat alternate servings

OR

One bread and one meat serving

Students must choose one **food item** from at least three, and no more than four, of the four component parts listed above. The breakfast program is available to all students. Only students arriving on late buses will be served after the designated breakfast period.

Lunches

Lunches served in the Hinds County School District meet the requirements of the National School Lunch Program. USDA guidelines require that we **offer** for lunch the following five component parts:

1. ½ pint of milk
2. Fruit serving
3. Vegetable serving
4. 1 serving of bread
5. 2 to 3 ounces of meat/meat alternate

Students must choose one **food item** from at least three, and no more than five, of the five component parts listed above. **At least** two entrée choices, two fruit choices and two vegetable choices are offered daily. This allows students a variety of choices to meet their nutritional needs.

Students electing to bring their own lunches may eat in the lunchroom. The following suggestions are made:

Parents are requested to send single servings of items in lunches to ensure other students eat their lunch received in the cafeteria. No glass containers are allowed in the cafeteria. Nutritious drinks are recommended in the place of soft drinks. Milk and milk products are available to purchase for students who bring their lunch. Items, which meet the meal pattern, are for sale to students who purchase a lunch in the cafeteria. Students are not allowed to buy food items for other students. Only **two** extra food items can be purchased by students who purchase a lunch. The extra food items offered for sale in most cafeterias are: baked chips, water, reduced fat ice cream and 100% fruit juice. Students may also purchase extra servings, when available, of other items on the menu.

Any parent or guardian who does not want their child to purchase any extra items out of their account, will need to notify the manager in writing and the child's account will be flagged. The child will only be able to purchase extra items if they have cash in-hand at the point-of-service.

Current Prices

	<u>Paid Student</u>	<u>Reduced Student</u>	<u>Adult/Guests</u>
Breakfast	1.25	.30	2.00
Lunch	2.25	.40	3.25

Prepaid Purchases

All students in the district are encouraged to pay for meals in advance. Students are requested to bring their lunch money on Mondays to pay for their meals for the week (or longer) in the envelope provided by the school. The money is put into the student's account; and as the student eats, the amount is deducted from the account balance. Parents may request a printed history of their child's account activity from the Office of Child Nutrition at (601) 857.5222. Checks cannot be accepted, and no meals can be charged. If students have money left in their accounts when withdrawing from school or at the end of the year, request for a refund must be made in writing to the cafeteria manager. Requests for refunds must be made by five (5) school days prior to the last day of school. Any money left in students' accounts at the end of the year will be in their accounts at the beginning of the next school year where ever they are enrolled in school in Hinds County School District.

Parents may also put money in their child's account by going to www.schoolpaymentsolutions.com. Accounts can be monitored by parents to see when more money needs to be added or if the student is purchasing extra food items.

Student Meal Eligibility-Applications for Free/Reduced Price Meals

Family applications for free and reduced price meals will be distributed the first day of school to each student. **Parents need to complete a new application each year. Each household is to complete one application with all students listed.** Students will eat on last year's status for 30 days from the first day of school. If a new application is not on file at the end of 30 days, the meal status will automatically be **PAID**. Families who participate in the SNAPS program will be notified by letter prior to start of school that their status is free due to direct certification from the Department of Human Services. These families **DO NOT** need to complete the lunch application given to all students the first day of school.

******Coming for 2012-2013**** PARENTS WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLETE LUNCH APPLICATIONS ON-LINE. WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE, <http://www.hinds.k12.ms.us>**

Special Diets

Special dietary requirements for students can be met by providing specific written instructions from the student's physician at the beginning of each year. These instructions stay on file in the district Child Nutrition Office and the Cafeteria Manager's Office. Students who cannot drink milk must have a letter on

file from their doctor stating they cannot tolerate milk. **Parents may submit request in writing for lactose free milk.**

Cafeteria Behavior

While students' behavior in the cafeteria is the responsibility of the principal's designee, it is beneficial to all to maintain orderly behavior in the cafeteria. No food or drink may be taken outside the cafeteria unless the principal has given approval for special school activities and events. When the manager is notified of these special events, she will assist in making the event easy and fun for all. The student who received the lunch will take his/her lunch tray, napkins etc. to the appropriate place for disposal.

Policy on Competitive Foods and Extra Food Sales

Federal Regulations and State Board Policy restrict food sales in competition with the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. The purpose is to ensure that students are not in the position of having to decide between non-nutritious and nutritious foods immediately before or during any meal service period. The Mississippi Board of Education Policy on Competitive Food Sales as adopted by Hinds County School District is stated below:

No food is to be sold on the school campus for one (1) hour before breakfast or one hour before lunch and until the end of either serving period. Any food may be sold after breakfast, until one hour before lunch, and any time after the end of the last lunch period.

The school food service staff shall sell only those foods that are components of the approved Federal meal pattern being served (or milk products) and such additional foods as necessary to meet the caloric requirements of the age group being served.

For clarification: The extra food items sold in the cafeteria can be counted as a component of the meal pattern. The baked chips meet the bread requirement and the 100% juice meets the fruit requirement. The water was approved by USDA to be sold as an extra item in 2001. Extra food items (other than milk and milk products) can only be purchased by those who purchase a lunch.

Field Trips

Nutritious sack lunches are provided for field trips when requested in advance by the teacher. Students receive their sack lunch at the same status/price as lunches eaten in the cafeteria.

STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND CHARGES

Check Recovery Policy

The Hinds County School District has an agreement with Automated Check Recovery for the recovery of all returned checks. The following information must be included on every check: full name, current street address and home telephone number.

If your bank returns your check unpaid, our bank will automatically forward the returned item to Automated Check Recovery for electronic re-presentment. **These checks are not returned to the school.** Once these checks are debited from our account we cannot accept payment for them. Automated Check Recovery will notify you in order to recover the face value of the check plus a state authorized recovery fee of **\$40**. The face value of the check will be debited from your account electronically. If you can prove the check was returned due to a bank error, documentation from your bank should be obtained and forwarded to Automated Check Recovery within 30 days of receipt of notification.

Textbooks (Board Policy JS)

Textbooks are issued at the beginning of the school year, when appropriate for the course. Students are urged not to abuse or misuse them as fines will be assessed on books showing improper care. If a book is lost or damaged beyond use, the following schedule will be used to assess the cost of replacement. Schools will determine assessments for minor damages to textbooks. Students will not be issued further textbooks if payment is not received for lost or damaged books.

0-1 year	Full replacement value
1-2 years	80% of cost of new textbook
2-3 years	60% of cost of new textbook
3-4 years	40% of cost of new textbook
Over 4 years	20% of cost of new textbook

Library

Students with library permits may go to the library before, during, and after the school day to check out library materials. Books may be checked out of the library for two weeks, but may be returned in less time or renewed for a longer period. Fines may be charged for lost or damaged library materials. Students will be charged the new or full replacement cost of any lost books.

Lab/Workbook Fees (Board Policy JS)

Certain schools may require students to pay for specific workbooks and/or lab fees.

Financial Hardship Waiver (Board Policy JS, JS-F)

Parents of students eligible to receive free or reduced lunch and are unable to pay for supplementary instructional materials, and authorized instructional fees, may complete an application for Waiver of School Fees/Hardship Status. Applications may be obtained from the Director of Operations and Business Affairs at the Central Administrative Office. This waiver applies to instructional materials, not extra-curricular fees.

Solicitations

Solicitation of students for funds for any cause is only permitted when the superintendent has given prior permission.

No agencies or persons shall be permitted to use school premises to exhibit or offer for sale articles or services to students or staff except those articles and services approved by the superintendent or his/her designee.

Student Activity Funds

In compliance with Board Policies DK, DK-R, all money collected by any class, club, or other school organization is handled according to school board policy.

PROPERTY

Care of School Property ((Board Policy EBCA)

Students responsible for vandalism will be required to pay for the damages. Note: Equipment includes, but is not limited to, computers, all technology, and musical instruments.

Lockers/Care of Personal Property

Lockers may be provided to high school students. The student is responsible for the condition of the locker as long as it is assigned to him/her, and no student is permitted to change locker assignment without prior approval from the principal. School authorities may conduct periodic general inspections at any time for any reason related to school administration. Inspection of individual lockers or desks may occur when there is a reasonable basis to do so, and in those cases, the student or a third party may be present. (Board Policy JCDA)

Valuable property should not be brought to school. Under no circumstances should an excessive amount of money be brought to school. The school district can accept no responsibility for the theft of or loss of property and/or money.

Lost and Found

All items found about the building should be taken immediately to the principal's office. Inquiries about lost items should be made in the principal's office. All unclaimed items will be disposed of at the end of each grading period.

Receiving Gifts at School

The delivery of candy, flowers, balloons, and other types of gifts to a school from an individual to a student will not be allowed.

IDEA SERVICES

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA)

Hinds County School District participates in an ongoing effort to identify, locate, and evaluate children birth through age twenty-one who are in need of special education and related services under IDEA and who reside in the Hinds County School District.

The district insures a full and individual initial evaluation before making any provisions of special education and related services to a student with a disability. Written parental consent must be obtained before initial evaluations are conducted and before the initial provision of special education and related services. An Individual Education Program (IEP) is in effect before special education and related services are provided. To the maximum extent possible, each student with a disability is educated with children in his/her age range who have no disability.

Children with disabilities are afforded an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extra-curricular services and activities. The IEP Team determines the placement of each student with a disability. When the IEP Team determines placement, considerations must be given to the possible effect of inclusion of a student with a disability on the education of other children in the class. Consideration must also be given to the educational benefits available to the student in the regular education environment with appropriate supplementary aids and services, as compared to the benefits in a special education classroom or other separate environment.

Child Find

The Exceptional Services Director is the contact for Child Find referrals and questions. You may contact this office at 601.857.5222.

SECTION 504

The Hinds County School District Board of Education adheres to a policy of non-discrimination in educational programs, activities, and employment and strives to provide equal opportunity for all as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination against the handicapped. The Hinds County School District has standardized procedures to ensure that:

1. All students can be successful in their learning; and
2. All students receive a free and appropriate education.

To this end, the Board has established Teacher Support Teams (TST) at each school. The primary purpose of these Teacher Support Teams is to design instructional interventions and strategies for those students who demonstrate learning and/or behavioral problems that interfere with their success in the classroom. The TST reviews and utilizes all of the possible resources within the school and/or district to meet the needs of the student.

Each school's TST is a vehicle through which assistance can be requested for any student who is "at risk" of not succeeding. The TST may also review the needs of "at risk" students on a school-wide basis and develop school-wide instructional interventions and strategies to assist students more effectively. The TST process is utilized throughout the school year to resolve issues, problems, or concerns related to the performance of students as identified by teachers, parents, guardians, and administrators.

It is important to note that the referral of a student to the Local Survey Committee (LSC) to begin the State of Mississippi's process for determining the eligibility of a student for special services under the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) should only be considered after all other appropriate behavioral and instructional interventions and strategies have been implemented and the student continues to be "at risk" or if the student is obviously disabled.

A detailed explanation of the functions of these teams is contained in the document *Procedures for Assisting Students with Special Needs*. The School Board adopts the procedures contained in this document and directs that they be implemented in the Hinds County School District including:

1. The Procedural Safeguards
2. That the consideration of eligibility for special education services under the provisions of Section 504 will take place only after the student has been ruled ineligible for IDEA.
3. Determination of whether a substantial limitation of learning exists.

These procedures constitute the district's 504 Plan and Policy as required by law and replace all other related plans and policies.

Hinds County Schools District's Policies for Notification of Rights and Due Process Procedures: The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law to students with disabilities. The intent of the law is to keep parents fully informed concerning decisions about their child and to inform them of their rights. Parents have these rights:

1. To have their child participate in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disabling condition;
2. To have the school district advise them of their rights under federal law;
3. To receive notice when the district proposes or refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or placement of their child or the provision of free, appropriate education;
4. To have their child receive a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment;
5. To have their child receive services and be educated to the maximum extent appropriate with children who are not disabled;

6. To have evaluation, educational, and location of services decisions made based on a variety of information sources, and by persons (including the parents) who know the child and who are knowledgeable of evaluation data and placement options;
7. To have their child be given an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extra-curricular activities offered by the district.

If parents disagree with any of the decisions made concerning the identification, evaluation, placement of their child, or the provision of the free, appropriate public education for their child, they have the following due process rights:

1. To examine all relevant educational records relating to decisions regarding the student's identification, evaluation and placement;
2. To appeal the decisions regarding the student's eligibility and the appropriateness of the 504 Plan to the Director of Exceptional Services;
3. To file a formal grievance (complaint) with the district's 504 Compliance Officer, who may be reached at 601.857.5222;
4. To request, at any time during these procedures, an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding the student's identification, evaluation, or educational placement. Both the parent and child may take part in the hearing and may be represented by counsel. Hearing requests must be made to the Director of Exceptional Services.
5. To resolve disputes through a voluntary mediation process that is available whenever a due process hearing is requested.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The district complies with the regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act which prohibits public and private entities from discriminating against an "otherwise qualified individual with a disability." All students and personnel with disabilities will have "access" to programs, activities, employment, and physical structures. The Superintendent of Education is the contact person for questions and comments regarding ADA.

English Language Learner (ELL) Services

The Hinds County School District provides services to English Language Learners (formerly English as a Second Language or ESL). For information regarding this program, contact the State and Federal Programs Coordinator at 601.857.5222. For all state and district testing, the Hinds County School District follows the state guidelines for ELL students.

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Honor Roll

The following criteria will be used to determine a student's honor roll classification:

- Principal's List – A student must be on grade level in all subjects. All numerical grades on the Report Card will be 90 or higher. The Report Card for that term will not have any I's (Incomplete), U's (Unsatisfactory) or N's (Non-mastery) in any subject or course.
- Honor Roll – The student must be on grade level in all subjects. All numerical grades on the Report Card will be 80 or higher. The Report Card for that term will not have any I's (Incomplete), U's (Unsatisfactory) or N's (Non-mastery) in any subject or course.

Grading Scale and Letter Codes (Board Policy IHA)

The following letter grades and corresponding numerical scale will be used in the Hinds County School District for classes and courses where such grade indicators are necessary and expected:

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-65
F	64-Below

Grading Letter Codes

S	Satisfactory
U	Unsatisfactory
I	Incomplete or Improvement Needed (kindergarten report cards only)
M	Mastery
P	Progressing
N	Non-mastery

Grade and Subject Classification (Board Policy IHE, JBAB)

Principals shall be governed by the regulations of the Mississippi Accreditation Commission in accepting students in grade and subject classification from accredited and non-accredited schools. No student is to be officially enrolled in the Hinds County School District after attending another school until proper records of previous school attendance are provided to the principal of the school to which admission is requested. Upon receipt of school records, the principal will make proper grade and subject classification of the student. Students applying for admission from non-accredited schools shall be temporarily placed in the grade or subject that the non-accredited school has recommended. Principals shall allow enough time for examination, observation, and fair appraisal of the scholastic status of such students to determine if that placement is appropriate or whether another placement will be made. Any transfer student from a school or program (correspondence, tutorial, or home study) not accredited by a regional or state agency is given either a standardized achievement test(s) or teacher-made special subject test(s) to determine the appropriate classification of the student. (Mississippi Code 37-15-33) The administrative head of each public school shall ensure that each pupil applying for transfer shall be tested within thirty days after the filing of such application for transfer. Notice of the giving of such test(s) shall be given to the applicant not less than five days prior to the date of the administration of such test.

PROGRESS REPORTS AND REPORT CARDS

Reporting Progress (see calendar on inside back cover)

1. Progress Reports — A Progress Report can be issued to the parent at any time during the nine-week period. Parents should expect to receive a Progress Report approximately halfway through each nine-week grading term on the dates indicated on the School Calendar at the front of this handbook. The Progress Report will identify areas of needed improvements and/or commendations. Teachers may require the return of the report with the signature of the parent.
2. Distribution of Report Cards — The student Report Card will be issued four times each school year at nine-week intervals. Copies of students' grades will be available in the principal's office and the

counselor's office. The student will be issued the original report and is expected to give it to the parent. If the student fails to take the Report Card home or alters it, this is the concern of the student and the parent rather than of the teacher. Teachers may require that parents sign and return the report card.

Procedure for Determining Grades

A record of all grades shall be maintained by teachers in order to determine the term and final grades. Teachers will maintain a minimum of 9 daily grades and 5 test grades each term.

1. Core Courses. In grades 3-12 in the core courses, the formula outlined below will be used in computing grades. Core courses are English/language arts, math, science, and social studies.
2. Term Grade Computation. A numerical term grade will be determined by weighing the average of all test scores at a rate of 50%; weighing the average of all daily grades at a rate of 25%; and weighing the average of the 9 weeks or semester exam at a rate of 25%.
3. Participation/Daily Grades. The teacher determines participation/daily grades and these may include, but are not limited to the following items: daily assignments in class, projects, class participation, and/or homework.
4. Term Grades. To determine the term grade: Average all test scores for the term. Round the average to the nearest whole number to determine the test average. Average all daily grades for the term. Round the average to the nearest whole number to determine the assignment or daily average. Calculate 50% of the test grade, 25% of the daily grade, and 25% of the 9 weeks or semester exam. Add the three weighted values together, and round to the nearest whole number to determine the term average. This average will be recorded on the Report Card.
5. Final Grade computation. The final grade will be determined by averaging the numerical values of the term grades. The numerical value (rounded to the nearest whole number) shall be recorded on the Report Card as the final grade for the subjects for which numerical term grades are recorded.
6. Make-up work grades are subject to the limitations outlined earlier in the Attendance Policy portion of this handbook.
7. Exemptions. Only graduating seniors during the spring semester may be exempt from semester exams. No other exemptions are allowed for nine weeks tests or semester exams.
8. Nine weeks tests and semester exams. Special projects or other academic activities may not be substituted for a comprehensive nine weeks or semester exam.

Note: With the conversion to Common Core in grades K-5, there will be some adjustments to the current grading scale. Parents will be notified of these changes as necessary.

Exemption Procedures

Students classified as seniors who meet the exemption requirements will not be required to take semester examinations at the end of second semester in year-long courses. Any additional criteria established by the building principal.

ELL (English Language Learner) Grading

English Language Learners (ELL) should be assigned to an age appropriate grade, unless a different grade is identified on the student's cumulative records. ELL students should be given a pass/fail grade until an accurate assessment of achievement can be made. Alternate assessments include demonstrations, use of interpreters, and use of tutors. A checklist of skills mastered/non-mastered may be used to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses.

Academic Dishonesty and Cheating

Students who cheat on any academic work are subject to punishment as deemed appropriate by the school principal. Typically, these offenses are handled as both an academic and character issue. The school administrator will take into account the nature of the offense, the child's age, and the child's maturity in addressing the incident(s).

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES AND VISITATION

Parent Conferences

Two parent/teacher conference days are scheduled for the school year. Parents may refer to the school calendar for these dates. Conference times are from 1:00-6:00 P.M. on these days. Parents may make arrangements for additional conferences by calling the school or by sending a note to the teacher. These conferences will be scheduled during times that will not interfere with supervision or instruction of students.

Visitations (Board Policy KM)

Parents and interested community members are both welcome and encouraged to visit district schools. However, all visitors must report to the office to obtain permission from the principal or designee before going to any other part of the building. The faculty and staff of Hinds County School District will treat parents and other members of the public with respect at all times and will require the same in return in accordance with the district Civility Policy. Please note that the use or possession of weapons, alcohol, drugs, controlled substances, and tobacco products is prohibited on all school district grounds. For the protection of our students, surveillance cameras are used throughout district buildings. If you notice any unusual activity during your visit, please notify a staff member immediately. For safety and security concerns, parents and visitors are not allowed to visit students at school during recess, nap times, or other times as identified as inappropriate by the principal.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Promotion and Retention of Students (Board Policy IHE)

The Hinds County School District follows an established board policy that defines criteria for the academic promotion/progression of students from one grade or level to the next. Promotion and retention shall be based upon the mastery of grade level objectives.

Kindergarten: Hinds County School District has the authority to retain children in kindergarten for an additional year if the district deems that placement of the student in the first grade would not be the most appropriate educational placement of the student. Determination will be based on a complete profile of the student's performance on each standard addressed in the class.

Elementary Grades 1-5: A student must have a yearly average of 65% on performance of required work on grade level in each core subject (reading/language arts, integrated language arts, math, science, and social studies) to be promoted to the next grade.

End of Summer Retesting

If a student fails only one subject in elementary school, he/she will be allowed the opportunity to demonstrate at the end of the summer that he/she has mastered the competencies that were failed. Your child's principal will let you know the exact time and location. Please note that students must score 70 or higher on the test, and they will only be allowed to take the test once. This retesting opportunity will be provided for those students who participate in an official summer school or summer instructional program. If a tutor is to be used, the parent must be sure to give a written plan for that instruction, when and where it will take place, how often, and what instructional materials will be used, etc. Parents will be required to provide the school a detailed Summer Program Instructional Log prior to their child being tested. Please note that this must be a structured program of instruction, and all summer programs must be pre-approved by the principal in writing or the retesting opportunity will not be available. This written notice is due to your principal within ten calendar days of the last student school day.

Grade MCT2 Minimal (Board Policy IHE)

Students who score minimal on any portion of the Mississippi Curriculum Test will be referred to the Teacher Support Team for interventions within the first twenty days of school as specified in guidelines developed by the Mississippi Department of Education. Interventions will be designed to address the deficit areas; research based; implemented as designed by the TST; and supported by data regarding the effectiveness of interventions. State Board Policy 4300, Rev. 5/18/07

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Promotion and Retention of Students (Board Policy IHE)

In order to be eligible for promotion to the next grade, students must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in all core academic subjects. Middle School core subjects are math, science, social studies, and language arts. Students are not allowed to fail any core subject more than one time during grades 6-8 under this option. **or**
2. If a student fails two or fewer subjects in middle school, he/she will be allowed the opportunity to participate in the Hinds County School District summer program (APEX). A student who fails the same core subject in consecutive years will not be eligible to take that summer school course for promotion.

Note: Middle school students recover up to two (2) courses that do not earn high school credit in grades 6 – 8 during the current academic year/summer. In grades 8, Transition to Algebra and Pre-Algebra carry high school credit, so only one course may be taken. Algebra I is a SATP course and may not be taken during the summer.

For each semester taken through the Course/Credit Recovery Program, the student must make a grade of at least 76 on all work attempted. No partial credit will be given for work that is below the minimum requirement of 76.

The final average recorded for a semester/final grade on a transcript for a course completed through Course/Credit Recovery will be 76. No grade will be recorded or credit given for not completing the course successfully in the specified time frame.

7th Grade MCT 2 Minimal (Board Policy IHE)

Students who score minimal on any portion of the Mississippi Curriculum Test will be referred to the Teacher Support Team for interventions within the first twenty days of school as specified in guidelines developed by the Mississippi Department of Education. Interventions will be designed to address the deficit areas; research based; implemented as designed by the TST; and supported by data regarding the effectiveness of interventions.

HIGH SCHOOLS

Change of Schedule

Each spring the students in the Hinds County School District are given the opportunity to select the subjects for the following year. Teachers are employed on the basis of students' subject selection. It is recommended that no schedule changes be made unless (1) a failed course was completed in summer school; (2) not enough students registered for the course, thereby dropping the course from the master schedule; (3) an error was made in the student's schedule. If a student and his/her parent(s) feel that a change in schedule should be made, the parent(s) must submit a written request for a schedule change within the first five days of school. Whether a change is made or not is the decision of the building principal.

Senior Academic and Graduation Information

1. Academic Rank: When class rank is computed, all grades from all subjects for which any Carnegie unit credit is given are used, regardless of the year credit is earned. This policy applies to both whole units and fractional units of credit. When class rank is computed, it is computed for only those students who will complete graduation requirements for the current school year. Students are ranked at the end of the third nine weeks of the senior year to determine their final standing. The following system, based on quality of achievement, shall be used in computing rank in class average for each student:

Grade	Numeric Scale	Regular Class Unit Value	Accelerated (Honors) Classes Unit Value	AP Classes Unit Value
A	100 – 89.5	4	4.5	5.0
B	89.4 – 79.5	3	3.5	4.0
C	79.4 – 69.5	2	2.5	3.0
D	69.4 – 64.5	1	1.5	2.0
F	64.4 – 0	0	0	0

Note: For one-half unit courses the unit value is one-half the amount shown.

2. Graduation with Honors: Seniors who maintain a four-year average of 3.5 or more will graduate with "Special Honors." Students whose averages range from 3.1-3.4 will graduate with "Honors." Averages will be computed through the third nine weeks of the senior year.
3. Special Awards for Graduating Seniors: The student maintaining the highest GPA in scholarship will be named Valedictorian. The student maintaining the second highest GPA in scholarship will be named Salutatorian. This GPA will be determined at the end of the third nine weeks of the senior year. To be eligible for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must complete the last three semesters of course work at the school from which he/she is graduating. In the event of a tie for these special awards, students with the highest overall average in courses that earn a Carnegie Unit will

receive the designations. No student can qualify for valedictorian or salutatorian if they are not enrolled and attending the Hinds County School for which the honor will be awarded within 2 weeks of the beginning of the sophomore year.

4. Subject Area Awards are awarded to the outstanding senior in all areas. Students' averages within two calendar weeks prior to graduation will be used in determining these subject area awards.
5. Transcripts: Upon request, students will be granted two transcripts that will be sent to any designated college, training institution or employment office without charge. Additional copies will cost \$3.00 each.
6. Fees/fines: A graduating senior must have all school fines and fees paid before receiving a diploma. It is the responsibility of the student to determine whether or not he/she has outstanding fines/fees.
7. Student Transfers during Senior Year. In order to earn a diploma from the Hinds County School District, students must attend a minimum of one semester at a Hinds County School District high school. Under extraordinary circumstances, the superintendent or her designated representative may waive this requirement.

High School Promotion and Retention of Students (Board Policy IHE)

High School Student Classification shall be as follows:

Freshman (9th Grade): Promoted from the eighth grade level.

Sophomore (10th Grade): Successfully completed seven (7) units of credit.

Junior (11th Grade): Successfully completed thirteen (13) units of credit.

Senior (12th Grade): Able to meet all state and district graduation requirements at the end of the current school year (normally May).

IDEA Students

1. An IDEA student who is a candidate for a standard high school diploma shall follow the same criteria for mastery and promotion as any other student.
2. IDEA students who achieve twenty-three credits to earn an occupational diploma will be awarded such. Carnegie credits may serve in lieu of occupational credits upon recommendation by a school counselor.
 - a. Algebra I course and SAPT are required and will serve in lieu of one (1) Occupational Math credit.
 - b. English II course and SATP are required and will serve in lieu of one (1) occupational English credit.
3. An IDEA student who is a candidate for a certificate of attendance must participate in the MS Assessment by participating in the appropriate option listed below.
 - a. No later than the senior year the student must complete Algebra I and SATP and English II and SATP.
 - b. A student with a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD) during the senior year or the year the student is

18 on September 1 must participate in the Mississippi Alternative Assessment Extended Curriculum Framework (MAAECF).
4. An IDEA student, who will be 16 years of age by September 1, may be placed in high school by the Individual Education Program (IEP) Team. The sending principal must notify the receiving school principal of all such cases.

5. The IEP Team of an IDEA eligible student, who is three or more years older than grade peers and cannot meet the district requirements for a diploma or occupational diploma but is progressing successfully toward the IEP goals, may change the student's grade placement by one grade level, i.e., third grade to fifth grade each school year. This option to change grade placement must be approved by the Exception Services Director prior to the IEP meeting. The IEP Team must make the decision to change grade placements at the spring IEP meeting proceeding the next school year. An IDEA student who cannot meet the basic skills as set forth in the district curriculum, but does successfully complete the Individual Educational Plans (IEP), may be moved to an age appropriate grade level by the IEP Team and a certificate will be granted upon completion of the program.
6. An IDEA student must meet all requirements for graduation by or before age 21 in order to receive a diploma or certificate. Services will be terminated at the close of the school year in which the IDEA student's 21st birthday occurs.

Subject Choice Sheet

Each student will receive a subject choice sheet on which he/she may indicate the choice of subjects for the coming school year. Courses described in the *Hinds County School District Secondary Curriculum Guide* are included in the curriculum for the upcoming school year, dependent upon sufficient enrollment. Counselors will inform students of the date the completed choice card is due in the Guidance Office. It is vitally important to the scheduling process that students follow the established timelines. This process will also help to ensure that students are placed in their selected courses. Students will be required to select seven courses each year. The only exceptions to this policy will be seniors on approved work programs, who may, with approval from the principal, be excused the last two periods of the day. Seniors who have not passed state required tests forfeit early dismissal privileges because of the need for remediation on those tests.

Summer School (Board Policy IDCA)

Students in grades 6-12 are **not** allowed to take a summer school course in lieu of taking the course during the regular school year. Summer school high school courses are for remediation for Carnegie unit courses. No SATP tested-course may be taken in summer school by high school students. Principals must pre-approve any student's request to attend summer school to re-take a course failed during the regular school term. Hinds County School District only accepts credits from schools that are accredited by the Mississippi Department of Education

Correspondence Courses

Carnegie unit credits earned through correspondence courses may be counted toward graduation but are limited to one such unit during a student's high school career. Students will not normally be allowed to take a correspondence course until the senior year and only if it is needed to satisfy minimum graduation requirements. The student assumes full responsibility for all costs associated with the course. If you have an interest in a correspondence course, contact your guidance counselor.

Online Courses

Carnegie unit credits earned through online courses may be counted toward graduation but are limited to the following requirements:

1. The course must be listed in the Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi for the current school year by the Mississippi Department of Education.
2. The Principal must approve the request prior to enrollment after making a determination as to the student's probability for successful completion of online **coursework based upon prior academic work in high school.**
3. The student must have adequate access to online resources and the technical skills to use them.

4. Typically online courses may be used for remediation for minimum graduation requirements. Otherwise, these courses are to be used for extended learning opportunities, and the credit will not count towards the minimum graduation requirements outlined by the Hinds County School District.
5. The student assumes full responsibility for all costs associated with the course.

Testing (Board Policy II)

The Mississippi Education Reform Act of 1982 directs the Mississippi Department of Education to implement a program of statewide assessment to provide for the improvement in the operation and management of the public schools of this state. To this end, each student who is granted a standard high school graduation diploma from the HCSD must have:

1. Satisfied graduation requirements that have been established by the Hinds County School Board of Education, including the requirement of Carnegie units that exceed the state minimum.
2. Achieved a passing score on the four academic end-of-course tests in Algebra I, English II, Biology I and U.S. History.

State and district required tests will be scheduled; however, other tests required for college admission -- such as the AP, P-ACT, PSAT, SAT, and ACT -- will require a registration process. It is the student's responsibility to select appropriate tests and complete the registration process. The school counselors will assist students with information regarding these tests.

All students enrolled in AP courses in the district are required to take the corresponding exam for each AP course taken in order to receive weighted GPA credit.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Area	Career Pathway Option	General Education Diploma	College Preparatory Curriculum Institutions of Higher Learning Admission Requirements
English	4 units: English I, II, III, IV	4 units: English I, II, III, IV (See Note 1)	4 units: English I, II, III, IV
Math	3 units which must include Algebra I and at least one math higher than Algebra I selected from student's program of study.	4 units which must include: Algebra I (See Note 2)	4 units which must include: Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II (See Note 2)
Science	3 units which must include Biology I and at least one science higher than Biology I selected from student's program of study	4 units which must include: Biology I (See Note 3)	4 units which must include: Biology I, Chemistry I and any two units of comparable rigor (See Note 3)
Social Studies	3 units 1 US History ½ US Government ½ Mississippi Studies The third unit must be selected from the student's program of study. (See Note 4)	4 units (See Note 4): 1 World History 1 US History ½ Geography ½ US Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies	4 units (See Note 4): 1 World History 1 US History ½ Geography ½ US Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies
Business & Technology	1 unit Computer Discovery, ICT1, ICT II, 9th STEM, or Computer Applications and Keyboarding (See Note 5)	1 unit: 1 Computer Discovery or ½ Keyboarding and ½ Computer Applications (See Note 5)	½ unit Computer Applications
The Arts		1 unit (Any fine arts course)	1 unit (Any fine arts course)
Health & PE	½ unit: ½ Comprehensive Health, or ½ Family and Individual Health, or ½ Physical Education (See Note 6)	1 unit: Comprehensive Health or ½ Family & Individual Health and ½ Physical Education (See Note 6)	1 unit: Comprehensive Health or ½ Family & Individual Health and ½ Physical Education (See Note 6)
Career or Vocational	4 units: Career and Technical (selected from student's program of study See Note 10)	Certain Vocational courses completed at the Career Center will count for academic Science credit. (See Note 3)	
Electives	2½ units: Courses selected from the student's approved program of study (See Note 11)	6 units (Any courses beyond normal graduation requirements)	2 units: Advanced electives (Foreign Language I and II, Advanced World Geography and a Foreign Language I or any combination of English, math or lab-based science course of comparable rigor and content)
TOTAL	21 UNITS	25 UNITS	19 ½ UNITS (See Note 6)

- Note 1: Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5 general electives required for graduation.
- Note 2: Compensatory Mathematics, Intro to Engineering, and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5 general electives required for graduation. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Drafting if the student completes the 2-course sequence for Drafting I & II. Beginning school 2007-2008 for all entering eighth graders, at least two of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. Effective with the ninth graders of 2010-2011, Survey of Mathematical Topics may not be included in the two math courses higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Probability and Statistics, and AP Statistics. Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, Algebra I and Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra may not be taken after a student completes Algebra I.
- Note 3: Beginning school year 2008-2009 for all entering eighth graders, one unit must be a lab-based physical science. The allowable lab-based physical science courses are Physical Science, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, and AP Physics C – Mechanics. Certain Career Center courses offer academic credit for certain science and business education courses. Please consult the Career Center counselor for more information about this process.
- Note 4: Credit earned for State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course.
- Note 5: Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the *Business and Technology Framework* (academic and vocational)
- Note 6: Carnegie units in physical education may be received from participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, and ROTC if they meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework*. Interscholastic athletic activities used for Carnegie unit credit must be sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association. Credit earned in Allied Health I/Health Science I or successful completion of JROTC I and JROTC II may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health.
- Note 7: Limited exception to high school unit requirements may be available. For more information contact the Office of Admissions. Admission requirements are subject to change without notice at the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Institutions of Higher Learning.
- Note 8: Regular education courses may be taken in the place of these OD requirements provided the IEP Committee ensures the benchmarks for the OD have been met.
- Note 9: Successful completion of the Occupational Diploma technical program requires passing the MS-CPAS.
- Note 10: Career and Technical (CTE) courses must be based on the student's program of study and should include dual credit/dual enrollment options as found in Section 37-15-38 of the Mississippi Code of 1972.
- Note 11: Electives must be selected from courses related to the student's program of study. Credits earned not approved for that student's program of study will not be counted toward graduation requirements.

ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Rules for Students Participating In Activities:

Middle School (7th and 8th graders)

To be eligible **only** for middle/junior high activities, a student must have passed any four courses (that meet the equivalent of 250 minutes per week and meet MDE requirements) with a 2.0 (70 - HCSD) average for the preceding semester (computed numerically). The year-end average for the spring semester will be used to compute averages for the fall semester. Students must be on track to be promoted to be eligible.

To be eligible for high school activities, the middle/junior high school student must have passed the four core courses (English, math, science, and social studies) with a 2.0 (70 - HCSD) average for the preceding semester (computed numerically). The year-end average for the spring semester will be used to compute averages for the fall semester. Students must be on track to be promoted to be eligible.

Pupils in the 7th and 8th grade participating in high school extra-curricular activities that are governed by the MHSAA must pass their grade level by achieving at least an average of a 2.0 (70 - HCSD) in the four core courses of math, science, English and social studies the previous year in order to be eligible to participate during the present year.

Summer school or extended school year grades will replace the grade for a failed course in the spring semester GPA.

Senior High (9th – 12th graders)

To be eligible for athletics and activities, beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, along with the additional academic eligibility requirements of the MHSAA, all students on a regular educational track must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 for all courses taken during the prior semester.

A student athlete must pass all courses taken each semester which earns credits toward graduation with a cumulative GPA of 2.0. The cumulative GPA will be determined by adding the final grade in each course taken during the semester that counts towards the cardigan units needed for graduation. The overall average must be 2.0 or higher in order to maintain eligibility. In the Hinds County School District, a 70 is equivalent to a 2.0 GPA. This will be done on a semester basis.

A student athlete may become eligible for the second semester only once during his/her high school career if he/she fails the last semester of the previous year, by passing all courses taken which earns carnegie units towards graduation with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 the first semester of the current year. This will be done in order to keep the student on track for graduation.

The only change for students on the block schedule will be that students participating in athletics and activities will have to have an overall 2.0 or higher average, rather than a 75 average as in the past.

NOTE: Special education students, defined as not on track for a regular diploma, will be academically eligible if they are making satisfactory progress according to the committees reviewing their Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Middle School Students and High School Sports

Middle school students may not “play up” on high school teams if the sport is offered at the middle school. High school principals may approve an exception to this restriction if the student is too old to participate in middle school sports. For sports not offered at the middle school, 8th grade students may participate on a space availability basis at the high school. Transportation will not be provided to and from practice by the district for these students. Participating on a high school team as a middle student does not impact a student’s four years of high school eligibility.

Citizenship

To be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, a student must exhibit acceptable conduct and citizenship standards. The local school and the individual sponsors of extracurricular activities, in agreement with the school administration, shall define “Acceptable Conduct and Citizenship Standards.” Recognition of acceptable academic performance as well as proper conduct and citizenship will be encouraged, expected, and enforced by school officials. These school-based standards may exceed the Mississippi High School Activities Association’s rules or eligibility.

Athletic Requirements

All students participating in athletics and cheerleading are required to have the following on file with the school prior to participating:

1. written parent consent
2. proof of medical/health insurance
3. liability waiver signed by parent/legal guardian
4. medical screening by a licensed physician
5. media consent form
6. receipt of payment for any applicable activity fees

The Hinds County School District will not be responsible for any bills or balances not covered under the student’s insurance.

Elimination of Sport

Certain interscholastic sports may be eliminated due to lack of student participation, lack of a qualified coach, or financial hardships by the district.

Athletic Awards

Athletic letters are awarded to all students (male and female) who qualify in any of the varsity athletics.

Athletics/Extra Curricular Eligibility

MHSAA Policies take precedence and govern the minimum standards related to student eligibility. Coaches of individual sports will verify student eligibility and submit the eligibility list to the Athletic Director for a final check.

NCAA Qualifying Standards

The NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse, located in Iowa City, Iowa, is the organization that handles **ALL** inquiries regarding an individual's initial eligibility status. The Clearinghouse operates a Web site at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net, which maintains and processes all of the initial-eligibility certifications. More information regarding qualifying standards can be found on the NCAA web site at www.ncaa.org.

Extracurricular Activities

All students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities which are designed to foster interests and talents of students, to develop good character traits and personality, to stimulate the growth of the individual in association with the group, and to afford the student a greater understanding and appreciation of experiences that are outgrowths of extracurricular activities.

Principals or counselors have additional information regarding student participation in extracurricular activities.

Honor Societies

1. Membership in these chapters shall be based upon scholarship, character, leadership, citizenship, and service as demonstrated student involvement in extracurricular activities and faculty recommendation.
2. To be eligible for membership in Honor Societies, the candidate must have been in attendance in the Hinds County School District for at least one semester.
3. Candidates eligible for membership in Honor Societies must meet the academic requirements as set forth in the constitution and by-laws of the Honor Society.
4. Membership dismissal procedures established by an Honor Society will be used if and when necessary.

Student Council

The Student Council is composed of a student president elected by the student body, a faculty sponsor, and representatives from each grade. Student council organizations may have additional officers in the individual schools, and may not be present in the lower grades. Specific purposes of the Student Council are to:

- Provide leadership and citizenship training.
- Stimulate and develop a healthy school spirit and promote student activities.
- Promote democratic relationships between teachers and students within the student body.
- Encourage students to accept and discharge their responsibilities to the school.
- Some of the activities and projects sponsored by the Student Council are to:
 - Lead assembly programs.
 - Plan school-wide campaigns for school improvement.
 - Sponsor the “point system” to encourage student participation in co-curricular activities.
 - Plan and sponsor school-wide recreational events.
 - Assist in orientation of new students.
 - Conduct school elections.

Publications

Annual

The high school yearbook may be published each year. It contains pictures of the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes; clubs; other organizations; athletes; athletic events; featured personalities; and informal snapshots of campus scenes. Each year's annual should be self-supporting.

Literary Magazine

A literary magazine may be published each year by the English department. The magazine is financed by sales. High school students submit work for possible inclusion through their English classes.

Newspaper

Advertising sold by students funds the school newspaper. Published at regular intervals or each nine-week period, the newspaper contains timely articles of interest to students, faculty, and parents.

Clubs

Clubs are designed to foster interests and talents of students, to develop good character traits and personality, to stimulate the growth of the individual in association with the group, and to have a greater understanding and appreciation of experiences that are outgrowths of club activities.

SELECTED SPECIAL PROGRAMS

JROTC Program— AFJROTC (Raymond) and AJROTC (Terry)

The Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) provides students with academically stimulating experiences and promotes community involvement. JROTC fosters good citizenship, patriotism, self-reliance, and communication skills. Students in the program are not obligated to enter any of the military services, although scholarships of up to four years are awarded annually to qualifying students seeking careers as commissioned officers after graduation. Students who complete at least three years of the program are eligible for advanced placement in the military after high school. Descriptions of JROTC courses can be found in the district's Secondary Curriculum Guide.

Quest (Intellectually Gifted Students)

Quest is a program for intellectually gifted students in grades 2-6. Quest classes emphasize planning, decision-making, leadership, creativity, and communication. Students spend at least five hours weekly in Quest classes and participate in activities to include field trips, resource persons, and individual and group presentations.

To be eligible, students must satisfy two of the following criteria before moving forward in the identification process:

- Group measure of intelligence that has been administered within the past twelve months
- Published characteristics of giftedness measure
- Published measure of leadership
- Achievement test scores
- Existing measure of individual intelligence that has been administered within the past 12 months.

(Minimum acceptable criteria for each are the 90th percentile)

During second semester, all first grade students are mass screened to determine which students will be referred for further assessment. Students may also be referred by a parent, teacher, counselor, administrator, self, or anyone else having reason to believe that the student might be intellectually gifted.

Once referrals have been made, the LSC shall review student data and determine if the student should be moved to the assessment phase. Once it has been determined that a student has satisfied minimal criteria on three measures, the student shall move forward to the individual intelligence test. District personnel shall obtain written parental permission for testing and notify parents in writing about their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Students must score at or above the 90th percentile composite/full scale in order to satisfy eligibility criteria. After a student has been ruled eligible, written parental permission for placement shall be obtained before the student is placed in the program.

Students identified as intellectually gifted are served in grades 2-6 at their home school.

Tech Prep

Tech Prep provides an educational path that leads to tomorrow. It integrates college prep coursework with vocational and technical applications. A technical education concentration is included. This planned sequence of courses begins in middle school and is articulated to the community college, leading to an associate of applied science degree. Students can also pursue a four-year baccalaureate degree, if so desired.

Discovery courses are required for students in grades 7 through 9 – Career Discovery (7th grade), Computer Discovery (8th grade), and Technology Discovery (9th grade). These courses provide a basis for implementing applied academic instructional methods in mathematics, science, and communications and for integrating academic skills and vocational skills.

Courses at the high school level are articulated with both vocational-technical courses and academic courses at the community/junior college level, and programs have been implemented to provide school-to-work transition skills.

Main Street RESTART Program

Students who enroll at the Main Street RESTART (Restructured Education with Strategic Training and Academically Relevant Teaching) Center will be provided with the program guidelines and procedures used at this school.

Hinds County Career Technical Center

The Hinds County Career Technical Center provides career, academic, and technical skills. Upon completion of the program, students are prepared for: (1) entry level employment, or (2) to continue technical education at a post-secondary institution at advanced standing or (3) to enroll at a four-year institution in which to continue academic training in a related area.

Students attend class at the Career Technical Center 3 hours a day every other day or 1½ hours every day with the remaining time spent at the home school. No partial credit will be given for part of a year.

Students who successfully complete a two-year career technical program will receive a certificate of completion from the Hinds County Career Technical Center. Acceptance is based upon the Career Center application process that may be initiated through the home school counselor. Admission must be approved by both the home school and by the Career Center and all prerequisites must be met for entrance in the selected course.

Students who successfully complete a two-year vocational program will receive a certificate of completion from the Career Center. Certificate students will receive a certificate that designates objectives mastered on their I.E.P. Attendance is based upon the Career Center application process that may be initiated through the home school counselor. Admission must be approved by both the home school and by the Career Center.

CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

Students have a responsibility to know and to respect the rules and regulations of the school. Students are responsible for conducting themselves in an appropriate manner at all times. Persons who obstruct any teaching, administrative, or extracurricular activity shall be subject to such disciplinary procedures as set forth in this document.

To assist students, parents, and staff in maintaining such an environment, this *Student Code of Conduct* has been developed.

Corporal punishment may only be used as a method of discipline in the Hinds County School District with a Parental Consent form on file at the school. (Policy JDB, JDB-F). The Board of Education has designated the principals and assistant principals as the only personnel with the authority to administer corporal punishment as a method of discipline in the district. Corporal punishment must be administered in accordance with the guidelines in Board Policy JDB.

Schools offer a variety of student detention plans for certain misbehaviors. Students may be assigned either to in-school, before/after-school, or Saturday detention depending upon what options the student's school may offer.

This book includes a plan for disciplinary action. While it covers many offenses, it is recognized that the plan is not all-inclusive. After careful review of the facts and other pertinent information in each case, the principal will take appropriate action.

A copy of this handbook is provided to each student enrolled in this district and his/her parent/legal guardian. At the time of a student's enrollment, a parent or guardian must acknowledge receipt of a handbook.

District Wide Student Programs

As you are aware Hinds County School District prides itself on providing quality educative experiences for all of our students, as well as being an innovative district whose goals are to exceed expectations in all areas relating to your son/daughter's educational growth and development. In our ongoing effort to support all students in our district, we are delighted to inform you that we will be implementing three exciting new programs district wide beginning with the 2011 – 2012 school year.

The First program is Positive Action. This state-of-the-art program will be implemented in all kindergarten through eighth grade classes. Positive Action is a nationally recognized, evidence-based program that has been improving academics, behavior, and character for the benefit of individuals, families, schools, and communities for 25 years. Positive Action uses an audience-appropriate curriculum-based approach to effectively increase positive behaviors and decrease negative behaviors. Additional information about this exciting program can be found at <http://www.positiveaction.net>.

The second program is the Bully Free program. This progressive program will be implemented in all grades, kindergarten through twelfth. The Bully Free program is the most comprehensive school-wide anti-bullying

program being adopted by schools and districts around the world. It is based on research and includes administrative strategies, teacher strategies, lesson plans for each grade level, classroom meetings, student involvement, and bystander empowerment. Additional information about this very important program can be found at <http://www.bullyfree.com>.

The third program involves the administration of behavioral and emotional screening assessments in accordance with the 2001 No Child Left Behind Act, which mandates emotional and behavioral screening for all students yearly. Research shows that academic problems, along with problems associated with developing and maintaining positive relationships with others, can be the result of underlying behavioral and emotional deficits. When those deficits are caught early, they can often be effectively addressed before they have a negative impact on the child or adolescent.

In the event that your child scores in the evaluated range, they will then participate in Phase 2 of this state-of-the-art program. Phase 2 involves participation in a short-term social skills counseling initiative. This program is designed to build leaders and provide support to students in the areas of bullying, peer pressure, assertiveness, and social interaction. Lasting six weeks, it is felt that your child will learn critical social skills that foster the social and academic success necessary for developing and maintaining the positive relationships necessary for success in school, and eventually the workplace.

We are very excited about the upcoming school year and the programs that will be in place to support your son/daughter. As always, should you have any questions please don't hesitate to call upon us as your child's educational future is our number one priority.

Security Surveillance Camera Procedure

The Hinds County School District uses security surveillance cameras in buildings, on buses, and other selected areas. The video captured by these cameras is used in the investigation of incidents that may occur. Because all video contains confidential student information in the form of images of actions by other students, the videos are not available for viewing except by school administrators, the HCS D Board members, law enforcement officials involved in an official investigation, or by parents/guardians where behavior by their child may have consequences that would result in a long-term suspension from school (more than ten days).

If you do not agree with the decision of an administrator, you may request that a representative from the Superintendent's office review the discipline action. To do this, you must request a surveillance review form from the Central Office within 48 hours of the incident. Video will only be reviewed for infractions resulting in 10 or more days of suspension.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Gun-Free Schools Act/Possession of Weapons on Educational Property

The Hinds County School District operates in compliance with the Gun-Free Schools Act, Title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. Therefore, all policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Education which affect the conduct and/or discipline of students are supplemented by the requirements of this act.

Section I: FIREARMS PROHIBITED

No student is permitted to bring or possess a firearm on school property.

Section II: DEFINITIONS

The definitions of a firearm and what constitutes school property are in the unabridged version as noted above.

A “firearm” means any type of weapon, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or firearm silencer, and destructive device, including any explosive, incendiary, poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket, missile, mine, or other similar device; and any type of weapon, any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described above and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled, or as otherwise defined by federal law.

“School property” includes any school building, bus, campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used, or operated by the district.

Section III: DISCIPLINARY ACTION

A student who is charged with bringing or possessing a firearm on school property shall be subject to expulsion from the Hinds County School District at the discretion of the school board. The suspension shall take effect immediately following the provision of initial due process and pending the conclusion of due process on the recommendation of expulsion, all in accordance with Board Policy JCBH and all others subsequently adopted by the Board.

The superintendent who receives a recommendation for expulsion may determine, based upon the particular circumstances of a given case, that other disciplinary action or alternative placement is appropriate and may make such recommendation to the Board. Otherwise, the superintendent shall submit the recommendation of expulsion to the Board for final action as provided by Board Policies JCBH, JCDAE as outlined in policies JBCH and JCDAE.

Section IV: READMISSION

A student who is expelled for bringing a firearm on school property must apply for readmission to the Hinds County School District. Readmission may be granted by the Board or their designee upon documentation showing that the student has participated in successful rehabilitative efforts including but not limited to progress in an RESTART Center or similar program.

Section V: REPORTING

Violations of the firearm prohibition stated in this policy shall be reported as outlined in Board Policy JCBE. The superintendent or his/her designee shall notify the appropriate law enforcement officials of any unlawful activity which occurred on educational property or during a school-related activity.

The Hinds County School District has submitted assurance of compliance to the Mississippi Department of Education that all guidelines and policies of the Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA, 1994) are addressed and followed.

State Law 97-37-17 mandates that it shall be a felony for any person on educational property to possess (possession means having the weapon on one's person or in a school locker, desk or vehicle) or carry whether openly or concealed firearms of any kind. It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to possess on educational property, whether openly or concealed any BB gun, air rifle or pistol, knife, metallic knuckles, slingshot, razors or razor blades, or any sharp-pointed or edged instrument except instructional supplies. Any person violating these laws is guilty of a felony or misdemeanor and subject to a fine and expulsion from school. Principals or appropriate school officials are required to report weapons violations and violent (fighting) or criminal behavior to the appropriate law enforcement agency. (Board Policies JCBH, JCBE, JCDAE, KMB)

Prohibition of Weapons on School Property

All schools must post a copy of MS Code Ann. § 97-37-17 in public view. The following definitions apply to § 97-37-17:

- “Educational property” is defined as a public or private school building, bus, campus grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used, or operated by any local school board; educational property does not include any sixteenth section or lieu land on which is not located a school building, school campus, recreational area, or athletic field.
- “Student” is defined as a minor or adult who is enrolled in a public or private school, college, or university, or a person who has been suspended or expelled within the last five (5) years from a public or private school, college, or university.
- It shall be a felony for any person to possess or carry, either openly or concealed, a gun, rifle, pistol or other firearm of any kind, any dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine or powerful explosive on educational property. Possession of a BB gun, air rifle, or air pistol is not a felony. Conviction carries a fine of up to \$5,000.00, imprisonment for three years, or both.

It is also a felony for any person to cause, encourage, or aid a minor who is less than 18 years old to possess or carry, either openly or concealed, any gun, rifle, pistol or other firearm of any kind, or any dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, or powerful explosive on educational property. BB guns, air rifles, or air pistols are not included. The penalty is a fine up to \$5,000.00, imprisonment for three years, or both.

- A “misdemeanor” is defined as the crime of any person possessing or carrying, either openly or concealed, any BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, Bowie knife, dirk, dagger, sling shot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razors, or razor blades (except solely for personal shaving) and 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. A person who violates this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction should be fined not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned for six (6) months or both.

It is also a misdemeanor for any person to cause, encourage, or aid a minor who is less than 18 years old to carry any of the foregoing enumerated weapons. Any person who violates this section shall be fined up to \$1,000.00, imprisoned for six (6) months, or both. MS Code Ann. § 97-37-17.

It is not a violation of § 97-37-17 for a person to possess or carry, either openly or concealed, any rifle, pistol, gun, or other firearm of any kind on educational property if the person is not a student, the firearm is within a motor vehicle, and the person does not brandish, exhibit, or display the firearm in any careless, angry, or threatening manner. Other exceptions to the weapons prohibition include weapons used solely for educational or school-sanctioned ceremonial purposes, carried by persons as are authorized by law, kept in a home school and used in organized shooting events as well as certain non-prohibited weapons in vehicles under parental control and used to transport a student and carried, concealed in whole or in part, if going or returning from a legitimate weapon-related sports activity. MS Code Ann. § 97-37-17.

Possession of Illegal Drugs, Tobacco on Educational Property

In compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and its amendments, the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance by students or employees of the Hinds County School District is expressly forbidden. Students may be suspended or expelled from school. Under this policy, alcohol is considered a controlled substance. In addition, no tobacco possession or use is permitted on the premises of any Hinds County School District facility by students or any other person. (Board Policies GBRL, GBRM, GBRM-2)

DISCIPLINE OVERVIEW

1. According to state law, a parent, legal guardian or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district shall be responsible financially for his or her minor child's destructive acts against school property or persons. MS Code Ann. § 37-11-19 (1996)
2. A parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district may be requested to appear at school by the school attendance officer or an appropriate school official for a conference regarding acts of the child specified in paragraph 1 of this subsection. MS Code § 37-11-53
3. Any parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in a public school district who refuses or willfully fails to attend such discipline conference as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection may be summoned by proper notification by the superintendent of schools or the school attendance officer and be required to attend such discipline conference. MS Code § 37-11-53
4. A parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district shall be responsible for any criminal fines brought against such student for unlawful activity occurring on school grounds or buses.

In addition to the rules in this handbook, each local school or building principal may develop additional rules and regulations that govern student behavior and discipline at the school site. However, these campus rules and procedures must be consistent with policies and procedures established by the Board and the Superintendent.

A person who obstructs any teaching, administrative, or extracurricular activity shall be subject to such disciplinary procedures as set forth in this document or as otherwise authorized by law. In accordance with state law and district policy, a copy of this code of conduct is made available to each school-age student and his or her parent/legal guardian. The parent/guardian is required to sign a statement acknowledging that he/she has received a copy of the code of conduct and will abide by it.

School Safety Act of 2001

The School Safety Act of 2001 is cumulative and in addition to the school district's existing authority regarding discipline of students. Pursuant to the Act, the school district has adopted policies that recognize the teacher as the authority in classroom matters regarding the school district's written discipline code of conduct, and the right of the teacher to remove from the classroom any student who, in the professional judgment of the teacher, is disrupting the learning environment, subject to the immediate review of the principal or assistant principal.

Student Dress Code

Proper attire is to be worn by all students to foster the best environment for learning. Teachers are to refer students who are in violation of the dress code to the principal or designee for appropriate disciplinary action. The principal will use his/her discretion in determining what constitutes proper attire. Students may not wear any attire or jewelry that the principal deems inappropriate and disruptive to the learning process, even if that attire is not covered in the following rules. To ensure that students observe basic rules of personal hygiene and dress in a manner that would not disrupt the educational process, the following dress code shall apply:

1. Students are prohibited from wearing hair curlers or other hair grooming aids or implements.
2. Students shall not wear suggestive or revealing attire that would divert attention from the learning process. Such attire includes, but is not limited to, excessively low-cut blouses; see-through clothing, spaghetti straps; shirts or dresses, and sleeveless shirts or blouses with large armholes.

3. Tank tops, halters, or tops with spaghetti straps shall not be worn. Shirts or blouses tied at the midriff, clothing not properly fastened, or any item of clothing which exposes the midriff is not to be worn. A good test is for a student to extend the arms above the head to see if the midriff is exposed. If the midriff is exposed, the clothing is not acceptable.
4. Primary (K-3) students may wear shorts; students in grades 4-12 may wear shorts and skirts/dresses, which have hemlines and/or slits that do not exceed two inches above the top of the knee. A good test to determine the appropriate length of an article of clothing is for students to kneel on the floor and the hemline should be within two inches of the floor. Gym shorts are appropriate only for the physical education program and are not to be worn to attend other classes.
5. Caps, hats, bandannas, “do rags,” sweatbands, headbands, hair picks, rat-tail type combs or other head coverings are not to be worn in the school building or on the school bus.
6. Shoes deemed by the principal as inappropriate or unsafe for school shall not be worn. This exclusion includes “roller skate” shoes and house shoes/slippers.
7. Students are not to wear sunglasses or designer contact lenses in the school building unless a doctor’s permit to this effect is on file at the school.
8. Clothing, jewelry, buttons, patches, or any other items with words, phrases, symbols, pictures, or signs which use indecent, profane, suggestive, or inflammatory words, or promote drugs, alcohol, or tobacco or clothing indicative of a non-school-sponsored activity are not to be worn.
9. Pants and trousers should be worn appropriately fastened and in close proximity to the normal waistline. Sagging pants will not be permitted. Pants will not be worn below the hips.
10. Oversized clothing should not be worn.
11. For the health and safety of all students, ornate and/or expensive jewelry, such as medallions and gold chains, are not to be worn by students while on school property or at school-sponsored activities. Such items may be misconstrued as gang-related apparel or may place students in danger of being injured, assaulted, or robbed.
12. Students will not wear clothing that is clearly inappropriate for the season of the year. For example, wearing a trench coat or overcoat during the early fall or spring is not allowed.

Student Uniforms

Typically, each school will make a determination of whether there will be a uniform policy. Each school will provide detailed information to parents.

The Following Items Are Not Allowed At School Or On The Bus:

1. Electronic Devices: radios, TVs, tape players, cellular phones, 2-way radios, music compact discs/ players (CD), video games or recorders, pagers, tapes, laser pointers, MP3 player, IPOD, PDA, toys (unless specified by the teacher) etc.
2. Candy, raffle tickets, food items, or other non-school sponsored money-making items should not be brought to school to sell or exchange.
3. Weapons (real, toy or look-a-like), mace, pepper spray, finger shields, spiked jewelry, chains, knives, and brass knuckles are considered weapons in the Hinds County School District and should not be brought to school.
4. Laser lights. Students who bring these lights and are instrumental in causing injury to others will be subject to disciplinary action, including expulsion.

5. Any other items that will be disruptive to the learning process are prohibited. These items include trading and playing cards, dice and other gambling paraphernalia, cigarettes or tobacco products, matches, and lighters, and large sums of money not designated for school activities; and, any illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia.
6. Sharp pointed scissors. Rounded-edged scissors or safety scissors are allowable if scissors are required as a supply item.
7. Rolling Book Bags. These type book bags have become a serious problem in our schools due to safety, noise, and floor damage concerns. Medical exemptions are allowed with appropriate documentation from a child's physician.

Students should bring only school supplies. The teacher or principal will contact parents if students are to bring other items. The parent or legal guardian must pick up items confiscated by the school within 48 hours, or they forfeit the illegal items to the school.

Cell Phone/Electronic Devices Policy:

1. Cell phones and electronic devices are not allowed at school or on the bus.
2. First offense. The phone is kept for 15 school days OR the parent can pay a \$15 fee to the school student activity fund and receive the phone earlier. Parents may pick up cell phones or electronic devices the next school day after either the fee is paid or the 15 days has passed.
3. Second offense and each offense thereafter. The phone or electronic device is kept for 30 school days OR the parent can pay a fee of \$25 to the school student activity fund and receive the phone or electronic device. Parents may pick up cell phones or electronic devices the next school day after either the fee is paid or the 30 days has passed.
4. The parent or legal guardian must pick up confiscated cell phones or electronic device at the school within 15 days after the 30 day policy ends or they forfeit the phone or the electronic device to the school.

NOTE: There may be changes to the current Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy in select schools. Parents will be notified of changes as necessary.

Student Bullying

The Hinds County School District does not condone and will not tolerate bullying or harassing behavior. Bullying or harassing behavior is any pattern of gestures or written, electronic or verbal communications, or any physical act or any threatening communication, or any act reasonably perceived as being motivated by any actual or perceived differentiating characteristic that (a) places a student or school employee in actual and reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property, or (b) creates or is certain to create a hostile environment by substantially interfering with or impairing a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits. A "hostile environment" means that the victim subjectively views the conduct as bullying or harassing behavior and the conduct is objectively severe or pervasive enough that a reasonable person would agree that it is bullying or harassing behavior. Bullying or harassing behavior will not be condoned or tolerated when it takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, or on a school bus, or when it takes place off school property when such conduct, in the determination of the school superintendent or principal, renders the offending person's presence in the classroom a disruption to the educational environment of the school or a detriment to the best interest and welfare of the pupils and teacher of such class as a whole.

The Hinds County School District will make every reasonable effort to ensure that no student or school employee is subjected to bullying or harassing behavior by other school employees or students. Likewise, the District will make every reasonable effort to ensure that no person engages in any act of reprisal or retaliation against a victim, witness or a person with reliable information about an act of bullying or harassing behavior.

The District encourages anyone who has witnessed or has reliable information that a student or school employee has been subject to any act of bullying or harassing behavior to report the incident to the appropriate school official.

Any student or school employee who feels he/she has been a victim of bullying or harassing behavior shall have the fundamental right to defend by reporting such conduct to the principal. The report shall be made promptly but no later than five (5) calendar days after the alleged act or acts occurred.

Ref: SB 2015; Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-301(e)

Bus Discipline

Appropriate bus behavior is required of all students. Bus disciplinary offenses include:

1. Failure to follow directions the first time that they are given.
2. Failure to stay in assigned seat and keep hands and feet in the bus (no hanging any part of the body out of the window).
3. Exiting the school bus when it stops at another school or bus stop.
4. Failure to refrain from eating, drinking, or smoking.
5. Failure to refrain from throwing any type of object either on the bus or from the bus.
6. Failure to refrain from engaging in any physical contact.
7. Failure to refrain from loud or profane talking.
8. Failure to refrain from defacing or vandalizing the bus.
9. Failure to refrain from harassing or bothering other students.
10. Failure to refrain from fighting.
11. Failure to refrain from littering.
12. Failure to refrain from disrespecting the driver.

Principals will have discretion in applying the bus conduct policy. The nature and severity of individual student actions will determine the level of disciplinary action and may result in suspension from the bus and the school. Students receiving referrals for failure to observe the bus behavior described above will be disciplined as follows:

1 st Referral	Warning (unless the offense is severe)
2 nd Referral	One (1) day suspension from riding the bus
3 rd Referral	Three (3) days suspension from riding the bus
4 th Referral	Five (5) days suspension from riding the bus
5 th Referral	Ten (10) day suspension from riding the bus
6 th Referral	Thirty (30) day suspension from riding the bus
7 th Referral	Expulsion from the bus for the remainder of the year

STUDENT DISCIPLINE PLAN

It is the philosophy of the Hinds County School District that all employees and students have the right to work in a safe environment; that all school employees have the right to carry out their job responsibilities in an environment free from undue disruption and/or intimidation; and that all students have a right to a school and bus environment conducive to learning and free from distractions, disruptions, and intimidation. Students who violate the law (fighting, drugs, weapons, etc.) will be arrested and taken to the Hinds County Detention

Center. If the school is unable to reach the parent or guardian by telephone, law enforcement will contact the parent.

Class I Behaviors

1. Distractions or disruptions of normal classroom operations
2. Violating student dress code as outlined in the student dress code section.
3. Absences or tardiness
4. Inappropriate public display of affection
5. Personal contact such as pushing and shoving
6. Inappropriate bus conduct or violating bus rules
7. Any other offense which the principal may reasonably judge to fall within this category

Class II Behaviors

1. Habitual violations of Class I behaviors (three or more violations)
2. Using and/or possessing matches or lighters
3. Defacing or destruction of school property (Ex: writing on desks, walls, etc.)
4. Stealing – under \$10.00 in value
5. Cutting class
6. Inappropriate bus conduct or violating bus rules
7. Any other offense which the principal may reasonably judge to fall within this category

Class III Behaviors

1. Habitual violations of Class II Behaviors (three or more violations are considered habitual violations)
2. Vandalizing school property (non-gang related)
3. Personal contact such as pushing and shoving (severe)
4. Out of assigned area
5. Ammunition, possession or use of
6. Using vulgar, abusive, or profane language, acts, and/or gestures
7. Stealing – over \$10.00 in value
8. Failure to identify self or intentionally providing false information to any school employee or member of the school board
9. Conspiring to or creating a disturbance in the classroom, on the bus, on school property, or at any school function, or verbally threatening such a disturbance
10. Written or verbal proposition to engage in a sexual act
11. Habitually leaving school without permission, cutting classes, or not following proper procedures in leaving campus
12. Refusing to surrender any item not allowed at school
13. Insubordination, disrespect for authority, willful disobedience

14. Failure to serve detention
15. Membership in fraternities, sororities, or secret societies
16. Inappropriate bus conduct or violating bus rules
17. Any other offense which the principal may reasonably judge to fall within this category

**Disciplinary Options for Class I, II, and III Behaviors. The severity of the discipline increases as the Class level increases*

1. Habitual violators of Class I, II or III behaviors may receive up to 10 days' suspension.
2. Administrative, student, parent, and teacher(s) conference
3. Contact parents. Parents are financially liable for a child's destructive acts toward school property or persons; and if the school requests, the parents will be required to attend a disciplinary conference. Parents who willfully fail to attend a properly noticed conference may be guilty of a misdemeanor. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-11-53.
4. Loss of privileges to all school activities (Ex: field trips, assemblies, class parties, etc.)
5. Total restitution for any injury to others requiring medical attention, or for items stolen or damaged
6. Corporal Punishment (with parental approval on file)
7. Detention – Failure to report for Detention may result in out-of-school suspension
8. In-school detention
9. Bus – See Bus Discipline Policy
10. Out of school suspension
11. Long-term suspension with recommendation of placement at the RESTART Center
12. Other appropriate action deemed necessary by the principal
13. Mandatory four (4) weeks of counseling using Positive Action or Social Skills Improvement System
14. Students who are involved in any criminal or violent behavior will be arrested by law enforcement and transported to the Hinds County Detention Center.

* All of these disciplinary actions are available to deal with student offenses. The nature and severity of individual student actions will determine any final disciplinary action.

Class IV Behaviors

1. Habitual violations of Class III Behaviors (three or more violations)
2. Burglarizing or unlawful possession of school property
3. Possession of or use of fireworks
4. Extortion
5. Gambling
6. Trespassing
7. Fighting/verbal or physical assault
8. Using abusive language or abusive behavior to district personnel or students
9. Intimidation by placing someone in fear of his/her safety

10. Vandalizing school property (gang related, gang graffiti, etc.)
11. Burglary or vandalism of a vehicle or any personal item
12. Sexual harassment written, verbal, or suggestive
13. Use and/or possessing tobacco, and tobacco-related products
14. Possession, distribution, or Internet viewing of pornographic materials.
15. Possession of or distribution of non-prescription medications
16. Display of a reasonable suspicion of being under the influence of narcotics, controlled substances and/or alcohol. Note that parents or guardians may provide an appropriate drug or alcohol test within 4 hours to demonstrate that no such impairment exists.
17. Inappropriate bus conduct or violating bus rules.
18. Display of inappropriate touching (sexual)
19. Distractions or disruptions of normal classroom operations (Severe)
20. Indecent Exposure
21. Any other offense which the principal may reasonably judge to fall within this category

**Disciplinary Actions for Class IV Behaviors*

1. Habitual violations of certain Class I, II, and III behaviors may result in alternative school placement
2. Up to ten (10) or more days of suspension
3. Bus – See Bus Discipline Policy
4. Long-term suspension with recommendation of placement at the RESTART Center.
5. Total restitution for any injury to others requiring medical attention, or for items stolen or damaged
6. Other appropriate action deemed necessary by the principal
7. Mandatory four (4) weeks of counseling using Positive Action or Social Skills Improvement System
8. Students who are involved in any criminal or violent behavior will be arrested by law enforcement and transported to the Hinds County Detention Center.

* All of these disciplinary actions are available to deal with student offenses. The nature and severity of individual student actions will determine any final disciplinary action.

Class V Behaviors

1. Habitual violations of Class IV Behaviors (three or more violations)
2. Intimidation by placing someone in fear or his/her safety (severe)
3. Burglarizing or unlawful possession of school property
4. Possession, use, sale, or distribution of alcohol
5. Possession of any item that has the shape, form, or appearance of or intended use as a weapon
6. Physical and/or verbal assault of teachers, administrators, visitors or other staff members or student
7. Verbal or written threat toward self or others (teacher, administrator, or student)

8. Participating in or causing a disturbance at school or school-related activities – riot, group/gang-fights, fights, or similar disturbances
9. Engaging in or the appearance of engaging in a sexual act
10. Robbery
11. Mace or pepper spray-type device, possession or use of
12. Bullets, possession or use of
13. Arson
14. Bomb threats/setting off fire alarm/vocalizing a false fire alarm
15. Inappropriate bus conduct or violating bus rules
16. Any other offense which the principal may reasonably judge to fall within this category

**Disciplinary Actions for Class V Behaviors*

1. Expulsion – For Class V behaviors, reported violations of the Code of Conduct. EXPULSION IS DEFINED AS THE COMPLETE LOSS OF ALL PRIVILEGES IN THE K-12 PROGRAM.
2. While on expelled or suspended status, a student is not allowed to enter the campus or building of any Hinds County school during or outside of school hours, nor may the student attend any school-related activity on or off school property. To do so may make the student liable for arrest on grounds of trespassing as well as jeopardizing future chance of readmission to the school district.
3. Students who meet the entrance requirements for the RESTART Center program may be assigned to that program.
4. Students who are involved in any criminal or violent behavior will be arrested by law enforcement and transported to the Hinds County Detention Center.
5. Mandatory four (4) weeks of counseling using Positive Action or Social Skills Improvement System
6. Any compulsory school-age child who becomes involved in any criminal or violent behavior shall be removed from such RESTART Center program, and with probable cause, the case will be referred to Youth Court.
7. Bus suspension
8. Other appropriate action deemed necessary by the principal

Class VI Behaviors

1. Possession or use of a deadly weapon
2. Possession, sale, or use of any controlled substance, prescription drug or “look alike” drug
3. Possession of any dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, or powerful explosive
4. Assault resulting in serious physical injury or simple verbal or physical assault on any school employee or student
5. Sexual assault or sexual battery as defined under Mississippi law
6. Rape
7. Kidnapping
8. Indecent liberties with a minor as defined in Miss. Code Ann. § 97-5-23

9. Assault involving the use of a weapon
10. Possession of a firearm in violation of the law
11. Murder

NOTE: A weapon is any gun, air rifle, air pistol, Bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, Gerber knife, **metallic or brass knuckles**, razors and razor blades, and any sharp-pointed or edged instrument except for those used as instructional supplies, unaltered nail files, and clips and tools used solely for food preparation, instruction, and maintenance on educational property. Miss. Code Ann. § 97-37-14.

**Disciplinary Actions for Class VI Behaviors*

Students in any school who possess any controlled substance in violation of the Uniform Control Substance Law, a knife, handgun or other firearm, or any other instrument considered to be dangerous and capable of causing bodily harm or who commit a violent act on school property as defined in Miss. Code Ann. § 97-37-17, shall be subject to automatic expulsion for one calendar year by the superintendent or principal from such school. The superintendent may modify the period of time on a case-by-case basis. Such expulsion shall take effect immediately subject to the constitutional rights of due process. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-11-18.

The superintendent or his/her designee must immediately report to law enforcement agencies when there is a reasonable belief that an unlawful activity has occurred on school property or during a school activity. Students who are involved in any criminal or violent behavior will be arrested by law enforcement and transported to the Hinds County Detention Center. The superintendent or his/her designee may be fined up to \$1,000.00, jailed for six months, or both, for failure to report. When a report is received, law enforcement must immediately dispatch an officer; and an arrest may be made if there is probable cause. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-11-29. (Board Policy JCBE)

IDEA Students (§ 300.520 Authority of School Personnel.)

School personnel may order the removal of a student for not more than ten (10) consecutive school days to the extent that such removals would be applied to children without a disability for the same offense or when the student's behavior is deemed to be dangerous behavior. Additional removals of not more than ten (10) consecutive school days in that same school year for separate incidents of misconduct may be ordered.

1. **10 Days or Less:** When removals during the first ten (10) day period are less than ten (10) cumulative days, services are not required;
2. **Eleven Days or More:** After a student has been removed from his or her current placement for more than ten (10) cumulative school days in the same school year, during any subsequent days of removal services are provided.

When a student with a disability has been removed for more than ten (10) school days in a school year, a manifestation determination is conducted. If the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the disability, an intervention plan will be reviewed and/ or revised or implemented, if one is not already completed.

Weapons, Drugs, or Serious Bodily Harm: School personnel may order the removal of a student that results in a change in placement to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 days if:

- (a.) The student carries a weapon to school or to a school function or acquires a weapon at school or at a school function under the jurisdiction of Hinds County School District; or

- (b.) The student knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function under the jurisdiction of Hinds County School District.
- (c.) The student inflicts serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of Hinds County School District.

The district may first remove the student for up to ten (10) consecutive school days while convening the IEP committee to determine the student's interim alternative setting.

The IEP committee will complete a manifestation determination, if the behavior is a manifestation of the disability a functional behavioral assessment and positive behavioral intervention will be reviewed and revised or developed.

School Violence

In an effort to prevent the escalation of school violence, the legislature passed several new laws that severely impact the responsibilities of both parents and students. This portion of the Student Code of Conduct and Discipline Plan is designed to highlight these laws.

Automatic Expulsion

Any student in any school who possesses any controlled substance in violation of the Uniform Control Substances Law, a knife, handgun, other firearm, or any other instrument considered to be dangerous and capable of causing bodily harm or who commits a violent act on school property shall be subject to automatic expulsion for one calendar year by the superintendent from such school. However, the superintendent may modify the period of time on a case-by-case basis. Such expulsion shall take effect immediately subject to the constitutional rights of due process. MS Code Ann. § 37-11-18. (Board Policies JCBH, JCDAE)

Parental Responsibility

It is the parent or guardians' responsibility to provide appropriate emergency contact phone numbers where they can be reached. It is also the parent or guardian's responsibility to check their children's book bags and person each morning before children leave home for school for the presence of any items that are not allowed at school.

A parent may be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined up to \$1,000.00, imprisoned for six (6) months, or both for knowingly allowing a student under the age of 18 to have, own, or carry a concealed weapon unless otherwise exempted by law. MS Code Ann. § 97-37-15.

According to state law, if any student shall willfully destroy, cut, deface, damage, or injure any school building, equipment, or other school property, he shall be liable for suspension or expulsion and his parents shall be liable for all damages.

A parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district may be requested to appear at school by an appropriate school official for a conference regarding the student's destructive acts against school property or persons or the student's disciplinary problems.

A parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district who has been summoned by proper notification by the superintendent shall be required to attend such discipline conferences. A parent, guardian, or custodian who willfully fails to attend a disciplinary conference may be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined up to \$250.00.

A parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district shall be responsible for any criminal fines brought against the student for unlawful activity as defined in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-11-29 occurring on school grounds. Unlawful activity means any of the following:

- Possession or use of a deadly weapon;
- Possession, sale, or use of any controlled substance;
- Aggravated verbal or physical assault;
- Simple verbal or physical assault upon any school employee;
- Rape, sexual battery, or murder;
- Kidnapping;
- Fondling, touching, or handling a child for lustful purposes.

Any parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child who refuses or willfully fails to perform any of the duties imposed upon him or her under the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00.

A public school district is entitled to recover damages in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 plus necessary court costs from the parents of any student between the ages of 7 and 17 who maliciously and willfully damages or destroys property belonging to that school district. However, this section does not apply to parents whose parental control of such student has been removed by court order or decree. These damages are in addition to any other recovery.

Reporting Requirements for Unlawful Activity

Any school employee who has knowledge of any unlawful activity which occurred or may have occurred on educational property or during a school-related activity must report such activity to the superintendent or his/her designee who shall notify the appropriate law enforcement officials.

Release of Law Enforcement Records

Law enforcement records of students taken into custody for committing a felony or offense involving the use or possession of a dangerous weapon may be released to appropriate school officials without a court order upon written request.

References: Miss. Code Ann. § 37-11-19, 37-11-53, 97-37-1, 97-3-7, 37-11-29, 37-11-59.

Youth Court Authority

A delinquent act now includes violations of the Compulsory Attendance Law, Uniform Control Substance Law, violent behavior, and those acts that if committed by an adult would not be punishable by life imprisonment or death. MS Code Ann. § 43-21-105.

In delinquency cases, the judge may order several actions including placement in a wilderness training program, a youth challenge program, or state training school if the child is over the age of ten.

The judge cannot place a child into one school district who was expelled from another school district for a violent act. For the purposes of MS Code Ann. § 43-21-605, a violent act is defined as an action that results in death or physical harm to another or an attempt to cause death or physical harm to another. The Youth Court shall not order the enrollment or reenrollment to another school district of a student who has been suspended or expelled by one public school for the commission of a violent act. The superintendent of the school district to which the child is ordered may, in his discretion, assign such child to the RESTART Center program. If a student who has threatened the safety of himself or others is ordered to attend school, the court must notify

the principal, in writing, within five (5) days of the adjudication or before the student begins to attend school, whichever occurs first. This notification must contain the nature of the offense and the probation requirements related to school attendance. A principal who has been notified by the juvenile court counselor shall handle the report according to the guidelines and rules adopted by the State Department of Education. As a condition of probation, the court may require the student to keep passing grades in at least four courses during each grading period and meet with the court counselor and a representative of the school to make a plan for how to maintain those passing grades. MS Code Ann. § 43-21-721.

MHSAA Hazing/Harassment Policy

Hinds County School District forbids hazing. Hazing can be defined as any act or ceremony which can create the risk of harm to a student. Hazing includes activities that involve the risk of physical harm, whipping, branding, ingesting vile substances, sleep deprivation, over-exposure to heat or cold, restraint, nudity, or kidnapping, etc. Students who participate in such activity will be subject to punishment and may be expelled.

Students should report incidents of hazing to the school guidance counselor and/or other administrative personnel.

DUE PROCESS

The Due Process procedure provides the following in instances of serious misconduct which may result in a suspension or expulsion: (a) adequate notice of the charge against a student, (b) an opportunity for a hearing and to present evidence, and (c) a decision supported by the evidence. (Board Policy JCAA)

Student's Right to a Hearing

Whenever a student is suspended, school authorities shall make every reasonable effort to notify the parents or legal guardian. Each student who has been suspended for more than ten (10) consecutive days, or who has been recommended for expulsion or RESTART placement, is automatically given notice of right to a hearing before the School Appeals Committee. Failure of the student, parent, and/or legal counsel to appear at the proper time and place shall waive the rights to attend a formal hearing.

Suspension Reentry Conference

Whenever a student is suspended, the parents or legal guardian may be required by the principal to bring the student back to school for a mandatory parent conference before the suspension ends. A student whose parent or guardian fails to accompany him/her for this conference will not be allowed to come back to school.

Grievance Procedure

Students' complaints and grievances shall be resolved through orderly processes and at the lowest possible level. In the event that a resolution is not obtained at the school level, further appeal may be made following Board Policy JCDEA which is posted on the district's web site at <http://www.hinds.k12.ms.us>.

Anyone having any complaints alleging discrimination on the basis of sex or any inquiries on the application of Title IX may contact the Superintendent of Education.

The Hinds County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, religion, or national origin.

Organization of Fraternities, Sororities and Secret Societies in the School

Students in the Hinds County School District are prohibited by state law and district policy from belonging to or participating in any activities of any high school fraternity, sorority, or secret society as defined in MS CODE 37-11-37. Any participation by students in fraternities, sororities, or secret organizations will result in suspension and/or expulsion from the Hinds County School District. (Board Policy JHCAA).

Sexual Harassment

The Board will not tolerate sexual harassment activity by any of its employees or students. This policy similarly applies to non-employee volunteers or any other persons who work subject to the control of school authorities.

A. Definitions

1. **Conduct of a Sexual Nature:** Conduct of a sexual nature may include, but is not limited to, verbal, written or physical sexual advances, including subtle pressure for sexual activity; touching, pinching, patting, or brushing against; comments regarding physical or personality characteristics of a sexual nature; sexually-oriented “kidding,” “teasing,” double-entendres, jokes, and any harassing conduct to which an employee or student would not be subjected but for such individual’s sex.
2. **Unwelcome Conduct of a Sexual Nature:**
 - (a.) Verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature may constitute sexual harassment when the allegedly harassed employee or student has indicated, by his/her conduct, that it is unwelcome.
 - (b.) A person who has initially welcomed such conduct by active participation must give specific notice to the alleged harasser that such conduct is no longer welcome in order for any such subsequent conduct to be deemed unwelcome.

B. Sexual Harassment Prohibited

1. For the purposes of this policy, unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors, and other unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature constitute prohibited sexual harassment if:
 - (a.) Submission to the conduct is made either an explicit or implicit condition or employment or award of grade or other measures of student achievement;
 - (b.) Submission to or rejection of the conduct is used as a basis for an employment decision affecting the harassed employee or any decision affecting a student; or
 - (c.) The conduct substantially interferes with an employee’s or student’s performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or school environment.
2. **Specific Prohibitions**
 - (a.) **Administrators and Supervisors.** It is sexual harassment for a manager, supervisor or educator to use his/her authority to solicit sexual favors or attention from subordinates when the subordinate’s failure to submit will result in adverse treatment, or when the subordinate’s acquiescence will result in preferential treatment. Administrators and supervisors who either engage in sexual harassment or tolerate such conduct by other employees or students shall be subject to sanctions, as described below:
 - (b.) **Non-managerial and Non-supervisory Employees.** It is sexual harassment for a non-administrative and non-supervisory employee to subject another such employee or student to any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. Employees or students who engage in such conduct shall be subject to sanctions as described below:

(c.) Employees and Students. It is sexual harassment for an employee to subject a student to any conduct of a sexual nature. Employees who engage in such conduct shall be subject to sanctions as described below:

(d.) Students. It is sexual harassment for a student to subject another student to any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. Students who engage in such conduct shall be subject to sanctions as described below:

C. Reporting, Investigation, and Sanctions

1. It is the express policy of the Hinds County School Board of Education to encourage victims of sexual harassment to report such claims. This may be done through the Procedure for Processing Complaints of Sexual Harassment (Policy GACN-P) or by reporting such matters to the Superintendent or [his/her designee](#).
 - (a.) Confidentiality will be maintained and no reprisals or retaliation will be allowed to occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of sexual harassment.
 - (b.) Students are urged to report any conduct of a sexual nature by school employees or any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature by other students to a school counselor or administrator.
2. In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment, the totality of the circumstances, the nature of the conduct, and the context in which the alleged conduct occurred will be investigated. The Superintendent or the Board has the responsibility of investigating and resolving complaints of sexual harassment.
3. Any employee found to have engaged in sexual harassment shall be subject to sanctions, including, but not limited to, warning or reprimand, suspension, or termination, subject to applicable procedural requirement. Conduct of a sexual nature directed toward students shall be reported as child abuse for investigation by appropriate authorities. Any student found to have engaged in sexual harassment shall be subject to sanctions, including, but not limited to, detention, suspension or expulsion, subject to applicable procedural requirements.

FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

The district fully complies with the federal legislation outlined in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Parents and/or legal guardians of a student in the Hinds County School District have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers and paraprofessionals who instruct their child. Therefore, the Hinds County School District makes available to all of our parents and/or legal guardians, upon request, information regarding the qualifications of their child's teacher(s). The information we will provide will include the following: 1) whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas taught; 2) whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status; 3) The baccalaureate degree of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree; and 4) whether any assistant teacher providing instructional services to the student has met the required qualifications.

If you are interested in receiving this information, please submit your written request to the Superintendent of Education, Hinds County School District, 13192 Highway 18, Raymond, MS 39154.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA)

Purposes of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) for school districts are as follows:

1. To ensure that all children with disabilities ages three through 20 have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living;
2. To ensure that the rights of children with disabilities and parents of such children are protected; and
3. To assist states, localities, educational service agencies, and Federal agencies to provide for the education of all children with disabilities;
4. To assist states in the implementation of a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families;
5. To ensure that educators and parents have the necessary tools to improve educational results for children with disabilities by supporting system improvement activities; coordinated research and personnel preparation; coordinated technical assistance, dissemination, and support; and technology development and media services; and to assess and ensure the effectiveness of efforts to educate children with disabilities.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The school district will not, except for "directory information," disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student without prior written consent from the parent or the eligible student. Prior consent of the parent or eligible student is not required when the school releases such information to other school officials (including teachers), officials of another school district in which the student seeks to enroll, or other federal, state and educational agencies as enumerated in Public Law 93-579.

The schools in the district will upon occasion use/publish personally identifiable information including honor rolls, student work, school annuals, athletic rosters, class rolls, audio-visual and photographic representations, and school-sponsored club and activity rosters. Parents who wish their children excluded from this practice must advise the principal of the school, in writing, no later than fourteen (14) days after the student's enrollment or receipt of this handbook, whichever is later. Appeals regarding the decisions of school principals concerning educational records may be made to the Superintendent of Education at the administrative office address listed in this publication.

The Hinds County School District utilizes a Multi- Channel School-to-Parent Notification system. Parents who wish their children excluded from this practice must advise the principal of the school, in writing, no later than fourteen (14) days after the student's enrollment or receipt of this handbook, whichever is later.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's educational records. These rights are as follow:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's educational records within 45 days of the day the school district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect to the [Superintendent of Education](#) at the administrative office address listed in this publication. The [Superintendent of Education](#) will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students should make written requests for amendments to the [Superintendent of Education](#). Such requests should clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why the record is inaccurate or misleading. If the school district decides not to amend the record as requested, the school district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise him/her of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosures without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff, military recruiters and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibility. Upon request, the school district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

Annual Notification (Board Policy JRAB)

Students and parents will have access to their school records. The school will notify parents and adult students annually of the following:

1. The type of records kept;
2. The procedure for inspecting and copying these records;
3. The right for interpretation;
4. The right to challenge data thought to be erroneous, the procedures for correcting or expunging erroneous data or inserting a rebuttal statement;
5. The right to lodge a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if mandates are not adequately implemented. Parents/students may contact the individual school for procedures to obtain these records.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Hinds County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion or age in the admission to and provision of educational programs, activities and services or employment opportunities and benefits. The following office has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies of the district.

Director of Operations & Business Affairs

Hinds County School District
13192 Highway 18
Raymond, MS 39154
601.857.5222

Parental Involvement (Board Policy IDDB)

Under the auspices of the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA), Title I, Part B, the Hinds County School District provides both school wide and targeted assisted services to eligible schools. Both programs allow schools to use researched-based reform strategies to enrich the curriculum offerings. School wide programs allow the use of Title I funds to improve the entire school. Targeted assistance programs focus on improving the academic achievement of specifically identified students with the greatest risk of non-success. Involvement of parents is essential in the teaching and learning process. Therefore, the Hinds County School District seeks to engage in a relationship with the parents that will encourage parental involvement in all facets of the educational environment. A well-organized school-parent partnership will improve the educational, emotional, and social development of students. The school board, central office administrators, building principals, and teachers will participate in educational activities designed to establish and support an environment that fosters a positive school-home partnership. The board also encourages every school to form an active and effective parent-teacher organization.

The school-home partnership will be fostered by:

1. Forming district-wide committee of parents, administrators, teachers and students (at appropriate grade levels) to assess, plan, and implement strategies to support and improve parental involvement policies/programs and strengthen the partnership.
2. Providing technical assistance and training activities designed to develop the skills necessary for committee members to plan and implement effective parental involvement procedures.
3. Coordinating and integrating parental involvement efforts with those of other federal, state, or local programs operated by the district and community organizations within the local school community, such as, Even Start, Head Start, and day care programs.
4. Conducting an annual assessment of the parental involvement program to determine whether participation has increased and to identify any deterrents to participation. Evaluation checklists, survey forms, and interviews will be used.
5. Using the evaluation findings in school/program improvement activities for revision of the parent involvement policy.
6. Encouraging school administrators and teachers to develop strong parental relationships, create friendly and open school environments, collaborate and communicate with parents about school programs and policies, involve parents in the educational process, and share decision making responsibilities.
7. Providing literacy instruction, home-based teaching strategies, and other resources designed to help parents participate in the education of their children.

Asbestos Notice—Annual Notification

We are informing all parents and school employees of their option to review the asbestos management plan, which includes documentation of any changes of asbestos-containing materials in the schools. To provide continuing management of the asbestos in our buildings, all asbestos-containing materials (ACM) are inspected every six months by an engineering firm. Any changes in the ACM are being recorded in a surveillance report as part of the management plan. The three-year re-inspection of our school buildings has been performed as required. A copy of the re-inspection report has been filed with the Mississippi Department

of Education. A copy of the surveillance report and a copy of the management plan are located in the principal's office at each school. A copy of all management plans for the district is maintained in the office of the Maintenance Supervisor at 13328 Highway 18, Raymond, Mississippi. Any interested party should feel free to go to any of these locations to review these reports.

ACCEPTABLE CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT

Hinds County School District School District Internet Safety Policy

Introduction

It is the policy of **Hinds County School District** to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the **Hinds County School District** online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the **Hinds County School District's** staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of The Technology Director or designated representatives. The **Hinds County School District** or designated representatives will provide age-appropriate training for students who use the **Hinds County School District** Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote the **Hinds County School District's** commitment to:

- I. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Hinds County School District's Internet Safety Policy;
- II. Student safety with regard to:
 - a. Safety on the Internet;
 - b. Appropriate behavior while online, on social networking Websites, and in chat rooms; and
 - c. Cyber bullying awareness and response.
- III. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA")

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES (BOARD POLICY JTA)

The Hinds County School District is pleased to offer students and staff access to a computer network for electronic mail (e-mail) and the Internet. To gain access to e-mail and the Internet, all students must obtain parental permission as verified by the signatures on the Internet/Technology Acceptance Use Policy Consent. Should a parent prefer that a student not have e-mail and Internet access, use of the computers is still possible for more traditional purposes such as word processing.

What is possible?

Access to e-mail and the Internet will enable users to explore thousands of libraries, databases, museums, and other repositories of information and to exchange personal communication with other Internet users around the world. Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. While the purpose is to provide Internet resources for constructive educational goals, users may find ways to access other materials. The Technology Department is actively monitoring Internet usage for inappropriate content and blocking unwanted sites. We believe that the benefits to users from access to the Internet in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. But ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Therefore, we support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

What is expected?

Users are responsible for appropriate behavior on the school's computer network just as they are in a classroom or on a school playground. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. It is expected that users will comply with district standards and the specific rules set forth below. The use of the network is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked if abused. The user is personally responsible for his/her actions in accessing and utilizing the school's computer resources. The users are advised never to access, keep, or send anything that they would not want others to see.

What are the rules?

Privacy -- Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Technology administrators may review communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly.

Storage capacity—Users are expected to remain within allocated disk space and delete e-mail or other material which take up excessive storage space.

Illegal copying -- Users should never download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless they have written permission from the Technology Director. Nor should users copy other people's work or intrude into other people's files.

Inappropriate materials or language -- No profane, abusive or impolite language should not be used to communicate nor should materials be accessed which are not in line with the rules of school behavior. A good rule to follow is never view, send, or access materials which you would not want others see. Should users encounter such material by accident, they should report it their teacher or principal immediately.

These are guidelines to follow to prevent the loss of network privileges.

1. Do not use a computer to harm other people or their work.
2. Do not damage the computer or the network in any way.
3. Do not interfere with the operation of the network by installing illegal software, shareware, or freeware.
4. Do not violate copyright laws.
5. Do not view, send, or display offensive messages or pictures.
6. Do not share your password with another person.
7. Do not waste limited resources such as disk space or printing capacity.
8. Do not trespass in another's folders, work, or files.
9. Do notify an adult immediately, if by accident, you encounter materials which violate the rules of appropriate use.
10. Do install wireless access points, media devices, or personal laptops on the district network.
11. BE PREPARED to be held accountable for your actions and for the loss of privileges if the Rules of Appropriate Use are violated.

HANDBOOK UPDATES AND REVISIONS

This handbook is updated each school year to better serve the parents and students of Hinds County School District. If you have specific recommendations on how we can improve this publication to better serve you, please let us know. You may write to specific staff members listed in the front of this directory or contact Dr. Delesicia Martin, Assistant Superintendent, who will ensure that all suggestions are carefully reviewed each year for possible inclusion in next year's handbook. You may email your suggestions to her at dmartin@hinds.k12.ms.us or by regular mail at: Hinds County School District, 13192 Highway 18, Raymond, MS 39154.

WEB PAGE

In an effort to provide better information to parents and students, the district maintains a comprehensive web page with a wide variety of information. You may access this page at the following address: www.hinds.k12.ms.us. If you have recommendations for additions or revisions to the web page, please contact Mrs. Lisa Jones, Technology Coordinator, via email at ljones@hinds.k12.ms.us or by telephone at 857-5222 x117.

PARENT AUTHORIZATION AND AGREEMENT FORM

Off Campus Educational Experiences: I hereby request and **CONSENT / DO NOT CONSENT** (circle and initial your choice) that my child or ward be permitted to participate in any and all field trips this year. (You will be notified prior to each trip.) I understand that this trip is a part of the school's educational program and that my child or ward may be accompanied and transported by a teacher or other officials or volunteers of the school district. I agree that no teacher or other school district official or volunteer parent will be held responsible for any injuries or damages occurring on such trip. In the event a claim is made, I agree to limit such claim to my child's or ward's share of any insurance proceeds, if any, available on any policy held by the person against whom such claim is made.

Corporal Punishment: I CONSENT / DO NOT CONSENT (circle and initial your choice) to my child or ward's being paddled or spanked as a consequence for misbehaving in school. If corporal punishment is not allowed, my child may receive either In or Out of School Suspension as a consequence for his/her behavior when sent to the office.

Student/Parent Handbook: I HAVE / HAVE NOT RECEIVED (circle and initial as appropriate) a copy of the HCSD Student / Parent Handbook outlining the district's policies, discipline guidelines and code of conduct, and understand that it is my responsibility to read its contents and explain them to my child. I understand the attendance policy states that only doctor's excuses or legal excuses create an excused absence. I also understand that the district is not responsible for any medical bills or balances not covered under a student's insurance policy.

Parent Authorization and Indemnity Agreement Emergency Treatment: I, the undersigned parent/s or guardian/s of _____, a minor child attending the HCSD, who is diabetic or potentially at risk for seizures, coma, or other such medical emergency request that the personnel of the Hinds County School District summon Emergency Medical Services ("EMS") personnel to treat my child and/or to transport said child to any medical facility in the event of such medical emergency. I/We forever release, discharge and covenant to hold harmless the Hinds County School District, its personnel and Board of Education from any all claims, demands, damages, expenses, loss of services and causes of action belonging to the minor child or to the undersigned arising out of or on account of any injury, sickness, disability, loss or damages of any kind resulting from the emergency treatment by said EMS or the transport of said child to any medical facility.

The undersigned agree to repay the school district, its personnel, or Board of Education any sum of money, expenses, or attorney's fees that any of them may be compelled to pay in defense of any action or on account of any such injury to the minor child as a result of the administration of emergency treatment. I/We have read the foregoing release and indemnity agreement and fully understand it.

Parent Authorization and Indemnity Agreement Prescription Medicines: I, the undersigned parent or guardian of _____, a minor child request that the personnel of the Hinds County School District administer prescription medicine to this student. This request has been made for my convenience as a substitute for parental administration of this medicine. It is understood that school personnel administering the medicine will not have to have medical or nursing training. I forever release, discharge, and covenant to hold harmless the Hinds County School District, its personnel and Board of Education from any and all claims, demands, damages, expenses, loss of services, and causes of action belonging to the minor child or to the undersigned arising out of or on account of any injury, sickness, disability, loss, or damages of any kind resulting from the administration of the prescription medicine.

The undersigned agree to repay the school district, its personnel or Board of Education any sum of money, expenses, or attorney's fees that any of them may be compelled to pay in defense of any action or on account of any such injury to the minor child as a result of the administration of medicine. I have read the foregoing release and indemnity agreement and fully understand it.

PARENT TECHNOLOGY PERMISSION FORM and INTERNET USER AGREEMENT: As a parent or guardian of a student in the Hinds County School, I have read the acceptable use policy that details information about the appropriate use of computers at the school and I understand this agreement will be kept on file at the school. (Questions should be directed to the principal for clarification.)

Check and initial your choice:

My child may use e-mail and the Internet while at school according to the rules outlined. _____

I would prefer that my child not use e-mail and the Internet while at school. _____

As a user of the School computer network, I agree to comply with the above stated rules and to use the network in a constructive manner.

Executed this the _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

Student Name (print): _____

Student Signature: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Parent Name (print): _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Witness: _____

Normal School Day Schedule

School	Student Drop Off Begins	Breakfast Begins	Classes Begin	Classes End/ Student Dismissal
Bolton-Edwards Elementary/ Middle School	7:15 a.m.	7:15 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	Car 2:50 p.m. Bus 2:50 p.m.
Byram Middle School	7:40 a.m.	7:40 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.
Carver Middle School	7:15 a.m.	7:15 a.m.	7:40 a.m.	2:51 p.m.
Raymond High 9 th Grade Academy	8:15 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	8:35 a.m.	3:35 p.m.
Gary Road Elementary School	7:15 a.m.	7:15 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	Car 2:40 p.m. Bus 2:40 p.m.
Gary Road Intermediate School	7:20 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	7:50 a.m.	Car 2:45 p.m. Bus 2:45 p.m.
Raymond Elementary School	7:10 a.m.	7:10 a.m.	7:45 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Raymond High School	8:15 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	8:35 a.m.	3:35 p.m.
Terry High School	8:25 a.m.	8:25 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	3:45 p.m.
Utica Elementary/ Middle School	7:20 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	7:55 a.m.	2:45 p.m.
			7:55 a.m.	2:50 p.m.

Late Start Schedule

(To be used in the case of inclement weather or other emergencies)

School	Student Drop Off Begins	Classes Begin	Classes End/ Student Dismissal
Bolton-Edwards Elementary/ Middle School	9:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Car 3:50 p.m. Bus 3:50 p.m.
Byram Middle School	9:40 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
Carver Middle School	9:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	3:51 p.m.
Raymond High 9 th Grade Academy	10:10 a.m.	10:40 a.m.	4:45 p.m.
Gary Road Elementary School	9:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Car 3:40 p.m. Bus 3:40 p.m.
Gary Road Intermediate School	9:35 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	Car 3:45 p.m. Bus 3:45 p.m.
Raymond Elementary School	9:30 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Raymond High School	10:15 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	4:45 p.m.
Terry High School	10:25 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	4:45 p.m.
Utica Elementary/ Middle School	9:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	3:45 p.m.
		10:00 a.m.	3:50 p.m.

Hinds County School District Report Card Calendar 2012-2013

9 Week Term	Beginning Term Date	Midterm Progress Report issued no later than	9 Weeks/Semester Exam Test Window	Ending Term Date	Report Cards will be issued no later than
First	August 8, 2012	September 7, 2012	October 2-5, 2012	October 5, 2012	October 19, 2012
Second	October 9, 2012	November 9, 2012	December 18-21, 2012	December 21, 2012	Parent Conference January 14, 2013 (1:00-6:00 p.m.)
Third	January 8, 2013	February 1, 2013	March 5-8, 2013	March 8, 2013	March 28, 2013
Fourth	March 18, 2013	April 19, 2013	May 16-22, 2013 Seniors (May 15-17)	May 22, 2013	May 31, 2013

Note: There will be no extra curricular activities or sports competitions scheduled during 9 weeks and semester exam testing windows.

Hinds County School District

www.hinds.k12.ms.us

Durham Transportation Services 601.857.5562