



2023-2024 School Year    Clarksville, Tennessee

# Student Conduct

Rights, Responsibilities, Rules, Due Process Procedures

*Our mission is to educate and empower our students to reach their potential.*

*Our vision is all students will be college and career ready.*

## Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>STUDENT EXPECTATIONS.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>LEGAL AUTHORITY (T.C.A. § 49-6-4002) .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA AND PPRA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>ESEA DIRECTOR’S TRAINING CURRICULUM 1.3 Parents Right-to-Know Notifications .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS IN IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION, AND PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>IDEA .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>SECTION 504 .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>PROTECTIONS FOR STUDENTS NOT YET ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND/OR 504 PLAN AND RELATED SERVICES.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>RESOURCES.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>DISCIPLINE-GENERAL .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>DETENTION .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (WHERE AVAILABLE) .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION PROCEDURE.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION OPERATION.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS, REMANDMENTS, AND EXPULSIONS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>APPEALS.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>OFFENSES.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>CATEGORY 1 OFFENSES .....</b>	<b>20</b>
Cell Phones and Electronic Devices .....	20
Inappropriate or Unauthorized use of Internet or District-Owned Devices – Not involving obscene materials or sites .....	21
Minor Dress Code Offenses .....	21
Tardiness.....	22
<b>ADDITIONAL CATEGORY 1 OFFENSES .....</b>	<b>22</b>
Disobedience.....	22
Minor disruptions .....	22
Obscene or Inappropriate Language with a Peer (not derogatory) Talking or other minor off-task behavior .....	22
Rude or Impolite Remarks to an Adult .....	22
Sleeping in Class .....	22
<b>CATEGORY 2 OFFENSES .....</b>	<b>23</b>
Boisterous Disruptive Conduct .....	23
Cheating, Plagiarism, Forgery .....	23

Dress Code (cannot be addressed by classroom teacher).....	24
Gambling.....	24
Profane Language Used in Remarks to an Adult (not derogatory).....	25
Repeated Category 1 Offenses .....	25
School Safety and Security .....	26
Skipping Class or Leaving Class Without Permission .....	26
<b>CATEGORY 3 OFFENSES .....</b>	<b>27</b>
Assault, and Fighting .....	27
Encouraging, Promoting, Urging or Furthering Fights. ....	27
Gangs (Display of Symbols) .....	28
Leaving School without Permission .....	28
Lewd or Lascivious Conduct.....	29
Other Conduct Warranting Discipline .....	29
Possession, Selling, or Distribution of Over-the-Counter Drugs.....	30
Possession or Transmission of Sexually Explicit Digital or Printed Materials to Include Sexting. ....	30
Repeated Category 2 Offenses .....	31
Theft.....	31
Threats .....	32
Tobacco.....	32
Vandalism and Defacing School Property Less Than \$500 .....	33
Verbal Altercation with Peer.....	33
Violation of School Rules .....	34
Vulgar and Profane Language Directed toward an Adult or Student; Derogatory .....	34
<b>CATEGORY 4 OFFENSES .....</b>	<b>35</b>
Activating False Fire Alarm.....	35
Alcohol .....	35
Any Item Sold or Dispensed Under the Pretense of a Controlled Substance.....	36
Arson .....	36
Bullying-related acts (including Cyber-bullying) Harassment, Intimidation, and Hazing .....	37
Gangs (Recruitment) .....	37
Non-Lethal Firearm .....	38
Other Conduct Warranting Discipline .....	38
Repeated Category 3 Offenses .....	39
Sexual Harassment.....	39
Sexual Intercourse on School Property or at School Events.....	40
Threats Toward Any School System Employee.....	40
Vandalism and Defacing School Property (Damage of \$500 or more) .....	41
Violation of School Rules .....	41
Weapons and Dangerous Instruments .....	42
<b>BUS OFFENSES.....</b>	<b>43</b>
Minor Offenses on School Buses .....	43
Major Offenses on School Buses .....	43
<b><i>ZERO-TOLERANCE OFFENSES.....</i></b>	<b><i>45</i></b>
<b>Aggravated Assault of Teacher, Staff, SRO, or Student.....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Assault of Teacher, Staff, or SRO.....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Credible Threats, Threats of Mass Violence, and Bomb Threats.....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Drugs.....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Firearms .....</b>	<b>48</b>

<b><i>BULLYING-RELATED ACTS.....</i></b>	<b><i>49</i></b>
<b><i>EDUCATION, AWARENESS, AND INTERVENTION .....</i></b>	<b><i>50</i></b>
<b><i>AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE.....</i></b>	<b><i>53</i></b>
<b><i>NON-DISCRIMINATION.....</i></b>	<b><i>54</i></b>
<b><i>DANGEROUS WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.....</i></b>	<b><i>54</i></b>
<b><i>CONTRABAND ON SCHOOL PROPERTY (Including School Buses).....</i></b>	<b><i>55</i></b>
<b><i>STUDENT TRANSPORTATION .....</i></b>	<b><i>55</i></b>
<b><i>STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES .....</i></b>	<b><i>55</i></b>
<b><i>SECURING CARRY-ON ITEMS ON SCHOOL BUSES.....</i></b>	<b><i>56</i></b>
<b><i>STUDENT ATTENDANCE .....</i></b>	<b><i>57</i></b>
<b><i>STUDENT DRESS CODE .....</i></b>	<b><i>58</i></b>
<b><i>RULES OF BEHAVIOR FOR STUDENT ATHLETES.....</i></b>	<b><i>58</i></b>
<b><i>INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES.....</i></b>	<b><i>59</i></b>
<b><i>TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USAGE POLICY .....</i></b>	<b><i>62</i></b>
<b><i>SAFE SCHOOL CHOICE.....</i></b>	<b><i>65</i></b>
<b><i>ASSESSMENT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS .....</i></b>	<b><i>67</i></b>
<b><i>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS.....</i></b>	<b><i>67</i></b>
<b><i>MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS.....</i></b>	<b><i>68</i></b>
<b><i>HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS .....</i></b>	<b><i>70</i></b>
<b><i>A FAMILY GUIDE TO RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTION AND INTERVENTION (RTI<sup>2</sup>) 2023-2024.....</i></b>	<b><i>72</i></b>
<b><i>GLOSSARY OF TERMS.....</i></b>	<b><i>74</i></b>
<b><i>CODE OF CONDUCT &amp; TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE AND RESPONSIBLE USE</i></b>	
<b><i>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM .....</i></b>	<b><i>77</i></b>

**THIS PAGE WAS INTENTIONALLY LEFT  
BLANK**

It is the policy of the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System (CMCSS) not to discriminate against any student, employee, or applicant on the basis of marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. CMCSS will ensure that no student will be excluded from participating in or having access to any course offerings, student athletics, counseling services, employment assistance, extracurricular activities, or other school resources based on unlawful discrimination. CMCSS will take all necessary steps to ensure that each employee's work environment is free of unlawful discrimination. No office, administrator, or employee of CMCSS, including any persons representing CMCSS, shall intimidate, threaten, harass, coerce, discriminate against, or commit or seek reprisal against anyone who participates in any aspect of the discrimination complaint process associated with this policy.

## INTRODUCTION

The Student Code of Conduct is intended to inform students of some of the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System's policies and procedures that pertain directly to students. While the information contained in this document is intended to be thorough, it should not be considered an exhaustive list of all applicable student policies. Although policies may be updated throughout the school year, the Code of Conduct for the current school year shall take precedence during said school year. If state or federal laws conflict with the current Code of Conduct, said laws always take precedence. By way of this document, CMCSS is communicating district expectations regarding conduct and due process procedures regarding administrative decisions or to express grievances. While the state of Tennessee allows for the use of corporal punishment, CMCSS prohibits it ([INS-A083](#)). All teachers are trained on Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma-informed strategies. The Code is based upon trauma-informed principles.

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Students will respect their fellow students, teachers, rules, and regulations as they respect themselves.
- Students will communicate with others to help unite their school.
- Students will help eliminate the use of violence as an answer to problems and become a good citizen of the school.
- Students will demonstrate respect for their school campus.
- Students will support their school's activities and organizations.
- Students will display good sportsmanship and school spirit at all times.
- Students will have reverence for their own beliefs and respect those of others.
- Students will work to improve their school.

## LEGAL AUTHORITY (T.C.A. § 49-6-4002)

The Board of Education of the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System is required by state statute to make and adopt rules setting forth standards of conduct and behavior that must be met by all pupils as a condition to the right of such pupils to attend schools in this district. The rules shall take into account the necessity for scholastic progress in order that the welfare of the greatest number of pupils shall be promoted, even though such rules may result in the ineligibility of pupils who fail to observe the required standards and may require the suspension and/or expulsion of such pupils.

### APPLICATION OF CODE

The following regulations concerning standards of conduct and behavior will apply to every student in Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools.

THIS CODE OF CONDUCT APPLIES TO ANY STUDENT WHO IS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY, WHO IS ON A SCHOOL BUS OR , WHO IS IN ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL OR AT ANY SCHOOL- SPONSORED ACTIVITY/PROGRAM, OR WHOSE CONDUCT AT ANY TIME OR PLACE (I.E., OFF-CAMPUS CONDUCT) HAS A DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE EFFECT ON MAINTAINING ORDER AND DISCIPLINE IN THE SCHOOLS. THIS INCLUDES ALL SOCIAL MEDIA, TO INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO, INSTAGRAM, TWITTER, FACEBOOK, ETC. A TEACHER, PRINCIPAL, SCHOOL EMPLOYEE OR SCHOOL BUS DRIVER MAY USE REASONABLE FORCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH T.C.A. § 49-6-4107.

**As outlined in CMCSS policies, school officials may question students at any time regarding suspected violations of school policies or State laws by the student or others. A student's failure to answer and otherwise cooperate may be grounds for further disciplinary action.**

Students while in transit to classes off school property, including but not limited to dual enrollment, job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships, and clinicals are not the responsibility of CMCSS during the time they are enroute to and from CMCSS by personal transportation means.

## **NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA AND PPRA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS**

Reference: Student Records Policy ([REC-A001](#))

The Clarksville Montgomery County School System (CMCSS), in accordance with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), affords parents, guardians, and students who are eighteen (18) years of age or older, certain rights with respect to the student's education records maintained by CMCSS. FERPA gives custodial and noncustodial parents alike certain rights with respect to their children's education records, unless a school is provided with evidence that there is a court order that specifically provides to the contrary.

These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day CMCSS receives a request for access. Parents and eligible students who wish to inspect their child's or their educational records should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The principal 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, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA and/or T.C.A. § 49-1-701, et seq. and/or T.C.A. § 10-7-504. Parents or eligible students who wish to ask CMCSS to amend an educational record should write the principal and clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it should be changed. If CMCSS decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, CMCSS will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their 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 provide written consent before CMCSS discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA and T.C.A. § 49-1-701, et seq. authorize disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A CMCSS official is a person employed by CMCSS as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member. A CMCSS official also may include a contractor outside of CMCSS who performs an institutional service or function for which CMCSS would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of CMCSS with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from educational records, such as: an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist, School Resource Officer; or other contractor or volunteer assisting another CMCSS official in performing his or her tasks. A CMCSS official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, CMCSS discloses education records without consent to officials of another public school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by CMCSS to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Officer

U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

CMCSS must, with certain exceptions, obtain a parent's written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a student's education records. Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to some outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Information which is typically contained in yearbooks, graduation programs, honor rolls, and playbills generally is not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released and can be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Such outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks or photograph class pictures. These contracted vendors will be provided students' primary mailing addresses and/or parents'/guardians' electronic mailing addresses and/or phone numbers by CMCSS unless the parent or guardian submits written notice of opt out as described below.

CMCSS may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent. Directory information items which can be published without consent includes: name, grade level, name of the most recent school attended and the date (years) of that attendance, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, recognitions and awards received, and other similar information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed, such as a photograph.

In addition, two federal laws require CMCSS, because it receives assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA), to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information - names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised CMCSS that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

**If you do not want this information released, you must send written notice to your child's school within 30 days of the first day of the academic school year. If such written notice is given for a student, then CMCSS will not share any directory information for that student with any outside entity.**

Amendment: The Uninterrupted Scholars Act amends FERPA to provide that personnel of state or federal agencies with responsibility for the care and protection of children (i.e., Tennessee Department of Children's Services) have the right to access a student's educational records without parental consent. The amendment also provides that school districts are not required to give parents notice when a court orders release of the educational records in court proceedings involving allegations of abuse and neglect. This means for students who are in state custody (including foster care) Tennessee Department of Children's Services caseworkers may now access a student's educational records without parental consent, whether or not the parental rights of the biological parents have been terminated, and school districts are not required to notify the parents of the child before releasing the information pursuant to a court order.

*20 U.S.C. 1232(g)*

**PPRA (20 U.S.C. § 1232h, 34 CFR Part 98) affords parents of students certain rights regarding, among other things, participation in surveys, the collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include, but are not limited to, the right to:**

**Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following eight protected areas (protected information survey) if the survey is funded as part of a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education (Department) (applicable program):**

- 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;**
- 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;**
- 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;**
- 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;**
- 5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;**
- 6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;**
- 7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or**
- 8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.**



**Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:**

- 1. Any protected information survey administered or distributed to a student by a local educational agency that is a recipient of funds under an applicable program (LEA) if the protected information survey is either not funded as part of a program administered by the Department or is funded as part of a program administered by the Department but to which a student is not required to submit;**
- 2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening required by an LEA as a condition of attendance; administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and, that is not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, with some exceptions; and**
- 3. Activities of an LEA involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or sale (or to otherwise distribute such information to others for that purpose), with some exceptions.**

**Inspect, upon request:**

- 1. Protected information surveys and surveys created by a third party, before the administration or distribution by an LEA of the surveys to a student;**
- 2. Any instrument used by an LEA to collect personal information for the purpose of marketing or sale (or otherwise distributing such information for that purpose), before the instrument is administered or distributed to a student, with some exceptions; and**
- 3. Instructional material, excluding academic tests or academic assessments, used by an LEA as part of the educational curriculum for a student.**

**These rights transfer from the parents to the student when the student turns 18 years old or becomes an emancipated minor under applicable State law.**

School nurses and physical education teachers periodically measure student's heart rate, vision, hearing, blood pressure, height and weight as part of the student health services they provide. Parents are notified in advance, and are provided an opportunity to opt students out of these services. CMCSS shall not collect individual student data on a student's biometrics, analysis of facial expression, EEG brain wave patterns, skin conductance, galvanic skin response, heart rate variability, pulse, blood volume, posture, and eye-tracking without notifying parents and offering an option to opt out.

CMCSS on occasion participates in national, state, and local educational research projects to ensure all students have continuous access to cutting edge research-based educational opportunities so every student may graduate college and career ready. These projects may collect information through anonymous sources such as student surveys. In most cases, parents will receive opportunities to review survey, analysis, or evaluation items before students are asked to participate in order to opt them out if they wish. Upon receiving notification of an upcoming survey, you should receive instructions on how to review survey questions and opt your student out.

Parents who seek additional resources on student privacy under PPRA may visit the Department's Student Privacy Policy Office website at <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/>. Parents who believe their PPRA rights have been violated may file a complaint online by selecting the PPRA complaint form option at <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint> or by mailing the form to the following address:

Student Privacy Policy Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202

## **ESEA DIRECTOR'S TRAINING CURRICULUM**

### **1.3 Parents Right-to-Know Notifications**

The parent's right-to-know provision of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) allows parents, guardians, and stakeholders the ability to request information on the qualifications of their child's classroom teacher.

Under ESSA § 1112(e)(1)(A), at the beginning of each year, an LEA shall notify parents that they may request, and the LEA will provide, certain information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's teachers and paraprofessionals. This includes information about whether the student's teacher:

1. has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
3. is teaching in the field of discipline not of the certification of the teacher; and
4. is teaching alongside paraprofessionals and, if so, the paraprofessional's qualifications [ESSA § 1112(e)(1)(A)].

Even though ESSA eliminated the highly qualified requirement, the parents' right-to-know provision now focuses on students being taught by teachers who do not meet the state certification or licensure at the grade-level and subject they are teaching. For more information on teacher certification and licensing, visit the Tennessee Department of Education's licensing website at: <https://www.tn.gov/education/licensing>.

#### Required Deadlines:

- Parents must be informed annually at the start of the school year.
- If a change in placement occurs during the school year, then the notification must be sent home as well.

#### Available Resources:

- Divisional Coordinator
- ePlan > TDOE Resources> ESSA Information & Guidance > ESSA General Guidance Documents > ESSA Highly Qualified Requirements
- Sample ESSA Parents Right-to-Know is located in ePlan > TDOE Resources > Parent and Family Engagement Resources > Family & Community Engagement & Outreach
- 

[https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/licensure/Operating\\_Procedures\\_for\\_Districts.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/licensure/Operating_Procedures_for_Districts.pdf)

## **PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS IN IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION, AND PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

CMCSS will follow all current federal and state law and regulations regarding special education and Section 504 services.

Parents, guardians, and students with disabilities have certain rights under federal and state law. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child, and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with a decision or if you feel like CMCSS has not followed federal and state laws regarding students with disabilities. A copy of the Procedural Safeguards for students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) can be found at: [https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/reports/Procedural-Safeguards\\_English-updated.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/reports/Procedural-Safeguards_English-updated.pdf) and Procedural Safeguards for students with a 504 Plan can be found at: <https://www.cmcss.net/student-support/section-504/>. You can also request a copy of the Procedural Safeguards by contacting your child's school's Special Education Lead or 504 Building Coordinator. You will also be given a copy of the Procedural Safeguards when you meet to discuss your student's IEP or 504 Plan.

Additional information regarding parent and student rights and child advocacy group contact information can be obtained by contacting the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System or the Tennessee Department of Education, 8th Floor, Gateway Plaza, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0380, phone: 615-741-2851.

## **DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If a student with a disability violates school rules or district policies outlined in this handbook, the student will be disciplined according to district policy and state and federal laws.

Suspensions or expulsions for more than a total of ten (10) days per school year shall be considered a change of placement for students with disabilities. If the discipline is for less than the ten (10) total school days per school year, then there has been no change in placement for the students with disabilities. These rules apply to any student with an IEP or 504 Plan.

Prior to the change of placement, the student's IEP-Team, as defined in the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), or the student's 504-team, as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, must meet and determine whether the offense is a manifestation of the student's disabilities based on the criteria set by current federal and state laws. The parent or guardian of the student is a member of the IEP-team and/or 504-team. If the IEP-team or 504-team determine that the offensive behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability, then the student cannot be suspended or expelled in the same manner as students not eligible for services under IDEA or Section 504.

If the IEP-team or 504-team determines that the offensive behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the student may be suspended or expelled the same as their non-disabled peers. All manifestation determinations are subject to due process procedures. If the parent or guardian challenges the manifestation determination, then the student's placement shall be frozen until any administrative complaint or due process complaint can be resolved. Under IDEA, the frozen placement is in the alternative setting, and under Section 504 the student continues to receive services under the last-agreed upon accommodations. If a student with an IEP is suspended or expelled, the student must still receive educational services as determined by their IEP-team.

### **IDEA**

The District may remove a student to an interim alternative educational placement, determined by the IEP-team, for no more than 45 school days, in cases where the student commits one of the following offenses, at school on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of the school district:

1. Carrying or possessing a weapon;
2. Possessing or using illegal drugs or selling or soliciting the sale of a controlled substance; or
3. Inflicting serious bodily injury upon another person.

If the student commits one of the above offenses, the change to an interim alternative placement can occur regardless of whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability.

### **SECTION 504**

For a student with a Section 504 Plan, the District is not required to hold a manifestation meeting for use\* of illegal drugs or alcohol, and the student may be disciplined in the same manner as non-disabled peers for use of illegal drugs or alcohol.

\*"Current use" means that the student was seen using or admitted to using the illegal drugs or alcohol on school grounds. A student who is found in possession of illegal drugs or alcohol is still entitled to a manifestation meeting under Section 504, unless it can be proven that the student was currently using the illegal drugs or alcohol.

## **PROTECTIONS FOR STUDENTS NOT YET ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND/OR 504 PLAN AND RELATED SERVICES**

If a student has not been determined eligible for special education under IDEA or Section 504, and the student violates the student code of conduct, the student may assert any of the protections described in this notice if the school district was aware the student had a disability. For the school district to have prior notice of a student's disability: 1) The parent of the student expressed concern in writing to supervisory or administrative personnel of the appropriate educational agency, or a teacher of the student that the child is in need of special education and related services; or 2) The parent requested an evaluation related to eligibility for special education and related services under Part B of the IDEA; or 3) The student's teacher, or other school district personnel, expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the child directly to the school district's Director of Special Populations or to other supervisory personnel of the school district.

A school district will not be deemed to have knowledge if: 1) The student's parent has not allowed an evaluation of the student or refused special education services; or 2) The student has been evaluated and determined to not be a child with disability under IDEA.

If a student has not yet been determined eligible for a 504 Plan and violates the student code of conduct, but the school district has knowledge that the student has a disability, then the student may assert any of the protections described above. In determining whether the school district has knowledge that the student has a disability, the district will follow similar guidelines as described above under the IDEA. Informal conversations about students with potential needs for 504 Plan services do not constitute knowledge that the student may need services.

Families who suspect their child has a disability may request in writing that their child's school start the referral process.

## RESOURCES

Parents may access information about child advocacy groups and student rights and services from the following agencies:

Clarksville-Montgomery County School Department of Student Services, 430 Greenwood Avenue, Clarksville, TN 37040, 931-542-5065

Clarksville - Montgomery County School Department of Special Populations, 1312 Hwy 48, Clarksville, TN 37040, 931-553-1166  
CMCSS Special Populations Family Site

Clarksville - Montgomery County School Section 504, 1312 Hwy 48, Clarksville, TN 37040, 931-553-1166  
Section 504 Parent Hub

Tennessee Department of Education Legal Services Division, 710 James Robertson Parkway, Andrew Johnson Tower, 5th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243-0380, 615-741-2921

## DISCIPLINE-GENERAL

**DUE PROCESS: EXCEPT IN AN EMERGENCY NO DISCIPLINARY MEASURE OF ANY NATURE SHALL BE IMPOSED AGAINST THE STUDENT UNTIL THE STUDENT HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE NATURE OF THE STUDENT'S ALLEGED MISCONDUCT, QUESTIONED ABOUT IT AND ALLOWED TO GIVE AN EXPLANATION.**

When it has been determined that a student has violated a provision of this policy, the student will receive appropriate consequences. A discipline record will be maintained on each student. Whenever a child is found guilty of a violation of the Code of Conduct, the principal will issue appropriate discipline.

**Student offenses are divided into categories:**

- Category 1 offenses are typically addressed by the classroom teacher.
- Category 2 offenses are considered minor office referrals that are addressed by a school administrator or designee.
- Category 3 offenses are more serious offenses resulting in an office referral and addressed by a school administrator or designee.
- Category 4 offenses include egregious acts that may result in remandment to the Alternative School.
- Zero Tolerance offenses are determined by either state law or district policy; students committing a Zero Tolerance offense shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year.
- Offenses occurring on CMCSS school buses are described within this document, but are not included in the categories described above.

Any conduct not specifically enumerated herein occurring on school premises or at any school-sponsored activity which constitutes a crime under the laws of the state of Tennessee or the United States shall be addressed by the school principal, level director, and appropriate law enforcement.

It is the policy of CMCSS that corporal punishment shall not be utilized ([INS-A083](#)).

### **DETENTION**

A student may be detained before or after school for disciplinary reasons provided the parents of such student have been given advance notice. Saturday detention may also be assigned, if available. Parents shall be responsible for arranging the student's transportation to comply with the detention schedule. While in detention, the student will be required to engage in some constructive activity related to the school. Such activity shall be in compliance with school and state rules and regulations relative to the student's safety and welfare. Supervised study of class assignments or additional assignments may be assigned. Failure to attend detention will result in additional consequences.

### **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (WHERE AVAILABLE)**

#### **Facilities**

An in-school suspension teacher will be assigned to each middle school or high school where the program is available. Elementary schools may use existing staff to supervise a similar setting in their buildings. Teachers may be utilized by the principal as either substitute or supplementary teachers when no students are assigned to the ISS classroom.

The principal of each school will identify an isolated area where students assigned to ISS have no contact with other students. In-school suspension is appropriate for Category 2 or Category 3 offenses.

### **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION PROCEDURE**

1. Students shall be assigned to the ISS program by the principal or his/her designee. Prior to assignment to ISS, students shall be given due process.
2. After a student has been assigned to ISS, the principal or his/her designee will notify parents.
3. The regular teachers of students assigned to the ISS program will supply class work for each day the student is assigned.
4. The ISS teacher will check the work assigned and return the work to the regular teacher for evaluation.
5. At the discretion of the principal, early exit from the ISS program may be granted for first offenders.
6. The early exit opportunity may not be allowed in the case of a repeat offender.
7. Students may be assigned ISS on a repeated basis in any given school year.

### **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION OPERATION**

(A) In School Suspension is defined as: a program of in-school suspension (ISS) entails the suspension of the offender from regular classes while still keeping the student in school.

1. The student will be required to sign a contingency contract with the ISS teacher and administrator that must be completed prior to return to regular classes. The ISS teacher will determine if the contract is fulfilled.
2. Students will be required to do specific work that has been assigned by regular teachers and additional work assigned by the ISS teacher designed to foster a more positive attitude. When work assigned by regular teachers has been completed to the satisfaction of the ISS teacher, it will be returned to the regular teachers for evaluation.
3. Students will remain under the supervision of the ISS teacher during lunch.
4. Students will have two five-minute designated restroom breaks, one during the morning session and one during the afternoon session. Restroom breaks will not coincide with regular classroom changes.
5. Students will be totally restricted while assigned to the ISS program. This includes all assemblies and school-sponsored activities both during and after school on all school campuses.

6. The ISS teacher will maintain a file of each student's assignment. This information will not become a part of the student's permanent record.
7. At the option of the principal, a conference may be required with the student, the principal (or his/her designee), the parent/guardian, and the ISS teacher upon assignment to the ISS program and before returning to the regular program.
8. With principal approval, the ISS teacher may assign up to five (5) additional days of in-school suspension for misconduct or lack of cooperation by the student. Continued or severe misconduct or lack of cooperation will result in further disciplinary action to include possible suspension or expulsion by a school administrator.

### **OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS, REMANDMENTS, AND EXPULSIONS**

(A) Suspension is defined as exclusion from school and school-sponsored activities for a definite period not to exceed ten (10) days. Expulsion is defined as exclusion or removal for more than ten (10) consecutive days from school and from any activity sponsored by any CMCSS school. Remandment is defined as an assignment to Alternative School. CMCSS honors the remandment and expulsion assignments of other districts. However, in the case of a student enrolling from another school district who was expelled by the student's prior district/school for a ZT offense, the enrolling student is ineligible for placement at alternative school for said ZT offense unless the student is a special populations student.

(B) Any principal, principal-teacher or assistant principal of any public school in this state is authorized to suspend a pupil from attendance at school, including its sponsored activities, or from riding a school bus, for good and sufficient reasons as set forth in T.C.A. §49-6-3401(a). Out of school suspensions may be an appropriate response for Category 3 or Category 4 offenses.

Good and sufficient reasons for suspension/remandment/expulsion from attendance include, but are not limited to:

1. Willful and persistent violation of the rules of the school;
2. Immoral or disreputable conduct or vulgar or profane language;
3. Violence or threatened violence against the person of any personnel attending or assigned to any public school;
4. Willful or malicious damage to real or personal property of the school, or the property of any person attending or assigned to the school;
5. Inciting, advising or counseling of others to engage in any of the acts enumerated in 1-4 above;
6. Marking, defacing, or destroying school property;
7. Possession of a pistol, gun, or firearm on school property;
8. Possession of a knife, etc., as defined in T.C.A. § 39-17-1301 on school property;
9. Assaulting a principal, teacher, school bus driver, or other school personnel with vulgar, obscene, or threatening language;
10. Unlawful use or possession of barbitol or legend drugs, as defined in T.C.A. § 53-10-101;
11. One (1) or more students initiating a physical attack on an individual student on school property or at a school activity, including travel to and from school or a school activity;
12. Making a threat, including a false report, to use a bomb, dynamite, any other deadly explosive or destructive device, including chemical weapons, on school property or at a school-sponsored event;
13. Any other conduct prejudicial to good order in any public school; and
14. Off campus criminal behavior that results in the student being legally charged with an offense that would be classified as a felony if the student was charged as an adult or if adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would be classified as a felony if the student was an adult, or if the student was convicted of a felony, and the student's continued presence in school poses a danger to persons or property or disrupts the educational process. Notwithstanding § 37-1-131 or any other law to the contrary, the principal of the school in which the student is enrolled and the director of schools shall determine the appropriate educational assignment for the student released for readmission. T.C.A. § 49-6-3401(a).

(C) Upon suspension of any student other than for in-school suspension of one (1) day or less, the principal shall, within twenty-four (24) hours, notify the parent/guardian and the Director of Schools or designee of:

1. The suspension, which shall be for a period of no more than ten (10) school days; if schools are closed for any reason, days out of school will not count toward the days suspended;



2. The cause for the suspension; and
3. The conditions for readmission, which may include, at the request of either party, a meeting of the parent/guardian, student and principal.

(D) If the suspension is for more than five (5) days, the principal shall develop and implement a plan for improving the behavior, which shall be made available for review by the Director upon request.

(E) If, at the time of the suspension, the principal/designee determines that an offense has been committed which would justify a suspension for more than ten (10) days (expulsion), such person may suspend a student unconditionally for a specified period of time or upon such terms and conditions as are deemed reasonable.

1. The principal shall immediately give written or actual notice to the parent or guardian and the student of the right to appeal the decision to suspend for more than ten (10) days. (See "APPEALS")
2. In the event the suspension occurs during the last ten (10) days of any term or semester, the pupil may be permitted to take such final examinations or submit such required work as is necessary to complete the course of instruction for that semester, subject to the action of the principal, or the final action of the Board of Education upon any appeal from an order of a principal continuing a suspension.

(F) Zero Tolerance (see Zero Tolerance section)

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

(A) When a student is to be suspended for a period longer than ten (10) days or expelled, the principal shall make every effort to secure written statements regarding the incident and shall maintain documents and relevant information relating to the incident. Copies of written statements and documents shall be available at the school for review by the student's parents, guardians or representatives; however, names of student witnesses shall be deleted from such statements and documents before they are made available to non-school personnel.

(B) When a student is suspended, it will be the student's responsibility to see the teacher about any missed work, nine weeks test, unit tests, or semester examinations upon the day of the student's return to school. When a student is suspended, the student will have the opportunity to receive credit for any work missed, if the student makes arrangements with his/her teachers to do so.

(C) Except in an emergency, no principal shall suspend any student until that student has been advised of the nature of the student's misconduct, questioned about it, and allowed to give an explanation.

(D) Whenever a student is suspended and the number of school days remaining in the school year is less than the number of days of the suspension imposed, the student shall serve the balance of the suspension at the beginning of the following school year.

(E) Upon imposing any remandment/expulsion, the principal shall notify the parent or guardian, Director of Student Services, and the Principal of the Alternative School and AGE Program of the remandment/expulsion, the cause of the remandment/expulsion, and any conditions for readmission. The principal shall attempt to give such notice by telephone and email and, in any event, shall mail such notice to the parent or guardian with a copy to the Director of Student Services and the Principal of the Alternative School and the AGE Program within 24 (twenty-four) hours from the imposition of the remandment/expulsion. The principal's decision regarding a request for re-admission prior to the expiration of the term of remandment/expulsion shall be final.

(F) General education students may not be remanded to the Alternative School more than once in a school year. This would result in expulsion for the remainder of that school year or thirty (30) school days as determined by the CMCSS school calendar, whichever is greater. The student may make a written application to be re-admitted at the beginning of the next school year in all cases. That application shall be submitted to the school principal for consideration. The principal shall schedule a conference with the student and the student's parent or guardian and make a determination regarding re-admission prior to the completion of the thirty (30) days. Upon making a decision, the principal shall notify the student's parent or guardian and shall forward the basis of their decision to the director or his/her designee. In considering the request for re-

admission, the following factors shall be considered:

1. The student's prior discipline record and progress in school.
2. Whether the student shows genuine remorse for the actions, which prompted the expulsion.
3. Whether the student's activities during the period of expulsion demonstrate genuine change in the student's attitude and genuine interest in pursuing the educational goals of the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System.
4. The student's relationship with his/her peers and the faculty and staff of the school.
5. In considering re-admission, the Director of Schools, the Director of Student Services, and the referring principal may impose such conditions upon re-admission as they, in their sole discretion, see fit. Conditions of readmission shall be reduced to writing, signed by the student and parent or legal guardian, and must contain a provision that additional discipline problems may result in a second expulsion.

(G) Out of district or previously enrolled students registering in CMCSS with a prior, existing, or unfulfilled remandment/expulsion will complete disciplinary assignments before attending any CMCSS school.

### ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

As a means of furthering its program of assisting students who may require a more structured academic environment, CMCSS provides an alternative school setting. Students in grades 3-5 may attend BASE (Behavior, Academic, Social, and Emotional) Academy as an alternate school setting. Students in grade 6-12 who are remanded may be required to attend the Alternative School as a condition of re-admittance to their assigned school. The length of assignment to Alternative School is to be determined by the Student Code of Conduct, the principal who imposed the suspension/remandment and the Director of Student Services. Days may be added to initial remandment by the Alternative School principal due to misbehavior. Only the Director of Schools may shorten the length of assignment. General education students may not be remanded to the Alternative School more than once in a school year.

To avoid excessive absences and possible truancy charges in juvenile court, parents should begin the process of enrolling their child in Alternative School, even if the parent intends to appeal the remandment. A staff member from the Alternative School will contact the parent to schedule an intake meeting at the Alternative School. For parents desiring to appeal the remandment, the appeal process is described in the following section titled "Appeals".

Students expelled under the zero tolerance provisions of the Code of Conduct and who are expelled for a period of not less than one year may be considered for a modification of placement options by the Director of Schools, after a consideration on a case-by-case basis, and space availability of programs. Students assigned to Alternative School are subject to all rules pertaining to the Alternative School, to include this Code, and may be subject to further discipline, including suspension and expulsion for additional violations of the code of conduct while attending the Alternative School.

*See T.C.A. § 49-6-3402*

#### NOTE:

If a student who has been assigned to the Alternative School elects to withdraw from CMCSS prior to completion of the assigned time in Alternative School, the student will be required to re-enroll and complete the Alternative School obligation before being allowed to attend any school in CMCSS.

### APPEALS

#### Overview

Suspensions of ten (10) days or less may be appealed to the school principal, unless the underlying offense is sexual harassment in which case a designee will be established.

If a student has been remanded to alternative school/expelled for more than ten (10) school days, the decision of guilt or innocence may be appealed to the Disciplinary Hearing Authority. If the parent or the school administrator wishes to appeal



the decision of the Discipline Hearing Authority, the appeal may be made in writing to the Director of Schools or his/her designee. The Director of Schools is not required to conduct a hearing on such matters.

Requests for review solely regarding length of expulsion/remandment, not guilt or innocence, are ONLY addressed by the Director of Schools or his/her designee. These requests for review should be made in writing to the Director of Schools at 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN 37040. The Director of Schools is not required to conduct a hearing on such matters. Decisions by the Director of Schools or his/her designee on such matters are final.

#### Filing an Appeal

The principal shall immediately give written or actual notice to the parent or guardian and the student of the right to appeal the decision to suspend for more than ten (10) days. All appeals must be filed, orally or in writing, within five (5) days after receipt of the suspension/remandment/expulsion notice and may be filed by the parent or guardian, the student, or any person holding a teaching license who is employed by the school system who agrees to file the request upon behalf of the student. Appeals should be made to Student Services Disciplinary Hearing Authority, using the contact information provided below:

Student Services Disciplinary Hearing Authority ATTN: Director of Student Services  
430 Greenwood Avenue, Clarksville, TN 37040  
931-542-5069

The hearing shall be held no later than ten (10) days after the beginning of the suspension. The Hearing Authority shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing to the parent, the student, and to the school official who ordered the remandment, suspension, or expulsion. Notice shall also be given to any local education agency employee who requests a hearing on behalf of a suspended student. Email is acceptable as a written notice.

After the hearing, the Disciplinary Hearing Authority may affirm the decision of the principal, order removal of the suspension unconditionally or upon such terms and conditions as it deems reasonable, assign the student to an alternative program or suspend the student for a specified period of time.

A written record of the proceedings, including a summary of the facts and the reasons supporting the decision, shall be made by the Disciplinary Hearing Authority. A copy of the Hearing Authority's decision shall be mailed and emailed to the student's parents or representative and to the building administrator who presented the case within 5 instructional days of the close of the hearing. The student or principal may, within five (5) days of the decision, appeal to the Director of Schools. Absent a timely appeal, the decision shall be final. Such appeal will be made, in writing, addressed to the Director at 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN 37040. The Director may review the matter solely upon the record before the Disciplinary Hearing Authority or may conduct a hearing, or meet with the administration and/or persons appealing the Disciplinary Authority's decision in order to resolve the issues. Within ten (10) days from the receipt of the appeal request, the Director shall give written notice to the student and principal by mail and email of the Director's decision. The Director may designate a staff member, other than the Hearing Authority who heard the matter, to consider the appeal. Absent a timely appeal, the determination of the Director or Director's designee shall be final.

The student or principal may appeal the decision of the Director of Schools to the Board of Education provided such appeal is made within five (5) days of the Director or Director's designee decision. Such appeal shall be made in writing, and directed to the Board of Education (621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN 37040). The Board of Education, based upon a review of the record, may grant or deny a request for a Board hearing, and may affirm or overturn the decision of the Hearing Authority with or without a hearing before the Board, provided that the Board may not impose a more severe penalty than that imposed by the Hearing Authority without first providing an opportunity for a hearing before the Board. After reviewing the record, and when the matter is presented to the Board of Education for determination, if no motion is made to grant a hearing, to affirm or overturn the decision of the Hearing Authority, or to modify the discipline imposed, the decision of the Director shall be considered affirmed. In all respects, once the matter has been determined by the Board of Education, the action of the Board shall be final.

In the event the suspension occurs during the last ten (10) days of any term or semester, the pupil may be permitted to take such final examinations or submit such required work as is necessary to complete the course of instruction for that semester, subject to the action of the principal, or the final action of the Board of Education upon any appeal from an order of a principal continuing a suspension.

## 1. Purpose and Composition of the Hearing Authority

The Hearing Authority will consider appeals of a principal's decision to remand or expel students for longer than ten (10) days and perform other duties set forth in this document. The Hearing Authority will be a member of the Student Services staff who is a licensed employee. The Hearing Authority shall be the presiding officer at any hearing and shall:

- (a) Schedule a hearing at a specified date, time and place and give written notice of such to the parent or guardian and principal. The Hearing Authority may reschedule any date and time or place for good cause.
- (b) Be available before the hearing to answer any questions that the student, his/her parents, guardians, or representative may have about the nature and conduct of the hearing.
- (c) Have full charge of the hearing and have the authority to direct its proceedings and to control the conduct of all persons present, subject to the general directions of this policy.
- (d) Make a written record of the proceedings to include a summary of the facts and reasons supporting the decision.
- (e) Transmit written findings and recommendations to the principal, the student, and the student's parents, guardians or representatives.

## 2. Conduct of the Hearing

### (a) Closed Hearing

Unless an open hearing is requested on behalf of the student, the hearing may be attended only by the Hearing Authority, the principal or his/her designee, the student, the parents, the student's representative, the recording secretary, and school officials who may observe but not participate in the hearing. Witnesses should be present only when giving information to the Hearing Authority. The student may be excluded at the discretion of the Hearing Authority, with the concurrence of the student's parents (or the representative when the representative acts in the place of the parents) at times when the student's psychological or emotional problems are being discussed (see section h below).

### (b) Student Testimony

Students are obligated to cooperate with administrators investigating suspected violations of Student Conduct and should truthfully respond to inquiries put to them about their conduct or the conduct of other students. Students may testify on their own behalf or may be called to testify by the Principal or Hearing Authority. Students may be questioned about their testimony. Any statements made by the student may be considered by the Hearing Authority in reaching its determination.

### (c) Record of the Hearing

A written record of the proceedings, including a summary of the facts and the reasons supporting the decision, shall be made by the Hearing Authority.

### (d) Principal's Presentation of Evidence and Witnesses

It shall be the principal's duty to produce witnesses having knowledge of the relevant facts or such other evidence as is necessary to establish by a preponderance of evidence the student's guilt. Hearsay evidence is admissible. The Hearing Authority also has the discretion to accept affidavit testimony from a School Resource Officer (SRO) as to the results of field tests conducted by the SRO in the performance of his/her duties at a school. Further, upon request of the Hearing Authority, the student, the parents (or the student's representative), or the principal shall submit to the Hearing Authority the student's record of previous behavior and his/her academic record. If the principal or the Hearing Authority deems it necessary, the information contained in such records shall be explained and interpreted by a person trained in its use and interpretation.

### (e) Use of Witnesses

At any time it appears necessary to do so, the Hearing Authority may recess or adjourn for the purpose of securing additional evidence or testimony to aid it in reaching a decision. Scheduled hearings may be adjourned or postponed for any reasonable

cause such as the illness or absence of witnesses and the decision of such matters rest within the sound discretion of the Hearing Authority.

(f) Examination of Witnesses

The Hearing Authority, the principal or his/her designee, or the student, or the student's parents or representative on the student's behalf may question witnesses about any matters logically relevant to the charges against the student and the proper disposition of the matter. The Hearing Authority has the responsibility and authority to limit repetitious, unproductive, unduly long, or irrelevant questioning.

(g) Role of the Parents

The parents should be present at the hearing and should have an opportunity to make a statement to the Hearing Authority of their opinions about the proper disposition of the case and to answer questions relating thereto.

(h) Adult Representation in Addition to Parents

If the parents cannot be present or if the student or the parents think the student's interest can be better protected at the hearing by the presence of another adult in addition to the parents or guardian, the student may bring another adult to the hearing. The non-parent adult may act as a representative on behalf of the student, with the right to present witnesses, question any and all witnesses, make a statement on the nature of the evidence and the proper disposition of the case, and otherwise assist the student. The non-parent may be an attorney.

3. Disposition of the Case

The decision must be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. If no misconduct is found, the matter is terminated and no further action may be taken against the student, and records of the disciplinary action shall be removed from the student's permanent records. When some misconduct is found, the Hearing Authority shall determine what action, if any, should be taken based on the Student Conduct policy. A copy of the Hearing Authority's decision shall be mailed and emailed to the student's parents or representative and to the building administrator who presented the case within five (5) instructional days from the close of the hearing. If Alternative School attendance is required as part of the decision and the student fails to appear for their intake appointment or fails to attend Alternative School as required, a truancy petition may be filed by Student Services. If continued misbehavior occurs while in the Alternative School, the student will not be allowed to continue, and an appropriate petition may be filed.

## OFFENSES

### CATEGORY 1 OFFENSES

Typically handled by the classroom teacher.

CATEGORY 1 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Cell Phones and Electronic Devices</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Use of cell phones other than those required for instructional purposes, is prohibited. Individual schools will develop and communicate expectations for compliance. Electronic devices include, but are not limited to, smart devices, headphones, earbuds , etc.</p> <p>NOTE: School administration may search and review cell phones, including calls, contacts, texts, Internet access, etc., if there is a reasonable suspicion that a search will reveal a violation of school rules. Students have no expectation of privacy for cell phone use. Students assume all responsibility for lost or stolen devices.</p> <p>Building principal may approve use of cell phones for instructional purposes on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Please see the Interrogations and Searches section for additional information.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p> <p>Related Policies: <a href="#">SAF-A009</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 1 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Inappropriate or Unauthorized use of Internet or District-Owned Devices – Not involving obscene materials or sites</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Redirection from teacher or staff, parent/guardian contact. Teacher or staff submits office referral for non-compliance or second and subsequent offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Classroom intervention, classroom detention, administrative detention, or ISS not to exceed 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan.</p>
<p>Explanation: See Technology Acceptable Use Policy (TCH-A002) Please see Interrogations and Searches section for additional information.</p> <p>Related Policies: <a href="#">INS-A046</a>, <a href="#">TCH-A002</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 1 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b><u>Minor Dress Code Offenses</u></b>	<p>Options for classroom teacher:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask student if they have a change of clothing</li> <li>• Ask student to turn offensive shirt inside-out</li> <li>• Provide duct tape to cover inappropriate rips in clothing</li> <li>• Ask student to pull up sagging pants</li> <li>• Ask student to remove cap</li> </ul> <p><u>Required:</u> Redirection from teacher or staff, parent/guardian contact. Teacher or staff submits office referral for non-compliance or second and subsequent offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Classroom intervention, classroom detention, administrative detention, or ISS not to exceed 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan.</p>
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 1 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Tardiness</b>	<p>All students who are tardy to school (homeroom) must report to the office. Classroom teacher documents tardiness throughout the school day and reminds student of expectations. A warning is given to the student upon the first offense. A parent is contacted (email, text, or phone call) after the second offense; an office referral is submitted upon the third offense.</p> <p><u>Required:</u> Redirection from teacher or staff, parent/guardian contact. Teacher or staff submits office referral for non-compliance or third and subsequent offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Classroom intervention, classroom detention, administrative detention, or ISS not to exceed 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan.</p>
Explanation: Failing to attend classes promptly within the time limits set by the school. Teachers may impose classroom penalties for any unexcused tardiness.	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

ADDITIONAL CATEGORY 1 OFFENSES	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Disobedience</b>  <b>Minor disruptions</b>  <b>Obscene or Inappropriate Language with a Peer (not derogatory)</b>  <b>Talking or other minor off-task behavior</b>  <b>Rude or Impolite Remarks to an Adult</b>  <b>Sleeping in Class</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Redirection from teacher or staff, parent/guardian contact. Teacher or staff submits office referral for non-compliance or second and subsequent offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Classroom intervention, classroom detention, administrative detention, or ISS not to exceed 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

## CATEGORY 2 OFFENSES

An office referral is submitted, and it is addressed by a school administrator or designee.

CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Boisterous Disruptive Conduct</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Engaging in loud, rowdy conduct that is disruptive to the educational process. Teachers charging students with boisterous or disruptive conduct shall specify in detail in what way the conduct was disruptive or boisterous.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Cheating, Plagiarism, Forgery</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, allow student to complete the assignment or provide an alternate assignment. Teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan.</p>
<p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Dress Code (cannot be addressed by classroom teacher)</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan.</p>
Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Gambling<sup>1</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Wagering money or personal property.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

---

<sup>1</sup> T.C.A. § 39-17-501



CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Profane Language Used in Remarks to an Adult (not derogatory)</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Using profane, vulgar, or obscene language or gestures.</p> <p>Related Offense Code: OC-24</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Repeated Category 1 Offenses</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>School Safety and Security</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offense and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days, restriction or removal of parking privileges on school campus.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Students who prop open exterior school doors will be subject to disciplinary action. Students are not permitted to open exterior school doors for anyone during school hours, including other students, parents, or visitors.</p> <p>Students who drive on school campuses must obey all traffic laws and regulations, including speed limits, stop signs, and designated parking areas. Students who violate the school's traffic regulations will be subject to disciplinary action. Students attending schools that issue student parking decals/placards must have them properly displayed in the students' vehicle.</p> <p>Related Offense Code OC-24</p> <p>SAF-P007</p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 2 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Skiping Class or Leaving Class Without Permission</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Administrative detention, In School Suspension 1-3 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Willfully refusing to attend and participate in the assigned classroom and/or leaving a classroom without permission, being out of the area or assigned location from the person in charge.</p> <p>Related Offense Code: OC-24</p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

### CATEGORY 3 OFFENSES

An office referral is submitted and is addressed by a school administrator. Parent contact by administrator or designee is required.

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Assault, and Fighting<sup>2</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, for cases involving injury a remandment to Alternative School is an option (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Assault and Fighting: Physically assaulting another student, except in situations where self-defense is used. Self-defense is defined as a student who reasonably believes him/herself to be in imminent danger from another student, and uses the necessary force to protect him/herself. If the victim of force has the opportunity to walk away but chooses to use force in return, this constitutes retaliation, not self-defense. Report to proper law enforcement officials if bodily harm is inflicted.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: , <a href="#">OC-30</a> (fighting)</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Encouraging, Promoting, Urging or Furthering Fights.</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Video, or audio recording, broadcasting or posting of fights is included as a means of encouraging fights.</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>2</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline.

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Gangs<sup>3</sup> (Display of Symbols)</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education is dedicated to preventing the influence and activities of gangs in the schools. This policy is designed to eliminate or prevent such influence and activities and should be interpreted in the broadest form permissible to effectuate these purposes.</p> <p><u>Definitions:</u> For the purposes of this Code of Conduct, a "gang" is defined as any group or association, whether formal or informal, which encourages, solicits, promotes, urges, counsels, furthers, advocates, condones, assists, causes, advises, procures, or abets any illegal or disruptive activity, whether on or off school campuses.</p> <p><u>Prohibited Activity</u> No student shall display or wear gang articles, paraphernalia, clothing, or symbols.</p> <p><i>School Security Act</i></p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Leaving School without Permission</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>3</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-4215

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Lewd or Lascivious Conduct</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Any obscene exposure of the body or lustful advances toward other students, school employees, or the general public. Related Offense Code: OC-24</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Other Conduct Warranting Discipline</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Any conduct which is disruptive, dangerous, harmful to the student or others, not otherwise specifically enumerated herein. Restitution for damages shall be separate from any disciplinary action.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Possession, Selling, or Distribution of Over-the-Counter Drugs</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Possession or Transmission of Sexually Explicit Digital or Printed Materials to Include Sexting.</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Interventions:</u> School Counselor Referral, S-Team Referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a>	
<p>Explanation: Possession of any sexually explicit printed materials or sexually explicit digital pictures on any electronic device is prohibited. Sending, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, emails or other material of a sexual nature in electronic or any other form on a computer, cell phone or other electronic device is prohibited. Appropriate law enforcement authorities may be contacted as required by law; in such cases, phones may be confiscated by and reclaimed from local law enforcement officials. School administration may search and review any and all electronic devices, including cell phones, images, calls, contacts, texts, internet access, etc., if there is a reasonable suspicion that a search will reveal a violation of school rules. Students have no expectation of privacy for cell phone use or use of any other electronic devices. Please see Interrogations and Searches section for additional information.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Repeated Category 2 Offenses</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change as necessary.</p>
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Theft<sup>4</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Theft of property of the school or property or services of any person on school premises. Possession of stolen property with the intent to deprive the true owner thereof shall be considered theft. <b>IN ALL CASES</b>, the student shall be required to pay for the damage if the student has any independent income. If the student has no independent source of income, the parents of the student shall be required to pay for the theft.</p> <p><b>Report to law enforcement officials if theft exceeds \$25 or if there is suspicion of chronic theft.</b></p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-25</a></p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

<sup>4</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See T.C.A. § 39-14-103 and 104-

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Threats</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: A threat is a statement of an intention to inflict pain, injury, damage, or other hostile action on another student in the case of this offense code.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-28</a> (threats)</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Tobacco<sup>5</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan.</p>
<p>Explanation: Possessing any type of tobacco products and/or electronic cigarettes (vapor or e-cigarettes) or smoking paraphernalia on school premises or at any school-sponsored activity as set forth in T.C.A. 39-17-1505. Smoking paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to, cigarette lighters and matches. <b>Vapor or e-cigarettes, when reported to law enforcement, may be tested for the presence of THC. Possession of THC is a Zero Tolerance offense, resulting in a mandatory one-year expulsion.</b></p> <p>Related Offense Codes: OC-24</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>5</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 39-17-1505



CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Vandalism and Defacing School Property Less Than \$500<sup>6</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Willfully damaging or destroying property of any other person. IN ALL CASES, the student shall be required to pay for the damage if the student has any independent sources of income. If the student has no independent source of income, the parents shall be required to pay for the damage.</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Verbal Altercation with Peer</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Loud, argumentative exchange with peer. Anger is evident in at least one party.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <u>OC-24</u></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>6</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 39-14-408

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Violation of School Rules</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: This offense comprises misbehavior that violates school policy and is not otherwise covered in the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 3 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Vulgar and Profane Language Directed toward an Adult or Student; Derogatory</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension not to exceed 5 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary.</p>
<p>Explanation: Using profane, vulgar, or obscene language or gestures.</p> <p>Related Offense Code: OC-24</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

### CATEGORY 4 OFFENSES

An office referral is submitted, and is addressed by a school administrator. Remandment to Alternative School is mandatory for most Category 4 offenses.

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Activating False Fire Alarm</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for 90 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: Activating a false fire alarm in any school or district property.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: OC-27</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Alcohol<sup>7</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for up to 90 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: Possession of or being under the influence of or having consumed alcohol (under the influence as determined by school officials to include administration, SRO, and/or school nurse).</p> <p>Applicable if the offense occurs on school property, on a school bus, or at any school event or activity.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-23</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>7</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 57-3-412(a)(3)(A)

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Any Item Sold or Dispensed Under the Pretense of a Controlled Substance<sup>8</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for 90 days (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
Explanation: Any item counterfeit, fake, or represented as a drug for the purpose of selling, dispensing, or sharing with another person.	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Arson<sup>9</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for 90 days and restitution for damages shall be made before readmission will be considered.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: Starting a fire, implying a fire will be started, or being an accomplice to starting a fire or to implying a fire will be started on school property.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

<sup>8</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 49-6-4002

<sup>9</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 39-14-301

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Bullying-related acts (including Cyber-bullying)<sup>10</sup> Harassment, Intimidation, and Hazing</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits an office referral and completes Bullying and Harassment Reporting Form (INS-F111). Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension to not exceed 5 days, remandment to Alternative School (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary. If remanded to Alternative School School Counselor referral is required for a student's return to home school.</p>
<p>Explanation: Refer to policy within this document  Related Policies: <a href="#">INS-A016</a>, <a href="#">INS-P029</a>, <a href="#">INS-P030</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	
CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Gangs (Recruitment)</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for 90 days.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education is dedicated to preventing the influence and activities of gangs in the schools. This policy is designed to eliminate or prevent such influence and activities and should be interpreted in the broadest form permissible to effectuate these purposes.</p> <p><u>Definitions:</u> For the purposes of this Code of Conduct, a "gang" is defined as any group or association, whether formal or informal, which encourages, solicits, promotes, urges, counsels, furthers, advocates, condones, assists, causes, advises, procures, or abets any illegal or disruptive activity, whether on or off school campuses.</p> <p><u>Prohibited Activity:</u> No student shall (1) Recruit or solicit membership in any gang or gang related organization. (2) Any student who urges, encourages, counsels, furthers, promotes, assists, causes, advises, procures, or abets any other student or students who claim to be a member of a gang to violate any section or paragraph of this policy shall be deemed to have violated that section or paragraph.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: OC-24</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>10</sup> T.C.A. §49-6-4503, T.C.A. §49-6-4505

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Non-Lethal Firearm</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for up to 90 days (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: The weapon involved was another known object (e.g., BB, air, pellet, cap, nerf gun, or other toy gun).</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-21</a></p> <p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Other Conduct Warranting Discipline</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for up to 90 days (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: Any conduct which is disruptive, dangerous, harmful to the student or others, not otherwise specifically enumerated herein. Restitution for damages shall be separate from any disciplinary action.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Repeated Category 3 Offenses</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral and documents the number of occurrences in class. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for up to 90 days (confer with Level-Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
Related Offense Codes: OC-214	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Sexual Harassment</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and conducts a thorough investigation. Administrator notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> In School Suspension not to exceed 5 days, Out of School Suspension to not exceed 5 days, remandment to Alternative School (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral, S-Team referral, Positive Behavior Plan, schedule/classroom change, as necessary. If remanded to Alternative School Counselor referral is required for a student's return to home school.</p>
<p>Explanation: Refer to Policy within this document.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-31</a> (sexual harassment)</p> <p>Related Policies: <a href="#">STS-A007</a>, <a href="#">STS-P012</a></p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Sexual Intercourse<sup>11</sup> on School Property or at School Events</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for 90 days (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Threats Toward Any School System Employee<sup>12</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for up to 90 days (confer with Level-Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: Threat of physical injury against any school system employee.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-28</a></p>	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

<sup>11</sup> As used in this Code, "Intercourse" is defined as the sexual contact between individuals that involves the genitalia of at least one person.

<sup>12</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 39-13-101 (a)(2)



CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Vandalism and Defacing School Property<sup>13</sup> (Damage of \$500 or more)</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for 90 days (confer with Level-Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: Willfully damaging or destroying property of any other person. IN ALL CASES, the student shall be required to pay for the damage if the student has any independent sources of income. If the student has no independent source of income, the parents shall be required to pay for the damage.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: OC-26</p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Violation of School Rules</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement, as necessary.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for up to 90 days (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: This offense comprises misbehavior that violates school policy and is not otherwise covered in the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-24</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>13</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 39-14-408

CATEGORY 4 OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Weapons and Dangerous Instruments<sup>14</sup></b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator reviews PowerSchool for repeated offenses and notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Remand to Alternative School for 90 days (confer with Level Director).</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation:</p> <p><b>a.</b> *Being in unauthorized possession of any of the following: live shell or live bullet, slingshot, leaded cane, mace, pepper spray, or razor blade, (remandment up to 90 days)</p> <p><b>b.</b> **Being in unauthorized possession of any of the following: Bowie knife, dirk, dagger, switchblade knife, lock-blade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, box cutter, taser, or any other item of similar description or possession of any knife (90-day remandment)</p> <p><b>c.</b> Using or threatening to use any such weapon or any other sharp pointed or edged instrument or other instruments such as a chair, bat, tool, or other contrived weapons in order to inflict bodily harm. (90-day remandment)</p> <p><b>d.</b> The school system considers firecrackers, snap pops, stink bombs, bottle rockets, or other such devices to be harmful and disruptive devices, regardless of whether such devices must be ignited in order to activate. Possession of such devices is absolutely prohibited and will be punished by remandment.</p> <p>Note: Non-live ammunition is NOT appropriate at school.</p> <p>*Possession or use of weapons as described in (a) above may result in remandment up to 90 days.</p> <p>**Possession or use of weapons and/or offenses described in (b), (c) and/or (d) above will result in a 90-day remandment.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-22</a></p> <p>Related Policies: <a href="#">SAF-A003</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

<sup>14</sup> Student will be reported to appropriate law enforcement officials in addition to school-imposed discipline. See also T.C.A. § 39-17-1309 and 1302

## BUS OFFENSES

OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Minor Offenses on School Buses</b>  Category 1 Offenses (as outlined on TRN-F004)  Category 2 Offenses (as outlined in TRN-F004)	First offense/office referral: Warning and parent communication	First offense/office referral: Warning and parent communication.	First and second offense/office referral: Warning and parent communication
	Second Offense(Middle/High): Transportation recommends one (1) day bus suspension at Principal discretion.		
	Third Offense: Transportation recommends between two (2) and three (3) day bus suspension, at Principal discretion. Referral to school counselor.		
	Fourth Offense: Transportation recommends between three (3) and five (5) days bus suspension, at Principal discretion. Referral to school counselor.		
	Fifth and following Offenses: Transportation recommends a long term (10 or more days) bus suspension, at Principal’s discretion. Referral to school counselor.		
Explanation: Category 1 offenses are infractions that are considered non-threatening, not harmful or do not violate the safety of fellow students or the bus driver. Offenses include, but are not limited to, improper boarding/departing procedures, profane language, horse play, rude or annoying conduct, or unnecessary noise/littering/eating/drinking/taunting. Category 2 offenses do not warrant a written warning, such as: hanging out of the window, lighting matches, or any open flame, destruction of property, etc. (TRN-F004). Related Offense Code: OC-24			

OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Major Offenses on School Buses</b>	Standing or sitting in the aisle of the bus while the bus is moving at travel speed. Transportation recommends between three (3) and ten (10) day bus suspension at Principal's discretion
	Throwing objects in or out of the bus, at the driver, at the windshield or into the driver compartment. Transportation recommends between three (3) and fifteen (15) day bus suspension at Principal's discretion

	<p>Inflammatory remarks directed toward or at the driver (profanity, vulgar language, racial slurs). Transportation recommends between five (5) and fifteen (15) days bus suspension, at Principal's discretion. Referral to school counselor.</p>
	<p>Fighting on the school bus (non-verbal altercation, physical violence). Transportation recommends between five (5) and fifteen (15) days bus suspension, at Principal's discretion. Referral to school counselor.</p>
<p>Explanation: Offenses that jeopardize the safety of students on the bus are taken very seriously. Standing or sitting in the aisle, throwing objects, inflammatory remarks directed toward or at the driver, and fighting on the bus will result in suspension from the bus. The number of days within the range are at the Principal's discretion (TRN-F054). Related Offense Code: OC-24</p>	

## ZERO-TOLERANCE OFFENSES

As required by Tennessee law and CMCSS policy, a student shall be considered in violation of a zero-tolerance offense and shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year for any of the following:

1. A student brings to school or is in unauthorized possession on school property of a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. §921;
2. A student commits aggravated assault as defined in T.C.A. §39-13-102 upon a teacher, administrator, other employee of a local education agency, school resource officer, or student or commits an assault that results in bodily injury as defined in T.C.A. §39-13-101(a) upon a teacher, principal, administrator, or any other employee of a local education agency, or school resource officer;
3. A student unlawfully possesses, uses, or distributes/transfers any drug or substance which is illegal for the student to possess or use pursuant to any local, state, or federal law (other than alcohol or tobacco products), to include but is not limited to, any controlled substance as defined in T.C.A. §39-17-402 through §39-17-415, controlled substance analogue as defined by T.C.A. §39-17-454, or legend drug as defined by T.C.A. §53-10-101, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event;
4. A student is in possession of or under the influence of a drug or substance which is illegal for the student to possess or use under local, state or federal law and/or if the substance/item possessed or used contains THC; and
5. A student communicates a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or to a school employee, or threatens mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to §39-16-517

See specific explanations below. The Director of Schools may modify this zero-tolerance expulsions on a case-by-case basis. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require or prohibit the assignment of such students to an alternative school. See T.C.A. § 49-6-4202(2) for additional information. **NOTE: Zero Tolerance students are not allowed to participate in any school activities, to include graduation exercises.**

ZERO TOLERANCE	
OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Aggravated Assault of Teacher, Staff, SRO, or Student.</b> <sup>15</sup>	<p>Mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.</p> <p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: A student commits aggravated assault who intentionally or knowingly commits an assault as set forth in the statutes noted above, and the assault results in serious bodily injury as defined in T.C.A. §39-11-106(a)(37) or death of teacher or staff, LEA employee, SRO or student, or involves the use or display of a deadly weapon, or involves strangulation or attempted strangulation.</p>	

<sup>15</sup> T.C.A. § 39-13-102(a)

Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-35</a>
Related Policies: None.
If any of these offenses occur on school property, on a school bus, or at any school event or activity it is considered ZERO TOLERANCE. <i>School Security Act</i>
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.

ZERO TOLERANCE	
OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Assault of Teacher, Staff,<sup>16</sup> or SRO.</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: A student commits assault who: (1) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury as defined in T.C.A. § 39-11-106(a)(3) to a teacher, staff or SRO; (2) Intentionally or knowingly causes a teacher, staff to reasonably fear imminent bodily injury; or (3) Intentionally or knowingly causes physical contact with a teacher or staff that is extremely offensive or provocative.</p>	
Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-32</a>	
Related Policies: None.	
If any of these offenses occur on school property, on a school bus, or at any school event or activity it is considered ZERO TOLERANCE.	
*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.	

<sup>16</sup> T.C.A. § 39-13-101(a)

ZERO TOLERANCE	
OFFENSE	HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
<b>Credible Threats<sup>17</sup>, Threats of Mass Violence<sup>18</sup>, and Bomb Threats.</b>	<p><u>Required:</u> Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator notifies law enforcement.</p> <p><u>Range of Consequences:</u> Mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.</p> <p><u>Intervention:</u> School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).</p>
<p>Explanation: A threat is deemed a credible threat if it includes the following components: a)An intent or plan to inflict bodily injury or death to another student or school employee is communicated through verbal, written, or electronic means; b)the communication is intended to, and actually causes, students or district employees to believe they are under threat of death or serious bodily injury; and c)creates actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative intervention. In addition, a student threatens mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity pursuant to §39-16-517.</p> <p>Related Offense Codes: <a href="#">OC-28</a></p>	
<p>*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

ZERO TOLERANCE
<p><b>Drugs</b></p> <p>Possession, use, or distribution of any drug/substance unlawful for a person 21 years of age or younger to possess pursuant to local, state or federal law (other than alcohol or tobacco products).</p> <p>Possession of or being under the influence of marijuana or any substance which contains THC, any controlled substance, synthetic drug, or drug paraphernalia as defined under Tennessee or Federal law</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Selling, buying or trying to sell/buy, marijuana, synthetic drugs, or any controlled substance as defined under Tennessee or Federal law or any sale or dispensation of any prescription drugs, or the possession of any prescription drugs not prescribed for the individual</p> <p>Prescription Drugs: Any drug that requires a prescription to obtain</p>

<sup>17</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-4002(d)(5).

<sup>18</sup> T.C.A. §39-16-517

**If any of these offenses occur on school property, on a school bus, or at any school event or activity it is considered ZERO TOLERANCE and requires a mandatory one calendar year expulsion.**

Required: Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator notifies law enforcement.

Range of Consequences: Mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.

Intervention: School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).

*School Security Act*

Related Offense Codes: [OC-17](#)

Related Policies: None.

\*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.

## **ZERO TOLERANCE**

### **Firearms**

Possession of any firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. §921 as well as a shotgun, rifle, pistol, dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, or explosive device is a zero tolerance offense, which requires a mandatory one calendar year expulsion.

Restitution for damages shall not be a part of any disciplinary action<sup>19</sup>

Required: Parent/Guardian contact, teacher or staff submits office referral. Administrator notifies law enforcement.

Range of Consequences: Mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.

Intervention: School Counselor referral for student's return from Alternative School (required).

Related Offense Codes: [OC-18](#), [OC-19](#)

Related Policies: None.

\*Any discipline administered with principal discretion must be developmentally appropriate for age of student and within the confines of the Code of Conduct.

---

<sup>19</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-3401



## BULLYING-RELATED ACTS

Reference: [INS-A016](#) – Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying and Hazing Policy

Clarksville-Montgomery County School System (CMCSS) prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, bullying, and hazing by students, district personnel, and volunteers or other third parties in the school environment such as vendors/contractors. In this policy, “bullying-related” includes and is defined as any of these acts. This includes bullying or harassment based on a disability and other basis protected under statutes enforced by the Office of Civil Rights. A safe and respectful environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve.

Not all inappropriate behaviors are bullying-related acts. The CMCSS Code of Conduct will be referenced to distinguish between bullying, harassment, and other forms of inappropriate behaviors (i.e. vulgar and profane language, lewd or lascivious conduct, assault and fighting, disruptive or boisterous conduct).

Bullying-related acts, like other disruptive or violent behavior, interfere with a student’s ability to learn and a school’s ability to educate students in a safe and orderly environment. Since students learn by example, district personnel and volunteers should be positive role models in demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate bullying-related acts. Students are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior, treat others with civility and respect, and refuse to tolerate bullying-related acts. The provisions of this policy are published in the Student Code of Conduct, Employee Handbook, and district website.

### Prohibited Acts Defined:

Harassment, intimidation, and bullying means any conduct that is sufficiently serious to interfere with or limit a student’s ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by the school system:

- A. if the act takes place on school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided equipment or transportation or at any official school bus stop that has the effect of:
  - 1. physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property;
  - 2. knowingly placing a student or students in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student(s) or damage to the student’s or students’ property; or
  - 3. causing emotional distress to a student or students or
  - 4. creating a hostile educational environment; or
- B. if the act takes place off school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity, it is directed specifically at a student or students and has the effect of creating a hostile educational environment or otherwise creating a substantial disruption to the educational environment or learning process.

### Bullying Defined:

To distinguish bullying-related acts from other inappropriate behaviors, CMCSS defines bullying as:

- a. harm occurs through an intentional act; and
- b. a power imbalance exists; and
- c. the accused enjoys carrying out the action; and
- d. the accused repeats the behavior, often in a systematic way; and
- e. the target has a sense of being persecuted or oppressed and is hurt physically and/or psychologically.

Bullying-related acts may include:

- Actions of engaging in reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports, who is a target of, or witness to a bullying-related act, or any person with reliable information about a bullying-related act; or
- Actions in which one falsely accuses another of having committed a bullying-related act as a means of reprisal or retaliation or as a means of a bullying-related act.

Bullying encompasses cyber-bullying that creates a hostile educational environment or otherwise creating a substantial disruption to the educational environment or learning process. Cyber-bullying includes, but is not limited to, the use of information and communication technologies, such as e-mail, cell phone text or picture messages, instant messaging, and defamatory personal websites, social networking sites, and online personal polling sites – to support deliberate, hostile behavior intended to frighten or harm others.

#### Hazing Defined:

Hazing is any intentional or reckless act, on or off school system property, by one student acting alone or with others, directed against any other student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of that student or that induces or coerces a student to endanger that student's mental or physical health or safety. Hazing does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization.

### **EDUCATION, AWARENESS, AND INTERVENTION**

The district will conduct annual staff training on its policies and procedures related to bullying-related acts. The district will provide students and parents/legal guardian's information on its policies, procedures, and prevention programs related to bullying-related acts. Additional resources may be made available to staff, students, and parents to promote awareness of the harmful effects of bullying-related behavior and to offer prevention strategies.

#### Reporting:

Students are expected to report incidents of bullying-related acts to any administrator, teacher, school resource officer, counselor, or other school/district personnel.

Parents or other district stakeholders who have knowledge of such acts are encouraged to communicate this to school personnel immediately.

CMCSS employees are required to report incidents of possible bullying-related acts to administrators.

An individual may make an anonymous report; however, no formal disciplinary action may be taken against the accused solely on the basis of any anonymous report. However, an investigation of an anonymous report will be conducted.

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-4002, a school employee, student or volunteer who witnesses or has reliable information that a student has transmitted by an electronic device any communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student shall report such information to the appropriate school official. Such school official shall make a determination regarding the administration of the report.

Individuals making a report of harassment, intimidation, hazing, or bullying should not define students involved in a sexual manner or impugn the character of any student based on allegations of sexual promiscuity.

#### Consequences:

Consequences for a student involved in bullying-related acts range from behavioral interventions to disciplinary actions. District personnel and volunteers, who engage in bullying-related acts, are subject to disciplinary actions, up to and including termination of employment. In addition, hazing may be a crime prosecutable under the criminal laws of the State of Tennessee.

The following factors will be considered in determining the consequences and appropriate remedial action for bullying-related acts:

- The developmental level and maturity levels of the parties involved;
- The levels of harm as determined by the student's ability to be educated in a safe and orderly environment;
- The surrounding circumstances;
- The nature of the behavior(s) (refer to CMCSS definition);
- Past incidences or continuing patterns of behavior;
- The relationships between the parties involved; and

- The context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

## **SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL ABUSE (EMPLOYEES, ADULTS AND STUDENTS)**

Reference:

[STS-A007](#) – Sexual Harassment Policy (Students)

[STS-P012](#) – Reporting Procedure for Students Subject to Sexual Harassment

### **Introduction:**

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination, which violates Section 703 of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000e, et seq. and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Sexual abuse is a crime prosecutable under the criminal laws of the State of Tennessee.

### **Sexual Harassment:**

It is the policy of Clarksville-Montgomery County School System (District) to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment as defined herein. The District prohibits and does not tolerate any and all forms of sexual harassment and discrimination, including sexual violence. It shall be a violation of District policy for any student or employee of this District to harass a student, employee, or third-party vendor/contractor/volunteer through conduct or communication of a sexual nature as defined by this policy. It shall also be a violation of District policy for any District employee to tolerate sexual harassment as defined herein by a student, employee, third-party vendor/contractor, or third-party volunteer assisting, observing or otherwise engaging in sanctioned District activities subject to the control and supervision of the District.

The District will act promptly to investigate all complaints of sexual harassment, formal or informal, verbal or written; to promptly take appropriate action to protect individuals who may have been sexually harassed; and if it determines that unlawful sexual harassment occurred, to promptly and appropriately discipline any student or employee who is found to have violated this policy and/or take other appropriate action reasonably calculated to end the sexual harassment.

### **Sexual Harassment Defined:**

In summary, with respect to students, sexual harassment is defined as conduct on the basis of sex occurring on District property or at a sanctioned District activity (whether on or off District property) subject to the control and supervision of the District and satisfying one or more of the following:

- a. A District employee conditioning an aid, benefit, or service of an education program or activity on a student's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- b. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a student equal access to the education program or activity; Or
- c. Sexual assault as defined in 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v), dating violence as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(10), domestic violence as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(8), or stalking as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(30).

Included in the above definition of sexual harassment is sexual violence and sexual misconduct. Sexual violence refers to physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent, e.g. due to the person's age or intellectual or other disability prevents the student from having the capacity to give consent. Examples of sexual violence include rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, and sexual coercion. Sexual misconduct refers to the unwanted intentional touching of the genitals or intimate parts, including the breasts, genital area, groin, inner thighs, and buttocks, or the clothing covering them.

### **Reporting Procedures for Sexual Harassment Only:**

The District encourages any student who believes that she/he has been subjected to sexual harassment by a District employee, student, or third party in the school environment, or any student with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute sexual harassment against a student within the District or its sponsored activities should report the alleged acts immediately to

the student's School's Title IX Coordinator/Assistant Principal, or if not available, to the Principal or other District official such as a teacher, counselor, or school resource officer (SRO). Any District employee or SRO receiving a report of sexual harassment from or regarding a student shall report the complaint to the School Title IX Coordinator/Assistant Principal or his/her designee.

Each School Title IX Coordinator/Assistant Principal may be contacted at the address and/or telephone number listed on the District School Directory as provided on the website or as indicated in the public record, i.e., telephone directory or directory assistance.

See STS-A007 and STS-P012 for a complete copy of the District's sexual harassment policy (Student) and reporting procedure for students subject to sexual harassment.

If the complaint involves the Building Principal, the complaint shall be filed directly with the Human Rights Officer located at Central Office. The Chief Human Resources Officer is designated as the District's Human Rights Officer to receive reports or complaints of sexual harassment from the building principals who receive reports or complaints of sexual harassment from a student making a report of sexual harassment as to an employee or third-party contractor or from any employee or individual making a report of sexual harassment as to an employee, student, or third-party contractor. If the complaint involves the Human Rights Officer, the complaint shall be filed directly with the Director of Schools.

The Human Rights Officer and/or Director of Schools may be reached at:

**Chief Human Resources Officer**

Clarksville-Montgomery County School System  
621 Gracey Avenue  
Clarksville, TN 37040  
Main No. (931) 648-5600  
Main No. (931) 920-7913  
[melissa.izatt@cmcss.net](mailto:melissa.izatt@cmcss.net)

**Director of Schools**

Clarksville-Montgomery County School System  
621 Gracey Avenue  
Clarksville, TN 37040  
Direct No. (931) 648-5600  
Direct No. (931) 920-7808 OR 7809

**Discipline:**

Any action taken pursuant to this policy will be consistent with requirements of applicable Tennessee statutes and District policies. The District will take such disciplinary action it deems necessary and appropriate to end sexual harassment and prevent its recurrence.

**Sexual Abuse:**

Sexual abuse must be reported immediately to the Department of Children Services T.C.A. §37-1-605. The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System and its employees have a legal duty to cooperate with Department of Children Services' investigations. School employees will not notify parent(s) or guardian(s) of visits to the school from DCS personnel or Law Enforcement personnel related to a DCS action nor will they release any information regarding DCS inquiries, interviews, or investigations to parent(s) or guardian(s). DCS personnel will make such notifications at the time and in the detail as determined by their protocols.

**Sexual Abuse Defined:**

Sexual abuse may include, but is not limited to:

- a) Inappropriate patting or pinching;
- b) Any sexually motivated unwelcome touching, if person is under the legal age of consent.
- c) Any penetration of the vagina, anus, or mouth of a person with the sex organ of another, a finger or an object, by force, coercion or if person is under the legal age of consent.

#### **Reporting Procedures for Sexual Abuse Only:**

Pursuant to Tennessee law, any person who knows or has reasonable ground to believe sexual abuse has occurred, either on or off campus, shall report it immediately to the local office of the department responsible for the investigation of reports made pursuant to this section or to the judge having juvenile jurisdiction or to the office of the sheriff or the chief law enforcement official of the municipality where the child resides. (T.C.A. §37-1-605).

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE**

CMCSS is committed to ensuring that no qualified individuals with disabilities are, because of disability, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any service, program or activity conducted by or on behalf of CMCSS.

This grievance procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by CMCSS. CMCSS has a separate procedure, which governs employment- related complaints of disability discrimination.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and the location, date and description of the alleged problem. Upon request, alternative means of filing complaints will be made available for persons with disabilities.

The complaint should be submitted by the complainant as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to the Chief Human Resources Officer.

The Chief Human Resources Officer has been designated by the school system as the person responsible for coordinating the system's efforts to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

#### **Chief Human Resources Officer**

Clarksville-Montgomery County School System  
621 Gracey Avenue  
Clarksville, TN 37040  
Main Switchboard: (931) 648-5600 / Direct Number: (931) 920-7913  
[melissa.izatt@cmcass.net](mailto:melissa.izatt@cmcass.net)

Within 20 calendar days after receipt of the complaint (excluding District holidays and breaks), the CHRO or her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 20 calendar days of the meeting (excluding District holidays and breaks), the CHRO or her designee will respond in writing and explain CMCSS' position and offer options for resolution.

If the response by the CHRO or her designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response of the CHRO or her designee. Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal (excluding District holidays and breaks), the Director of Schools or his designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting (excluding District holidays or breaks), the Director of Schools or a designee will respond in writing with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received and responses made under this procedure will be retained by CMCSS for at least three (3) years.

*Legal Reference:*

## NON-DISCRIMINATION

Reference: [HUM-A084](#) – Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of Clarksville-Montgomery County School System (CMCSS) not to discriminate against any student, employee, or applicant on the basis of sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, age, religion, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability condition. CMCSS will ensure that no student will be excluded from participating in or having access to any course offerings, student athletics, counseling services, employment assistance, extracurricular activities, or other school resources based on unlawful discrimination. CMCSS will take all necessary steps to ensure that each employee's work environment is free of unlawful discrimination. No office, administrator, or employee of CMCSS including all persons representing CMCSS, shall intimidate, threaten, harass, coerce, discriminate against, or commit or seek reprisal against anyone who participates in any aspect of the discrimination complaint process associated with this policy.

Please submit inquiries or complaints associated with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (as they relate to employees) to:

**Chief Human Resources Officer**

Melissa Izatt  
621 Gracey Avenue  
Clarksville, TN 37040  
931-920-7913

Please submit inquiries or complaints associated with Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (as they relate to students) to:

**Chief of Staff or designee**

621 Gracey Avenue  
Clarksville, TN 37040  
931-920-7939

Please submit inquiries or complaints associated with Section 504 to:

**District Section 504 Coordinator**

Jami Skevington  
1312 Highway 48/13  
Clarksville, TN 37040  
931-553-1155

## DANGEROUS WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Reference: [SAF-A003](#) – Weapon Free Schools Policy

Weapons on school property are prohibited, except under circumstances explicitly allowed by law or this policy. Any unauthorized weapons found on a person, within an automobile, or any other manner upon school district property will be confiscated and may be reported to law enforcement authorities.

Weapons are defined as any item or replica of an item designed or used for inflicting bodily harm or physical damage.

Law enforcement officers may possess weapons on school district property in alignment with their official duties.

The only time possession of a weapon upon school district property is considered “authorized” by CMCSS policy is if such possession is in furtherance of the academic program of the school system and occurs with the express permission of school authorities. As an example, authorization may be given for possession and use of such weapons in the JROTC program, for marksmanship or hunter safety courses, or as part of an academic presentation in history or other classes.

Employees violating this policy may be subject to criminal prosecution to the fullest extent of the law, disciplinary actions, and dismissal in accordance with CMCSS policies. Students violating this policy may be subject to criminal prosecution to the fullest extent of the law and may be subject to criminal prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

CMCSS retains authority to conduct routine patrols of parking lots and unannounced inspections of interiors of automobiles on school property. Searches of such automobiles will be conducted in accordance with state law. Dogs, metal detectors, and/or other devices may be used in conducting such searches.

## **CONTRABAND ON SCHOOL PROPERTY (Including School Buses)**

In addition, school officials who find any other contraband materials upon the school premises will immediately report the same to appropriate law enforcement authorities. Persons who bring such material upon school premises, whether students or not, are subject to prosecution in accordance with state law.

As used herein, "contraband" includes all substances or materials, the presence of which is prohibited by school policy or state law, including, but not limited to, controlled substances, drugs, alcoholic beverages, legal products which are misused or possessed for illegal purposes (i.e. glue or petroleum products misused for inhalation, abused or misused prescription medications, etc.) and stolen property. As used herein, a "weapon" is a gun, shotgun, rifle, pistol, or other type of firearm as defined by 18 U.S.C. §921, taser, stun gun, dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, explosive device or weapon, live shell or bullet, Bowie knife, hawk bill knife, ice pick, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, locked blade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, mace, a knife or any other item of similar description, to include those listed in T.C.A. § 39-17-1302.

## **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION**

Reference: [TRN-A003](#) – Student Transportation Policy

State law requires that school bus transportation be available to all students who live more than one and a half (1 ½) miles from the school they are zoned to attend (T.C.A. § 49-6-2101).

In Montgomery County, school bus transportation may be available to all students residing in Montgomery County who live more than:

- a) 1 mile for elementary students
- b) 1 ½ miles for middle and high school students.
- c) As required by a Special Needs IEP or a Section 504 Plan

A student can have only one bus and one bus stop (i.e., a student cannot be picked up at one bus stop in the mornings, and dropped off at a different bus stop in the afternoons). If the bus stop is a day care center, the daycare center must be located within the school zone.

## **STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES**

Reference: [TRN-P013](#) - Student Bus Conduct Discipline Procedure

Profanity, smoking, vaping, chewing or dipping tobacco products, threatening a driver or fellow students, alcohol, controlled substances (drugs), drug paraphernalia, damaging property or misuse of cell phones on the bus are prohibited



Weapons are prohibited. Weapons are defined as any item or replica of an item designed or used for inflicting bodily harm or physical damage including but not limited to aerosol sprays, pepper spray, etc.

Cell phones or electronic devices can not be used for photos, videos, social media, air drops, or sharing inappropriate materials.

Students using headphones or earbuds must leave one ear unobstructed to allow for bus driver communication to maintain safety on the bus. Hats, caps, and hoods are allowed on the school bus. All other types of headgear are prohibited. Disciplinary action will be taken by the student's principal based upon the principal's discretion and/or administrative policy.

Students shall become ineligible for transportation when their behavior is such as to cause dissension on a school bus, or when they disobey state or local rules and regulations pertaining to pupil transportation and/or his/her behavior pose a threat to the health and safety of the other occupants and passengers.

Unnecessary and wanton damage to a school bus by a student will result in that student being ineligible for transportation in addition to any other disciplinary measures. Student will become eligible again when payment is made for damage.

#### **Student-Parent Information:**

Any student or parent, who makes a request for reinstatement for students with a long-term bus suspension, must do the following:

1. Parents must request a meeting with the principal, bus driver, Transportation Manager or Designee, parent and student. If an agreement is reached for reinstatement, the agreement must be put in writing with all parties' signatures. School officials will determine the requirements of the reinstatement.
2. At the principal's discretion, he or she may know of circumstances that may warrant a student's reinstatement. If an agreement is reached, a conference call must be made to the Transportation Manager informing him/her of the reason for reinstatement. The student will be reinstated and parents given special conditions in writing. The Transportation Manager will inform the driver of the student's reinstatement.

#### **Video Surveillance:**

Reference: [TRN-A007](#) – Video Surveillance of School Buses Policy

The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System installs video or digital camera recorders on all school buses. The video recordings are erased periodically as determined by the recording equipment's capabilities/capacity.

When there is an alleged disciplinary problem, or other allegations are made against a student or an employee, the video evidence will be removed and reviewed by the Transportation Manager or a School System Administrator or their designee. All video evidence that is used in an investigation, disciplinary proceeding, or litigation will be maintained for a period of one to 20 years following the conclusion of the incident.

In order to preserve the reasonable expectation of privacy of employees and students, all video evidence will be treated as a confidential record and may not be used or viewed for any purposes other than those stated above. Video surveillance on buses will be used as a tool to monitor student conduct. School System Administrator and Transportation Manager will determine who may view video evidence as per CMCSS policy.

### **SECURING CARRY-ON ITEMS ON SCHOOL BUSES**

Reference: [TRN-A018](#) Securing Carry-On Items on School Buses

Aisles and emergency exits in school buses, school chartered buses, and multifunction school activity buses will be kept clear at all times.



### Regularly scheduled bus routes (to and from school transportation)

1. Items **will not** occupy the space for another child.
2. Items can be held in the lap but **will not** extend above the back of the seat in front of them.
3. Items can be placed on the floor between the student's legs and **will not** extend above the back of the seat in front of them.
4. Items will not be placed underneath seats, in the driver compartment area, blocking emergency exits, or blocking the main entrance way.

Additionally, flags with staffs (flagpoles), baseball bats, and JROTC dummy weapons **will not** be carried on school buses.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Reference: [STS-P010](#) Progressive Truancy Intervention Plan Procedure

The attendance policy applies to all students K-12. Suspensions are counted as unexcused absences.

The Compulsory School Attendance Law in Tennessee (T.C.A. § 49-6-3001) requires children (ages 6-17 inclusive) to attend school each day. A student who has been absent five (5) days (this means an aggregate of five days during the school year and not necessarily five consecutive days) without adequate excuse is considered truant and may be summoned to court for as few as 5 absences (T.C.A. § 49-6-3007).

The following are “official/adequate excuses” that should be turned in to the attendance secretary in the school office:

- parent note (up to 5 days excused for any reason)
- medical note (doctor, dentist, hospital, etc.)
- court note
- funeral notice (newspaper/program from the funeral home)
- military deployment paperwork-for military dependents:
  - TN Law (T.C.A. § 49-6-3019) allows the following for out of country deployments: 1 excused absence when the parent leaves for deployment twelve (12) months or longer
  - 1 excused absence when the parent returns at the end of deployment
  - Up to 10 days excused absences when the parent is home from the deployment for rest and recuperation leave
  - Local policy allows up to five (5) consecutive days of excused absences (either before or after the deployment) when the parent deployment is less than 12 months
  - Military paperwork/documentation **MUST** be provided to the school for these to be excused.

To be excused, notes must be provided by the parent or legal guardian, and received by the school within five (5) school days of the absence. Notes may be emailed to the school's Attendance Secretary. When a student reaches 5 unexcused absences, the school must meet with the parent and student to sign an Attendance Contract. If the student continues to miss, the school district will offer a Truancy Intervention. Failure to comply with any level in the process or missing continued unexcused absences, may result in a petition to Truancy Court.

For high school and middle school classes, an absence per class is defined as missing 10 or more minutes of the class period.

Make-up work: (Including suspension and remandment) Upon the first day of returning to school, it is the student's responsibility to make contact with the teacher(s) regarding make-up work. During the school year, make-up work must be completed within a number of days equal to the number of consecutive days of the absences. A grade of “0” shall be entered into the teacher's grade book for any missing work until the assignments have been completed and turned in.

## STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Clarksville-Montgomery County School Board believes that proper etiquette, social customs, and good grooming are part of the educational process. While parents should exercise the primary authority in determining what appropriate dress is and grooming for their children in accordance with their age and grade, it is the responsibility of the school system to work with parents in encouraging students to assume this responsibility and to execute it sensibly as they mature. It is also the responsibility of the school system to provide an educational atmosphere conducive to learning.

The dress code is designed to ensure the health and safety of students and to avoid distractions to the educational process, while preserving the basic rights of individuals. The following guidelines must be followed:

1. Attire must not be destructive to school property (i.e. body chains, spikes).
2. Dress must comply with the health and safety codes, regulations, and recommendations of the State of Tennessee and federal health agencies.
3. Dress or appearance must not interfere with the educational process or the rights of others.
  - a. Hats, caps, hoods, and distracting headwear are prohibited inside buildings during school hours.
  - b. Sunglasses are prohibited inside buildings unless prescribed.
  - c. Bare midriffs, see-through garments, undergarment type shirts, bare backs, halter tops, low-cut blouses and pants, mini-skirts, tank tops, cut-offs, and pajama pants are prohibited.
  - d. Shorts, in appropriate lengths and materials, are permitted in grades K-12. No spandex or brief type shorts are permitted.
  - e. Leggings are permissible as long as they are not see-through.
  - f. Skirts and dresses must be longer than mid-thigh.
  - g. Obscene, profane, provocative, violent, or inflammatory words or pictures on body/skin, clothing or jewelry, or clothing advertising alcoholic beverages, drugs, drug paraphernalia or tobacco products are prohibited.
  - h. Students in grades 6-12 are prohibited from wearing, while on school property or at any school-sponsored activity, any type of clothing, apparel, or accessory, which denotes such students' membership in or affiliation with any gang (T.C.A. § 49-6-4215).
  - i. Extremely low-riding pants are not allowed because they are a safety hazard. "Sagging" is not permitted.
  - j. Body piercings shall not distract from the instructional process.
  - k. Jewelry ornaments or accessories which distract from the educational process or which present a safety concern will not be allowed (i.e. grills).
  - l. Clothes worn with holes above mid-thigh must have garment worn beneath them.
  - m. Standard footwear including shoes, boots, athletic shoes, or sandals must be worn. House shoes or skate shoes will not be allowed.

**NOTE:** Individual schools will assume responsibility for determining compliance with the dress code for ruling on specific items of clothing and general appearance for reasons of safety and health, or for the order, well-being, and general welfare of students.

Additionally, existing laws and/or school regulations require the wearing of protective clothing, eye shields or other dress for the health or safety of students participating in certain activities. Each school will notify students of these rules. Students failing to comply with the dress code shall be required to make immediate arrangements for appropriate clothing. Refusal to make such arrangements shall result in suspension for one school day for the first offense and up to 10 days for repeated violation.

## RULES OF BEHAVIOR FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System considers participation in interscholastic athletics a privilege afforded to students by the district. Therefore, participation in athletics is not protected by due process appeals procedures related to student discipline that are afforded to all students under state law. Students participating in athletics are expected to demonstrate responsible behavior and high ethical standards at all times. Negative or inappropriate behavior by athletes during the school year, during out-of-school periods and during non-school hours can affect other students' perception of the integrity of an athletic program as well as the public's perception of the ethical standards established by the school for all students. The Rules of Behavior for Student Athletes apply to all students participating in interscholastic athletics and apply

during the school year (on and off school property) and during the non-school term. The following rules are in addition to the rules and regulations outlined in the CMCSS Student Code of Conduct, which governs the behavior of all students at the school.

Athletic penalties and sanctions apply to conduct that violates ethical standards and reflects negatively upon the athletic program or the school. The penalties apply to school-related conduct that violates the Student Code of Conduct or that generally falls below the ethical (e.g., other actions prohibited by law) standards of the school or athletic program. The penalties also apply year-round to any off campus conduct that has become public through reports in the media; through direct observation by the principal (or assistant principal) or the District's or school's athletic staff; or through reports to the principal or athletic staff by other school personnel, students, parents and members of the public. All alleged violations that are reported to the principal (or assistant principal) or athletic staff will be investigated by the coach, as the circumstances require. The results of the investigation, as well as the penalty, if any, shall be reported to the student, his/her parents or guardians, the principal, and CMCSS Activities Coordinator.

## **INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES**

Reference: School Searches of Student Cell Phones and/or Electronic Devices ([SAF-A009](#))

### **I. Interrogations:**

- A. Interrogations by School Personnel: School officials may question students at any time regarding suspected violations of school policies or State laws by the student or others. A student's failure to answer and otherwise cooperate may be grounds for further disciplinary action.
- B. Interrogations by Law Enforcement Personnel: Interrogations of pupils by law enforcement officers, who show proper identification, will be permitted during the school day only when non-school hours are impossible, impractical, or would unduly interfere with law enforcement. Efforts should be made to notify the parent, guardian, or other adult person having the care and custody of the child. In the event that an interrogation of a minor is conducted on the school premises, the principal or his/her representative must be present.

### **II. Searches and Seizures:<sup>20</sup>**

#### **A. Introduction:**

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, students are subject to reasonable searches and seizures. School administrators or their designees are empowered to conduct reasonable searches of students and school property when there is reasonable suspicion to believe that students may be in possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, weapons, alcohol, stolen property and other material (contraband) in violation of school policy or state law. Lockers, storage areas, containers, packages, and vehicles are subject to search. School property shall remain under the control of school officials, and shall be subject to search. School authorities may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search. As used in this policy, the term "unauthorized" means any item dangerous to the health or safety of students or school personnel, or disruptive of any lawful function, mission or process of the school, or any item described as unauthorized in school rules available beforehand to the student.

"Contraband" is all substances or materials, the presence of which is prohibited by school policy or state law, including but not limited to, controlled substances, drugs, alcohol or alcoholic beverages, glue that could be abused or aerosol paint, guns, knives, weapons, incendiary devices, and stolen property. A student's failure to comply with searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

---

<sup>20</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-4204

B. Personal Searches:<sup>21</sup>

The person of a student or visitor and his/her personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the person is in possession of illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials. "Reasonable Suspicion" is the standard for a search on school property or at school related events by a school administrator or their designee. It is based on the school official's specific reasonable inferences, which he or she is entitled to, drawn from the facts in light of the school official's experience. Specific reasonable inferences may be drawn from instances including, but not limited to: a tip from a reliable student, suspicious behavior which suggests that contraband is present, a smell indicating the presence of contraband, or a bulge in a pocket, etc. Reasonable suspicion should not be based on mere hunch but rather should take into consideration the child's age, history and school record, the prevalence and seriousness of the problem in the school to which the search is directed, the exigencies in making a search without delay and further investigation, the probative value and reliability of the information used as a justification for the search, the particular teacher or school official's experience with the student, and the experience of the involved school officials with the type of problem to which the search was directed.<sup>22</sup>

If a "pat down" search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school administrator or law enforcement officer of the same sex and with an adult witness present, when feasible. If the school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has on his or her person an item imminently dangerous to the student or to others, such as a weapon or unauthorized drugs, a more intrusive search of the student's person may be conducted. Such a search may only be conducted in private by a school official or law enforcement officer of the same sex, with an adult witness of the same sex present, and only upon the prior approval of the Director of Schools or his/her designee, unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay which might be caused by following these procedures.

Ordinarily, and if circumstances permit, the search of a person or his or her effects should be conducted out of the presence of other students.

C. Electronic Device Searches

Students have no expectation of privacy for cell phone and other electronic device use on CMCSS property and/or at related CMCSS functions, activities, or trips. School administrators may search and review any and all student electronic devices, including cell phones, if there is reasonable suspicion that a search will reveal a violation of school rules. (SAF-A009)

D. Locker Searches:

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. When individual circumstances, as defined by T.C.A. § 49-6-4204(b) indicate, searches of lockers may be conducted by school authorities at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

E. Automobile Searches:

Students and other visitors are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of parking lots and any vehicle on school property may be searched whenever individual circumstances dictate.

Students are responsible for the contents of the vehicle they drive to school. Such patrols and searches may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. Searches of such automobiles may be conducted in accordance with state law. Dogs, metal detectors, and/or other devices may be used in conducting such searches.

F. Use of Dogs, Metal Detectors, or Other Devices:<sup>23</sup>

---

<sup>21</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-4205

<sup>22</sup> All law enforcement investigations and actions will be conducted in accordance with federal and state law.

<sup>23</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-4207 and T.C.A. § 49-6-4208

Dogs, metal detectors or other devices may be used in conducting searches. Dogs shall not be used to search individuals unless school officials have established independently that there is a reasonable cause to believe that a particular student or visitor possesses illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials on his or her person. In such cases, every precaution shall be taken to insure safety while such searches are being conducted. An indication by the dog, metal detector, or other device that illegal, unauthorized, or contraband material is present shall be reasonable cause for a further search by school officials. In view of the escalating presence of weapons in our schools, the Board of Education authorizes the use of hand-held or walk-through metal detectors to check a student's person or personal effects as follows:

1. School official or law enforcement officers may conduct metal detector checks of groups of individuals if the checks are done in a manner (e.g., on all students in a randomly selected class; on every third individual entering an athletic event). Metal detector checks of groups of individuals may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals.<sup>24</sup>
2. If a school official or a law enforcement officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that a particular student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon, he or she may conduct a metal detector check of the student's person and personal effects. A student's failure to permit a metal detector check as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action including possible suspension.

G. Notification of Law Enforcement Authorities:

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

H. Mass Searches:

Mass searches shall not be permitted except in the most unusual and exigent circumstances indicating that the delay required in narrowing suspicion to a particular student is likely to result in serious danger to life or property. In all such cases, effort shall be made to contact the Director of Schools and the General Counsel or Associate General Counsel before conducting such mass searches.

Refer to T.C.A. § 49-6-4201, et. seq. for additional information.

---

<sup>24</sup> All law enforcement investigations and actions will be conducted in accordance with federal and state law.

## TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USAGE POLICY

Reference: [TCH-A002](#) – Technology Acceptable Usage Policy

*Clarksville-Montgomery County School System (CMCSS) has developed an extensive technology infrastructure, including hardware, software and connectivity equipment toward the purpose of improving the District's educational, administrative and clerical functions.* The significant ongoing investment in technology is in part justified by two promises:

1. To better prepare students for life and work in a future filled with technology laden changes, and use.
2. To increase the productivity of current and future staff.

This investment must be protected from potential misuse and deliberate abuse. CMCSS uses a Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliant solution for the challenging work of preventing student access to materials the district deems harmful and to block internet access to inappropriate sites, including child pornography and obscenity. This policy clarifies roles and responsibilities in the use of CMCSS technology, both hardware and software, to preserve the integrity and usability of these resources to benefit and serve all users. Failure to comply with this policy may result in the suspension of privileges, internal investigation, and/or criminal prosecution. ***CMCSS must be strict in these matters, not only because of the value of the resources, but also to ensure a safe and productive learning and working environment for our students, faculty, and staff. These rules apply to all CMCSS computing resources.***

**The intent of this policy is to raise awareness about what is appropriate, ethical, legal and responsible use of a valuable shared resource, not to enumerate all uses that are or are not appropriate.**

Acceptable use of CMCSS information technology resources is based on common sense, common decency, and civility applied to the networked computing environment. There is no expectation of privacy by users when using the internet or electronic communications. The district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store (at any time and without any prior notice) activity related to district computers, computer systems, and electronic communications, with the exception of personal banking/health information. The district may access district-owned or networked computers for maintenance, upgrades, or review instances of suspected abuse of district policy. Appropriate use of these resources must be consistent with the purpose for which the computer/security accounts (log-ins) were originally requested and provided. Privately owned devices connected to CMCSS network, whether wired or wireless, are subject to monitoring, inspection, possible confiscation, and investigation. Attaching privately owned devices to CMCSS network is a privilege and is subject to all provisions within the Technology Acceptable Usage Policy.

### **Expressly prohibited are any uses:**

- Which benefit any political, religious, or commercial organization.
- Which are illegal, obscene, or for profit.
- That adversely affect the reputation or image of CMCSS.
- Of unauthorized attempts to log in to any network as an administrator. This could result in cancellation of user privileges.
- Of unauthorized disclosure of personal information.
- Involving vandalism. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy CMCSS data, data of another user, or other CMCSS computing facilities or equipment. This could result in cancellation of privileges.
- Any other actions that are in violation of the CMCSS Student Code of Conduct.

### **Network Security**

Network passwords and account information are only given to authorized personnel.

Only users with valid CMCSS network accounts are authorized to use the CMCSS network and computer equipment. Employees and students must only use their assigned network account.

All computer users must always secure their computer(s) and network log-in before leaving their room or office. Do not allow anyone to use your computer (with the exception of a CMCSS Technology Department employee). The individual assigned a computer/security account is accountable for any and all transactions entered under that computer/security account login.

For the protection and security of the CMCSS data, all equipment attached to the CMCSS physical network (equipment located at a CMCSS facility either wired or wireless) must be CMCSS property or have received approval from the Chief Technology Officer.

Use of software designed to gain passwords or access beyond the rights assigned to a user or computer is strictly prohibited. Use of such programs risk the security of the network and is considered “hacking”. The intent to obtain unauthorized access is a violation of State and Federal law. Violators will be prosecuted. Should you inadvertently discover passwords or any other method used to control unauthorized access; this must be reported immediately to supervisory personnel in the room (in case of students) or the Chief Technology Officer (in case of staff).

The following activities and uses of the CMCSS network are prohibited:

1. Downloading, installation or use of programs that infiltrate computing systems and/or damage software components, including “viruses” and “worms”.
2. Downloading, installation or use of any program or software not listed on CMCSS software approval list is prohibited without prior written authorization of the CMCSS Technology Department management. Updates of existing software installed by the Technology Department are permitted.
3. Intentionally disrupting network traffic, crashing the network, or gaining unauthorized access to the files of another user.
4. Use of the network to personally attack, harass, threaten, or bully another person intentionally or recklessly publish false information about another person.
5. Use of inappropriate language in any type of communication, including, but not limited to, language that is illegal, vulgar, profane, abusive or threatening.
6. Any access to the network through false identity including anonymous communication, falsifying, concealing, or misrepresenting the user’s identity or sharing or loaning network accounts.
7. Mass e-mailing of unsolicited and unwanted messages (“spamming”), including text, software, video images, and graphics.
8. Downloading sound, music, or other electronic media for non-instructional purposes.
9. Downloading, installation, or use of any software with the intent of hiding or masking internet traffic to bypass firewall policies; including but not limited to, Virtual Private Network clients/agents or browser extensions.

#### **Workstation/Computer Use**

All employees and students are prohibited from installing any software on any computer unless authorized in writing by the CMCSS Technology Department management. Illegal download or use of copyrighted software, music, videos, pictures, or other files is strictly prohibited. Students are prohibited from installing any software not on the Student Approved Software list.

All employees and students are prohibited from using any computer for illegal or commercial activity.

Any desktop application designed to limit access to students or staff, other than those used by Technology for network security purposes, is prohibited.

Changing or tampering with any computer’s system configuration is strictly prohibited.

Any action which violates Board or Administrative policies, local, state, or federal law is prohibited.

Computers found to be tampered with or computers with unapproved software or files will be re-formatted and restored to compliance.

All computer equipment loans must comply with the district Equipment Loan Agreement (BUS-F012).

### **Internet Connectivity**

CMCSS provides internet connectivity to improve the District's educational, administrative and clerical functions. Responsible and ethical use of the wired and wireless network system is required. Internet use is intended for valid and legitimate district related purposes. Classroom use of the internet is intended for instructional related purposes only. Internet connectivity may not be used for personal gain or political or religious views or in any illegal, offensive or unethical manner, to include bullying-related acts. All internet traffic is subject to review at any time by authorized CMCSS personnel. In the event of a violation of this policy, the device used in such violation (either private or property of the CMCSS) may be confiscated and searched. There is no expectation of privacy.

It is the responsibility of all members of the CMCSS staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the internet in accordance with this policy and the CIPA.

### **Viruses and Virus Protection**

The CMCSS Technology Department will provide all virus protection and related software for all CMCSS devices and servers. Virus protection and related software will be installed by authorized Technology Department personnel unless otherwise approved by the CMCSS Technology Department.

Do not open any e-mail attachments from anyone you do not know. Never send anyone e-mail you suspect may contain a virus. The intentional spreading of messages or files containing damaging or destructive programs or data is against federal law. Violators will be prosecuted. If you suspect your computer may contain a virus, contact the Technology Department immediately.

There are many virus hoaxes. Never delete system files from a computer in order to remove a potential virus without first checking with the Technology Department to ensure the virus is valid and not a hoax.

### **Copyright Policy**

All students and employees will comply with all applicable copyright laws in the use of all media and materials and model legal and ethical practices related to technology. CMCSS students may create work in the classroom individually and with the assistance of CMCSS employees. Such work is owned by the student upon creation. Students and their legal guardians agree that any and all such student created work may be used by CMCSS in its publications, including but not limited to websites and other distributed materials promoting CMCSS, provided that such original student work will be reported as having been created by the student. Any student who desires not to authorize CMCSS to publish his/her work or to publish his/her name as the owner of such work, shall provide written notice to CMCSS that such authorization is not granted.

### **E-mail**

The CMCSS and student e-mail systems have been provided for the internal and external communication of employees, board members, and students. Responsible and ethical use of the e-mail system is required and should reflect professional standards at all times. The e-mail system may not be used for personal gain or political or religious views or in any illegal, offensive or unethical manner, to include bullying-related acts. Personal e-mails should be limited. All e-mail is the property of CMCSS and should not be considered private or confidential and as such, is subject to review at any time by authorized CMCSS personnel.

All district employee emails must adhere to the signature guidelines provided by the Communications Department.

### **Server Software**

Only authorized CMCSS Technology Department personnel will install software to servers.



When a suspected violation of the above agreement becomes known, the incident should be reported to the appropriate supervisor and the Chief Technology Officer. If the incident is in violation of Board or Administrative Policies, the supervisor shall take appropriate action. In order to prevent further possible inappropriate activity, the user's computer/security account access may be temporarily blocked. If this is deemed necessary, every effort will be made to inform the user prior to this action and to re-establish the connection as soon as deemed appropriate. Any determination of inappropriate use, serious enough to require disconnection, should also be promptly communicated to the user's supervisor.

### **Technology Abuse**

In the event a CMCSS employee becomes aware of the misuse or abuse of CMCSS technology, he or she should act in accordance with the district's Computer Abuse Discovery Procedure (TCH-P026).

## **SAFE SCHOOL CHOICE**

Reference: [SAF-A002](#) –Safe School Choice

CMCSS complies with requirements provided under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) stating all students are to be given a safe school choice. The following policy is adopted to comply with all such requirements.

### **Definitions:**

For the purposes for this policy, the following definitions apply:

**Safe School Choice:** The students and parents/guardians are provided an opportunity to transfer to another school within the local education agency (LEA) that is safe for the student. To the extent possible, the LEA will allow transferring students to transfer to a school that is making adequate yearly progress and has not been identified as being in school improvement, corrective action or restructuring. The LEA is encouraged to take into account the needs and preferences of the affected students and parents. The LEA assumes necessary transportation costs associated with the student attending a safe school. A LEA with only one school at a particular grade level may choose to facilitate a transfer to a school in another school district; however, such transfer is not required.

**Violence-related disciplinary actions:** A violence-related disciplinary action is one taken for any of the following offenses:

1. Possession or use of a firearm, as defined in 18 U.S.C. §921.
2. Aggravated assault of a teacher or school system employee (including a school resource officer assigned to the school). For purposes of this policy, aggravated assault is defined consistent with T.C.A. § 39-13-102.
3. Possession or use of a weapon other than a firearm on school property is guilty of a crime, as defined in T.C.A. § 39-17-1309.

**Violent Crime:** Any of the following offenses as identified and defined in T.C.A. § 40-38-111(g): aggravated arson, aggravated assault, aggravated child abuse and neglect, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated rape, aggravated robbery, aggravated sexual battery, aggravated spousal rape, spousal rape and spousal sexual battery, aggravated vehicular homicide, carjacking, criminally negligent homicide, especially aggravated burglary, especially aggravated kidnapping, especially aggravated robbery, first degree murder, incest, kidnapping, rape, rape of a child, reckless homicide, second degree murder, sexual battery by an authority figure, sexual battery, stalking, statutory rape, vehicular assault, vehicular homicide, and voluntary manslaughter.

### **Persistently Dangerous Schools:**

Any public elementary or secondary school, with the exception of a school established specifically for serving suspended or expelled students with behavioral disabilities, will be considered persistently dangerous if it meets the following criteria for three (3) consecutive years:

1. Have violence-related disciplinary actions as reported by the Annual Report of Zero Tolerance Offenses. Violence-related disciplinary actions are defined as any of the following: possession/use of a firearm, battery of a teacher or school employee (including a school resource officer assigned to the

- school), and possession/use of a weapon other than a firearm (more detailed descriptions are provided under definitions of this policy); or
2. Has students who have been the victim of a violent crime at school as defined under victim of a violent crime at school of this policy; and,
  3. The sum of violence-related disciplinary actions and/or incidents of student victimization identified above are equal to or greater than 3% of the school's average daily membership.

#### Required Actions:

Year 1: Any school meeting the criteria identified above receives notification from the Tennessee Department of Education. The district will direct available federal and state resources to the school to identify problems and implement corrective action.

Year 2: Any school meeting the criteria for the second consecutive year evaluates its current school safety practices and submits a corrective action plan to the Tennessee Department of Education.

Year 3: Any school meeting the criteria of three consecutive years is designated by the Tennessee Department of Education as a persistently dangerous school. With 30 days of receiving notice of the designation, the Director of Schools/designee:

1. Notifies the parents or guardians of all students attending the school that the school has been designated by the Tennessee Department of Education as a persistently dangerous school and provides for all students to be given a safe school choice.
2. Submits a corrective action plan to the Commissioner of Education outlining the specific actions and timetable that the school will follow to ensure the safety of students and faculty.

#### Right to Appeal:

A school designated as a persistently dangerous school has the right to appeal the designation. The appeal must be submitted by the Director of Schools to the Commissioner of Education within 15 calendar days of being notified of the designation and must present clear evidence that the school provides a safe and disciplined learning environment for all students. A committee of practitioners appointed by the Commissioner of Education will review the appeal within 15 calendar days of receipt.

#### Removal of Designation:

Upon implementation of the approved corrective action and completion of one (1) school year with a level of dangerous incidents below the established criteria, a school will no longer be considered persistently dangerous.

#### Victim of a Violent Crime at School:

A student is considered the victim of a violent crime at school when the following criteria are met:

1. Evidence is found to reasonably indicate that the student has been the victim of any of the applicable offenses identified in T.C.A. § 40-38-111(g) or the attempt to commit one of the applicable offenses defined under T.C.A. § 39-12-101; and
2. The offense occurred while the student was attending school or traveling to from school on a school bus.

#### Required Actions:

The building administrator/designee of a school where an alleged incident of student violent crime victimization has occurred immediately reports the incident to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Promptly following an investigation by appropriate law enforcement personnel, the building administrator/designee determines whether or not reasonable evidence exists to indicate that a student has been the victim of a violent crime. Identification of a perpetrator and/or the filing of criminal charges is not a considered a prerequisite for determining that a student has been victimized. Upon determination that a student has been victimized, and within ten (10) school days of the event, the Director of Schools offers the student and parents or guardians a safe school choice. The building administrator/designee files a report with the Tennessee Department of Education as requested by the Commissioner.

#### Parental Notification

Every public school annually notifies parents that if their child is the victim of a violent crime at school, the child has the right to attend another grade-appropriate public school in the district.

Implementing Documents:

Tennessee Department of Education  
[www.state.tn.us/education/](http://www.state.tn.us/education/)  
Tennessee State Board of Education Policy 4.202  
18 U.S.C. §921  
T.C.A. § 39-12-101 – Criminal Attempt  
T.C.A. § 39-17-1309 – Carrying Weapons on School Property  
T.C.A. § 40-38-111(g) – Notifying Victim of Rights

## ASSESSMENT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

This information is provided to inform parents and students of assessment practices that are used in addition to classroom or unit tests given by individual teachers. Grade level or school-wide assessments are administered throughout the school year to measure progress toward achieving content proficiency and to identify areas of strength and challenge at the student, school, and district level. These measurements allow CMCSS to provide instruction tailored to the needs of the individual student while meeting the standards set by the Tennessee Department of Education. Common Unit Assessments are created by CMCSS teachers and used school-wide or district-wide for a fair and equitable measure of students' progress.

Information about curriculum standards and assessments is available on the following website:

<https://www.cmcss.net/testing/>

Assessment information is available on the state's website please visit: <https://accountability.cmcss.net/>

Tennessee academic standards are accessible on the state's web site please visit:

<https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards.html>

In accordance with the Textbook Transparency Act, CMCSS has provided an Online Textbooks Hub. This site is continuously updated and can be accessed via the CMCSS Parent Academic Resources Hub. Additionally, click here for CMCSS' policy on Parent/Legal Guardian Review of Instructional Resources ([INS-A073](#)).

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

### **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**

*Grades 4th, 8th, and 12th; National Assessment*

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest national assessment with results representative of what students across the United States know and can do in various subject areas. The assessments are administered periodically online and in pencil/paper format in math, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, US History, technology, and engineering literacy. For more information on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), please visit <https://www.tn.gov/education/assessment/naep.html>

### **Universal Screener**

*Grades K-HS; RTI2 Assessment*

Universal screenings review the performance and progress of all students through brief assessments in reading and math. Universal screenings help schools identify students who may need more support or other types of instruction. CMCSS utilizes *FastBridge* as the Universal Screener. For more information on Universal Screener and RTI2, please visit the state website at <https://sites.google.com/cmcss.net/rti2/home>

### **TCAP Achievement**

*Grades 3-5, State Assessment*

Test windows are established by the state, and are typically April – May.

Achievement (ACH) exams will be paper-based. The Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) ACH assessment for English language arts is a four-part timed assessment with one section designed to assess writing skills. The assessment for mathematics is a three-part timed assessment with one section consisting of non-calculator items. The science timed assessment consists of two parts. The social studies assessment for 3 - 5 is currently paused. The results of these examinations will be factored into the student's grade at a percentage determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with T.C.A. §49-1-302 (2). For more information on the TCAP ACH, please visit the state assessment website: at <https://www.tn.gov/education/assessment/tready.html>

### **WIDA Access for EL students**

*Grades K-12; summative scheduled for February – April 2024*

WIDA Access, an English Language proficiency assessment, is administered to all K-12 students identified as NELB [non-English Language Background] upon the arrival in the district. The summative assessment, which identifies the growth in English Language acquisition is administered to all K-12 EL students in the spring of the academic year. <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/access>

### **Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) and TCAP-Alt Science and Social Studies (TCAP-Alt)**

Tennessee currently offers the following alternate assessments: [Required] The Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) in ELA/writing and mathematics (Grades 3–8, 11) and [Required] The TCAP-Alt for Science and Social Studies (Grades 3–8, Grade 10 Science). The alternate assessments are based on alternate achievement standards in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education federal regulations and guidance. A student must have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and the primary disability must be recognized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The term “significant cognitive disability” is not a category of disability. It is a designation given to a small number of students with disabilities for purposes of their participation in the state assessment program, and if determined to have this disability, all of the follow statements must be true as determined by the student's IEP team.

The three eligibility criteria that students must meet in order to be eligible for the alternate assessments are:

1. The student has a significant cognitive disability.
2. The student is learning content linked to (derived from) Tennessee Academic Standards.
3. The student requires extensive direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains in the grade- and age-appropriate curriculum.

More information on eligibility requirements for alternate assessments is available [here](#).

A student eligible to participate in the alternate assessment will be assessed on all four content areas—ELA, math, science, and social studies.

### **MSAA Format**

The assessment is designed to be administered online; however, depending on students' individual needs, some students will interact directly with the computer while others will interact with printed materials prepared by the test administrator. The test includes built-in supports to ensure students can respond as independently as possible. Most of the items are selected response, but some items are constructed response. The assessment includes two mathematics sessions and four ELA sessions with approximately 35–40 total items.

### **TCAP-Alt Format**

TCAP-Alt is in a paper-and-pencil format. The teacher reads test questions to the student and transcribes the student's answer choice on a scannable form. Each assessment (science and social studies) will include 20–30 multiple choice questions. Each question has 2–3 possible correct answer choices.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS**

### **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**

*Grades 4th, 8th, and 12th; National Assessment*

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest national assessment with results representative of what students across the United States know and can do in various subject areas. The assessments are administered periodically online and in pencil/paper format in math, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, US History, technology, and engineering literacy. For more information on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), please visit <https://www.tn.gov/education/assessment/naep.html>

### **Universal Screener**

*Grades K-HS; RTI<sub>2</sub> Assessment*

Universal screenings review the performance and progress of all students through brief assessments in reading and math. Universal screenings help schools identify students who may need more support or other types of instruction. CMCSS utilizes *FastBridge* as the Universal Screener. For more information on Universal Screener and RTI<sub>2</sub>, please visit the state website at <https://sites.google.com/cmcss.net/rti2/home>

### **TCAP Achievement (ACH)**

*Grades 6-8, State Assessment*

Test windows are determined by the state, and are typically in April - May.

The Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) ACH assessment for English language arts is a four-part timed assessment with one section designed to assess writing. The assessment for mathematics is a three-part timed assessment with one section consisting of non-calculator items. The science timed assessment consists of two parts. The social studies timed assessment consists of two parts. The results of these examinations will be factored into the student's grade at a percentage determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with T.C.A. §49-1-302 (2). For more information on the TCAP ACH, please visit the state assessment website at <https://www.tn.gov/education/assessment/tnready.html>

### **TCAP END OF COURSE (EOC), State Assessment**

*Middle School Algebra I for High School Credit*

Test window April - May 2023

Based on successful verification tests, we will administer high school EOC tests online, computer-based for Fall 2022 and Spring 2023. The TCAP EOC assessment for mathematics is a three-part timed assessment with one section consisting of non-calculator items. NOTE: State Board Policy 2.103 Section 3. C; Students enrolled in courses with End of Course examinations may not withdraw from such courses after being enrolled in the course for at least twenty-five percent (25%, 1st 9 weeks) of the instructional days in the course. The results of these examinations will be factored into the student's grade at a percentage determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with T.C.A. §49-1-302 (2). For more information on the TCAP EOC, please visit state assessment website.

### **WIDA Access for EL students**

*Grades K-12; summative scheduled for February - April 2023*

WIDA Access, an English Language proficiency assessment, is administered to all K-12 students identified as NELB [non-English Language Background] upon the arrival in the district. The summative assessment, which identifies the growth in English Language acquisition is administered to all K-12 EL students in the spring of the academic year. <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/access>

Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) and TCAP-Alt Science and Social Studies (TCAP-Alt)

Tennessee currently offers the following alternate assessments: [Required] The Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) in ELA/writing and mathematics (Grades 3–8, 11) and [Required] The TCAP-Alt for Science and Social Studies (Grades 3–8, Grade 10 Science). The alternate assessments are based on alternate achievement standards in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education federal regulations and guidance. A student must have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and the primary disability must be recognized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The term “significant cognitive disability” is not a category of disability. It is a designation given to a small number of students with disabilities for purposes of their participation in the state assessment program, and if determined to have this disability, all of the follow statements must be true as determined by the student's IEP team.

The three eligibility criteria that students must meet in order to be eligible for the alternate assessments are:

1. The student has a significant cognitive disability.
2. The student is learning content linked to (derived from) Tennessee Academic Standards.
3. The student requires extensive direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains in the grade- and age-appropriate curriculum.

### **MSAA Format**

The assessment is designed to be administered online; however, depending on students' individual needs, some students will interact directly with the computer while others will interact with printed materials prepared by the test administrator. The test includes built-in supports to ensure students can respond as independently as possible. Most of the items are selected response, but some items are constructed response. The assessment includes two mathematics sessions and four ELA sessions with approximately 35–40 total items.

### **TCAP-Alt Format**

TCAP-Alt is in a paper-and-pencil format. The teacher reads test questions to the student and transcribes the student's answer choice on a scannable form. Each assessment (science and social studies) will include 20–30 multiple choice questions. Each question has 2–3 possible correct answer choices.

## **HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS**

### **ACT**

*Grade 11; National Assessment*

The ACT college readiness assessment is a curriculum- and standards-based educational and career planning tool that assesses students' academic readiness for college. For more information on the ACT, please visit

<https://www.tn.gov/education/assessment/act-sat.html>

### **AP (Advanced Placement)**

*Grade 10-12; dates posted on AP website; National Assessment*

Advanced Placement courses and exams provide students the opportunity to complete challenging college level courses while in high school. Colleges and universities grant program placement and course credit for students achieving high scores on advanced placement exams. For more information on AP please visit the AP website at

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home>

### **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)**

*Grades 4th, 8th, and 12th; National Assessment*

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest national assessment with results representative of what students across the United States know and can do in various subject areas. The assessments are administered periodically online and in pencil/paper format in math, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, US History, technology, and engineering literacy. For more information on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), please visit <https://www.tn.gov/education/assessment/naep.html>.

### **Universal Screener**

*Grades K-HS; RTI<sub>2</sub> Assessment*

Universal screenings review the performance and progress of all students through brief assessments in reading and math.

Universal screenings help schools identify students who may need more support or other types of instruction. CMCSS utilizes *FastBridge* as the Universal Screener. For more information on Universal Screener and RTI<sub>2</sub>, please visit the state website at <https://sites.google.com/cmcss.net/rti2/home>

### **TCAP END OF COURSE (EOC), State Assessment**

Test window April - May 2023

Based on successful verification tests, we will administer tests online, computer-based for Fall 2022 and Spring 2023.

The Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) EOC assessment for English language arts is a four-part timed assessment with one section designed to assess writing. The TCAP EOC assessment for mathematics is a three-part timed assessment with one section consisting of non-calculator items. The test for science standards is a timed assessment consisting of one-part. The social studies test is a timed assessment consisting of two parts. The results of these examinations will be factored into the student's grade at a percentage determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with T.C.A. §49-1-302 (2). For more information on the TCAP EOC, please visit state assessment website.

### **United States Civics test**

All high school students in Tennessee are required to take a United States civics test. In CMCSS, students will take the United States Civics test either in US Government & Civics or in JROTC II. (Tennessee State Board of Education, High School Policy, 2.103, revised 10/31/2014.)

### **WIDA Access for EL students**

*Grades K-12; summative scheduled for February - April 2023*

WIDA Access, an English Language proficiency assessment, is administered to all K-12 students identified as NELB [non-English Language Background] upon the arrival in the district. The summative assessment, which identifies the growth in English Language acquisition is administered to all K-12 EL students in the spring of the academic year. <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/access>

### **Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) and TCAP-Alt Science and Social Studies (TCAP-Alt)**

Tennessee currently offers the following alternate assessments: [Required] The Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) in ELA/writing and mathematics (Grades 3–8, 11) and [Required] The TCAP-Alt for Science and Social Studies (Grades 3–8, Grade 10 Science). The alternate assessments are based on alternate achievement standards in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education federal regulations and guidance. A student must have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and the primary disability must be recognized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The term “significant cognitive disability” is not a category of disability. It is a designation given to a small number of students with disabilities for purposes of their participation in the state assessment program, and if determined to have this disability, all of the follow statements must be true as determined by the student's IEP team.

The three eligibility criteria that students must meet in order to be eligible for the alternate assessments are:

1. The student has a significant cognitive disability.
2. The student is learning content linked to (derived from) Tennessee Academic Standards.
3. The student requires extensive direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains in the grade- and age-appropriate curriculum.

### **MSAA Format**

The assessment is designed to be administered online; however, depending on students' individual needs, some students will interact directly with the computer while others will interact with printed materials prepared by the test administrator. The test includes built-in supports to ensure students can respond as independently as possible. Most of the items are selected response, but some items are constructed response. The assessment includes two mathematics sessions and four ELA sessions with approximately 35–40 total items.

### **TCAP-Alt Format**

TCAP-Alt is in a paper-and-pencil format. The teacher reads test questions to the student and transcribes the student's answer choice on a scannable form. Each assessment (science and social studies) will include 20–30 multiple choice questions. Each question has 2–3 possible correct answer choices.



## A FAMILY GUIDE TO RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTION AND INTERVENTION (RTI<sup>2</sup>) 2023-2024

What is RTI<sup>2</sup>?

Response to instruction and intervention is the way CMCSS intervenes with students who are struggling academically by focusing on quality core instruction and intervention of specific skill deficits. The purpose of RTI<sup>2</sup> is to intervene with students quickly in the area of need so skill deficit gaps do not develop as they progress through school.

What does the RTI<sup>2</sup> Framework look like?

The RTI<sup>2</sup> Framework has three tiers; each tier provides intensifying levels of support.

- In Tier I, all students receive evidence-based, high-quality, general education standards-based instruction that incorporates ongoing universal screening and assessments to inform instruction. Tier I is another name for the regular core instruction all students get every year.
- In Tier II, students identified as having significant skill deficits receive intervention targeted to the specific area of need. Student progress is consistently monitored during intervention and decisions about tier movement are based on progress monitoring data.
- In Tier III, more intensive interventions are provided to students who have not made significant progress in Tier II, or who demonstrate a deficit significant enough to warrant immediate Tier III intervention. Students are monitored closely to determine if the intervention is effective. Movement from Tier III is dependent upon intervention success.

Tier II and III intervention occur in addition to regular classroom instruction. Schools will communicate with parents in writing when students go into and out of intervention, as well as update progress during intervention.

What are the key components of RTI<sup>2</sup>?

RTI<sup>2</sup> has been around for many years and is proven to improve instruction for all students by identifying areas for improvement in core instruction.

Schools assess all students in the fall, winter, and spring using what is called a *Universal Screener*. This is a skills-based measure students are given to quickly check how they perform compared to grade-level expectations. Screeners are brief and measure math and reading proficiency, as well as social-emotional protective factors. School teams consider data from a variety of sources, including the screener, to determine the level of intervention most appropriate and the specific skill deficit.

Another key component of RTI<sup>2</sup> is *progress monitoring*. Progress monitoring is a way for teachers to take a snapshot of how children are doing on a specific skill. It includes formal and informal assessments. Progress monitoring helps determine whether an intervention is successful or needs to be changed. Data from this type of monitoring is shared with parents on a regular basis (every 4-5 weeks).

When progress monitoring indicates a student is not responding to the intervention at an acceptable rate (gap closure is not occurring at a reasonable rate), another approach or intervention may be implemented. If a higher level of support is needed, students may be provided more intensive intervention that further focuses on the supporting skills they need to be successful learners (Tier III). Students who do not respond to Tier III interventions *may* be referred for a special education evaluation.

What if I think my child needs special education?

If at any time parents/guardians become concerned that their child needs special education services, they should contact their child's teacher or administrator. Other forms of evaluation, in addition to information gathered through the RTI<sup>2</sup> framework, are needed to determine if a student is eligible for special education services. A parent's written consent is required for these evaluations to be conducted.

*Additional information about RTI<sup>2</sup> implementation will be provided by each school.*



## A SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING SCREENING AND CONTINUED INTERVENTION

If your student was recommended to continue participation in tiered intervention in the spring, that intervention will be continued this fall. The district will begin administering fall universal screening measures to gauge student progress and make instructional plans to meet the needs of all students as soon as students return to school. Data from the fall universal screening will be used in conjunction with previous screening, progress monitoring, and curriculum-based data to determine the need for continued intervention, tier level, and pinpoint specific deficits. After universal screening measures are administered, parents/guardians will be provided information if the continued or initial placement of their student(s) in tiered intervention is recommended. All data will be treated as continuous (i.e., the summer break does not necessitate a ‘restart’ on data collection and/or delay progression toward referral) and data teams will meet frequently and consistently to review student progress and make informed decisions.

## TENNESSEE LITERACY SUCCESS ACT AND THE CMCSS FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY SKILLS PLAN

In compliance with the Tennessee Literacy Success Act, each district and public charter school must submit a Foundational Literacy Skills Plan. School districts and public charter schools must create a local Foundational Literacy Skills Plan for students in kindergarten through fifth grade and submit the final approved plan to the department for approval. The Clarksville-Montgomery County School System’s Foundational Literacy Skills Plan has been approved by the Tennessee Department of Education and may be found [here](#).

We wish you and your student(s) a healthy, productive school year! Should you have any questions, please contact your school’s RTI2 lead or the district RTI2 data team at [RTI2@cmcss.net](mailto:RTI2@cmcss.net).

## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

For the purpose of this code, the following terms shall apply:

### **Alternative School Program**

A structured learning environment where students are assigned for behavior infractions. Instruction shall proceed as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instructional program at the student's home school. Attendance is mandatory.

### **Base Academy**

Students in grades 3-5 may attend BASE (Behavior, Academic, Social, and Emotional) Academy as an alternative school setting.

### **CBD**

Short for cannabidiol, is a compound found in marijuana and derived from different varieties of the Cannabis sativa plant. In Tennessee persons under 21 cannot purchase or possess tobacco or smoking hemp, vapor product, or smokeless nicotine.

### **Credible Threat**

A threat is deemed a credible threat if it includes the following components: a) An intent or plan to inflict bodily injury or death to another student or school employee is communicated through verbal, written, or electronic means; b) the communication is intended to, and actually causes, students or district employees to believe they are under threat of death or serious bodily injury; c) creates actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative intervention.

### **Detention**

A student may be detained before or after school for disciplinary reasons.

### **Expulsion**

Shall be defined as exclusion or removal for more than ten (10) consecutive days from a school and any activity sponsored by a CMCSS school and may include a minimum remandment of thirty (30) school days at the Alternative School.

### **Incendiary Device**

Used or adapted for setting property on fire.

### **Individualized Education Plan (IEP)**

Describes the educational needs of the student and the specially designed instruction and related services that meet those needs.

### **In-School Suspension**

The principal reassigns the student to a separate, supervised area, isolated from usual activities in the school. The student is counted present.

### **Legend Drug**

As defined in T.C.A. § 53-10-101 is any item which federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription from a licensed doctor, dentist, optometrist or veterinarian.

### **OC**

Offense Code or violations of school rules

**Out-of-School-Suspension**

Dismissed from attendance at school for any reason for not more than ten (10) consecutive days. The student is excluded from school and all curricular and extracurricular activities. The student is counted absent.

**Parent/Legal Guardian**

Interchangeable terms

**Remandment**

Assignment to an alternative school

**Representative**

A non-parent adult requested by the student's parent to act on their behalf in a disciplinary hearing

**School Administrator**

A school principal, assistant principal, or his/her designee

**School function**

Means any school-sponsored extra-curricular event or activity

**School official**

Any employee of the school or school district

**School property**

Means in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of a public elementary or secondary school, at school bus stops or in or on a school bus.

**Self-defense**

A student who reasonably believes him/herself to be in imminent danger from another student uses the necessary force to protect him/herself. If the victim of force has the opportunity to walk away but chooses to use force in return, this constitutes retaliation, not self-defense.

**Synthetic drugs**

Shall include, but not be limited to those defined in T.C.A. § 39-17-452, or any comparable or future legislation defining or governing synthetic drugs, including any capsule, pill, or other product composed of or containing any amount of the following synthetic derivatives or analogues of methcathinone, or any combination of such derivatives or analogues as defined in T.C.A. § 39-17-452 And any packet, capsule, pill, or product, of any chemical compound or synthetic drug not governed by T.C.A. § 39-17-452 that emulates, replicates, mimics, simulates or causes effects similar to any synthetic drug or chemical compound listed in T.C.A. § 39-17-452, or a reaction similar to the effects of a psychoactive drug with stimulant properties, including any drug or chemical compound that is privately compounded that circumvents the synthetic derivatives or analogues of cathinone or methcathinone or the derivatives or analogues listed in T.C.A. § 39-17-452, including through chemical changes such as the addition, subtraction or rearranging of an ingredient. These manufactured products include but are not limited to those commonly known as "Bath Salts", "Plant Food", "Fake Bath Salts", "Fake Fertilizer", and/or "Fake Insect Repellent."

Synthetic drugs shall also include any packet, capsule, pill, or product, of any chemical compound or synthetic drug not governed by T.C.A. § 39-17-438 that emulates, replicates, mimics, simulates or causes a similar reaction to the effects of any synthetic drug or chemical compound listed in T.C.A. § 39-17-438, marijuana, cannabis or synthetic marijuana, including any drug or chemical compound that is privately compounded that circumvents the compounds listed in T.C.A. § 39-17-438 for synthetic cannabinoids, including through chemical changes such as the addition, subtraction or rearranging of an ingredient. These manufactured products include,

but are not limited to “Spice,” “Spice Gold,” “K2,” “Blaze,” “Nitro,” “Skunk,” Ultra Chronic,” and “Blueberry Haze.”

**T.C.A.**

Tennessee Code Annotated. Statutory laws for the state of Tennessee.

**THC**

Tetrahydrocannabinol, a compound that is the chief intoxicant in marijuana and can be found in other substances.

**Weapon**

Being in unauthorized possession of any of the following: any gun, shotgun, rifle, pistol, taser, dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, explosive device, shell or bullet, Bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded can, switchblade knife, lock blade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, mace, any knife with a blade in excess of 3 inches in length, or any item of similar description to include those listed in T.C.A. § 39-17-1302.

**ZERO TOLERANCE** violations:

1. Possession of firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. §921
2. Assault of LEA employee or SRO or aggravated assault of LEA employeeSRO, or student
3. Drugs- Possession, use, or distribution of drugs as outlined herein.
4. Communication of a credible threat and/or threat of mass violence as outlined herein.

**NOTE:** Zero tolerance offenses require mandatory calendar year expulsion unless modified by the Director of Schools.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT & TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE AND RESPONSIBLE USE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

Please sign and return this page to your student's school using one of the methods below to acknowledge your access to the Student Code of Conduct and agreement with the Technology Acceptable and Responsible Use guidelines.

- Electronically sign and submit
- OR
- Sign and return a physical copy

Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return this page to your student's school to acknowledge your access to the Student Code of Conduct and agreement with the Technology Acceptable and Responsible Use guidelines.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

By signing below, I agree that my child and I have access to a copy of the Student Code of Conduct for the 2023-2024 school year. I understand that the Student Code of Conduct Handbook includes Rights, Responsibilities, Rules, Due Process Procedures, and a Statement of Rights for Disabled Children. I understand that my child is expected to read and become familiar with all of this Code. I further understand that my child is subject to the rules and the disciplinary actions that it provides.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent / Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Student / Date*

### **TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE AND RESPONSIBLE USE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

By signing below, I agree that I have read the Technology Acceptable and Responsible Use Policy contained within the Student Code of Conduct. I have read and understand the rules, expectations, and consequences of use of CMCSS technology equipment, email communication systems, network, and/or internet. Both my child and I understand that every time my student uses CMCSS technology equipment, email communication systems, network, and/or internet, he or she accepts the terms of this policy including full responsibility and liability for his or her actions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent / Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Student / Date*