

FANNIN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

360 Rebel Circle
Blue Ridge, GA 30513
706-632-2081 – 706-632-6908 Fax
www.fannin.k12.ga.us

Principal—Erik Cioffi
Assistant Principal Administration—Scott Ramsey, EdD
Assistant Principal Curriculum—Theresa Dillard
Athletic Director – David Henson
CTAE Director – Patricia DuBois

Fannin County High School is accredited by the Georgia Accrediting Commission and is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

The Fannin County School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, creed, or disability in admission to its programs, services, and activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations to also include but not be limited to additions, modifications, or alterations to the physical plan of any school facility. For additional information or referral to the appropriate system coordinator, contact the system superintendent's office at 2290 East First Street, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513 or 706-632-3771.

This agenda belongs to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

STUDENT NO. _____



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Welcome to Fannin County High School--Home of the Rebels

“Learn today; achieve for life”

FCFS Flex Period

Flex Period, which could include advisement time, remediation time, acceleration time, enrichment time, special events, club meetings, peer tutoring, and other activities will occur from 2:40 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. daily except Wednesdays. On Wednesdays, all students will report to flex/advisement between first and second blocks which means all students will remain at school until 3:10 p.m.

Advisement Time:

The first week of every semester and every Wednesday will be an advisement period during Flex Time. All students on campus will be required to attend until the 3:10 p.m. dismissal.

Flex Eligibility:

Flex eligibility is determined every 4 and ½ weeks. Students are not removed nor added to the list during the 4 and ½ week time period. Students that are on the “Flex Eligibility List” will be allowed to leave at 2:40 p.m. everyday unless there is an advisement day or a special event. Unscheduled advisement days and special events will be communicated to students and faculty in advance.

Special Events:

Throughout the year, several special events such as pep rallies and guest speakers will be scheduled during Flex Time. ALL students will be required to stay on those days until the 3:10 p.m. bell.

Qualifying for Flex Eligibility List

To be on the Flex Eligibility List students must be *on track to graduate*. Eligibility will be based on three categories: attendance, grades, and discipline. Flex Eligibility is a privilege not a right and will be used as a reward incentive. The criteria are as follows:

Attendance:

1. No more than one unexcused absence during each progress report.
2. No more than 3 excused absences during each progress report. In order for an absence to be excused, the school must receive written notice from a parent/guardian or a doctor’s office as to why the student was absent. This written notice must be received within **three days** of the student’s return from absence.

Grades:

1. A student must have at least a 75 in all classes at the end of each progress report.
2. An incomplete will be considered not passing.

Discipline:

1. If a student is assigned ISS or OSS during a progress report, they will lose their Flex eligibility for the next 4 and ½ week period.

Attendance Policy

All students are expected to be in attendance at school except for situations where absence is absolutely necessary. Upon returning to school, a student must bring a signed note by a parent/guardian explaining the reason for absence and provide a phone number for parental contact. When students are absent, they may request make-up work at the convenience of the teacher. It is the student’s responsibility to ask for and seek out make-up work. All students shall be given the opportunity to make up assignments and tests upon returning to school. For every day’s absence, a student will have the same amount of class days to do make up work, plus one day.

At 9:00 a.m. each morning, the parent/guardian of students who are marked absent will receive an automated phone call from the school indicating the student’s absence. Once a student arrives on campus, they become the responsibility of the FCSS. All students must have permission to leave school grounds after arriving.

Return to school after an absence

Upon returning to school, students are to submit a note to the main office containing the following information: the students first and last name, the reason the student was absent, the number of days and dates of the absence, the physician’s name, a valid phone number to contact the parent/guardian or medical office. The student has a maximum of 3 days to provide this note to change an unexcused absence to an excused absence.

Tardy

A student is tardy to class when they are not in the classroom, ready to start class when the bell rings.

Appropriate punishment will be applied to habitual offenders. Students who report to class 15 minutes after the start of class will be considered skipping.

Any student reporting to school after tardy bell must report directly to the main office in order to receive an admit slip to class. Failure to follow this procedure will be considered skipping class. Students need to present a signed note from a parent/guardian explaining the reason for being tardy. Arriving to school tardy will count towards discipline referrals. Any student that arrives thirty minutes or more late will be counted as absent in the class. Discipline procedures for tardies are as follows:

First and second tardies – warning

Third tardy – one before or after school detention

Fourth tardy – two before or after school detentions

Fifth tardy – one Saturday school

Sixth tardy – one day ISS

Additional tardies will result in progressive discipline, including but not limited to ISS, OSS, loss of parking privileges

Leaving School Early

Should a student find it necessary to leave school before the end of the school day, the following procedures are to be followed:

1. The parent should come to the office to pick up the student or the student may bring a note and have parent call school. Only information from health form/pickup list will be used.
2. The student **must** sign out in the main office and leave the campus immediately.
3. Student's returning to school the same day **must** check back in at the office.
4. Students may **not** check out during 3rd block and return to school without a doctor's excuse or prior permission from the principal or administrator.

Should an emergency (such as sickness) arise, the student should report to the main office. The parent will be contacted for the student and arrangements made for leaving school if it is deemed necessary. **Note:** Students who drive to school and leave school without permission will be suspended and may have driving privileges revoked. Administrative Rule: Any student who is not present for at least sixty (60) minute of a class period will be counted absent for that period.

Attendance/Make up work

Students who have absences will be allowed to make up all work missed during such *absence*. It is the student's responsibility and obligation to make the arrangements to make-up work, either prior to or immediately following the absence. The student must get the assignments and complete the work as directed by each teacher. The number of days a student has to complete make-up work will be equal to the number of days absence (i.e. one day absent = one day to make up work; two days absent = two days to make up work; etc.). Students who have been suspended from school will be allowed to make up the worked missed like an absence from school. If a student is absent on a test day, and misses no further instruction on the test material, then the student is expected to take the test upon returning to school.

Hospital/Homebound Services

If a student has a medical condition that prohibits them from attending school for 5 days or more, the student may be eligible for homebound services. Parent/guardian should contact Fannin County High School to schedule a meeting to review the process for eligibility.

Cafeteria

All FCHS students receive free breakfast. Lunch: Regular student price is \$2.50 and adult price is \$3.60 (lunch prices subject to change upon board approval). Free and reduced price meals will be served to those who qualify. NO OUTSIDE LUNCHESES are allowed to be delivered to students.

Students are not permitted to check out of school for lunch and return to campus.

Free/Reduced Meal Prices

Applications for Free or Reduced Price meals are sent home on the first day of school and as requested anytime during the school year. Please remember that if the student qualified for Free or Reduced Price meals last year, you must complete a new application within the first 30 days of the school year to continue in the program. During the school year, if your family has a change in income or family size, you may submit a new Free/Reduced Meal application to the office. If you have questions, please contact the School Nutrition Office at 706-258-2619 or FCHS Cafeteria Manager, Rhonda Anderson at 706-632-2081.

Meal Collection Procedures

Students are allowed to charge meals. Any balance on the student's meal account at the end of the school year will remain current on a student's account until paid. The balance will carry over into the next school year. If a student moves to a new school or new grade level unpaid meal charges will remain on the student's lunch account. If a student withdraws from FCHS and has a positive balance, the refund will be mailed to the address on the withdrawal form.

Dress Code

DRESS CODE/GROOMING (FCBOE Administrative Regulation)

Students are encouraged to observe a standard of dress and grooming consistent with the level of formality of the school situation. Some specific rules are:

1. Skirts must have a hem length of no more than four (4) inches above the top of the kneecap.
2. Shorts must have a hem length of no more than four (4) inches above the top of the kneecap.
3. All shorts and pants must be worn at the natural waistline and must be hemmed or cuffed.
4. Excessively baggy clothes are unacceptable (pants, shirts, coats, etc.). All clothes must be sized appropriately.
5. Bare midriffs or midriffs that show when arms are raised or in a bent body position are prohibited.
6. Tops that leave the shoulder bare are not permitted. Sleeveless tops must have an appropriate arm opening that fits around the arm. Shoulder straps must be three inches or more in width.
7. Trench coats or excessively large or baggy coats are prohibited.
8. Facial piercing jewelry: earrings, studs and posts are permitted. Not permitted are hoops, rings and spikes in eyebrow, nose and lips. All jewelry must be worn appropriately.
9. Hairstyles, makeup, paints, or clothing accessories that present a disruption to the school environment are prohibited.
10. Clothing with advertisement for drugs, alcohol, weapons or tobacco is prohibited.
11. Clothing with derogatory, terroristic, insulting, sexual, violent, or insinuating messages are prohibited.
12. Clothing related to gang activity is prohibited.
13. Clothing with holes above the knees, sheer lace, cropped tops, sunglasses, hats, bandanas, or chains are not acceptable.
14. Shoes must be worn at all times.
15. Pajamas and blankets are not permitted.

The administration has the authority to determine inappropriate dress not considered by the above-mentioned guidelines. Penalty for violation of the dress code may include the following: warning, change/remove item, parental conference, detention, in-school suspension or out of school suspension.

Telephone Messages

The office staff makes every effort to get messages to students. Please call 706-632-2081 to leave a message. If you must get a message to students before the end of the school day, please call the office before 2:15 p.m. Do not use your student's cell phone to get messages to them. It violates our cell phone policy, and often disrupts instruction. Important information is reviewed with students in the classroom and posted in common areas of the school, and classrooms. Announcements are also posted on the school website at www.fannin.k12.ga.us and the FCHS Facebook Page.

Communications from the School

FCHS believes in informing families about school activities and their students. Parents and Guardians may call the office between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to make appointments, or to speak with administrators, counselors or teachers when available.

Parents and guardians may learn of school activities in the following way:

- DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS are posted on the school website, the school Facebook Page and parents and students can receive the announcements via e-mail.
- INFINITE CAMPUS, a web-based resource allows you to track a student's grades attendance and discipline.
- IC Messenger is an electronic telephone program that calls automatically to inform families of school closings and other information. This program can also send information via text, when requested.
- STUDENTS receive progress reports and report cards every 4 and ½ weeks.
- PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE DAYS are planned to help monitor student progress.
- FANNIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES, posted on the Fannin County School system website, www.fannin.k12.ga.us.

- REBEL RADIO – WXFC 92.7 FM
- FCHS FACEBOOK PAGE

General School Information

After School Activities

Students who remain at school after 3:10 p.m. are expected to be under the direct supervision of a teacher, coach or sponsor. Students are not allowed to stay at school in the afternoon unless they are staying for an extra-curricular activity. When the extra-curricular activity has been concluded, students are expected to promptly leave the building. They are not allowed access to the entire building. If students must wait for a ride, they must stay in the area designated by their coach or sponsor.

Athletic Eligibility

The Georgia High School Association (GHSAA) governs eligibility of students to participate in interscholastic competition. A student must be determined as eligible to participate in any competitive interscholastic activity such as sports, cheerleading, literary events, etc. Eligibility rules are quite complex and students should talk with coaches or sponsors about specifics, but the four stipulations usually causing a student to be ruled ineligible are: (1) Grades; (2) Place of residence; (3) Eight-semester rule; (4) Age.

1. Grades - Students must be “On Track” for graduation according to the following criteria:

a. First-year students (entering 9th grade) are eligible academically. Second semester first-year students must have passed at least three (2.5) courses the previous semester in order to participate competitive athletic activities.

b. All extracurricular activities including all athletics and all clubs not previously under academic guidelines will follow the Georgia High School Association Guidelines as they exist; every student in grade 9-12 involved in such extracurricular activities must have passed three subjects the previous semester.

c. The following Carnegie units must be accumulated at the end of each year.

Freshmen—5 credits; sophomore—11 credits; junior—17 credits; Graduate—28 credits

2. Place of residence – A student cannot transfer to another school without a corresponding move of parents/guardian, and have continuing eligibility.

3. Eight semester rule— A student has eight consecutive semesters of possible eligibility from the date or entry into the ninth grade.

4. Age— A student whose 19th birthday was prior to May 1st of the preceding school year is not eligible to participate.

Note: Students who have an absence of more than one-half of the school day on the day of an activity shall not participate in that activity.

Career and Counseling Office

Students may see the counselors by appointment. The counselors are available for help with educational and career information, recommendations, transcripts, scheduling, and personal problems.

The procedure for counseling is as follows:

1. Students will sign-in on the I-pad and if a counselor is available, the student may see him/her. If not, the student should return to class and will be notified when he/she may see him/her.

2. Request for schedule changes, recommendations, etc. must go through the counselors.

Schedule changes are to be completed as soon as possible at the beginning of the semester. Changes will not be made after the first full week of the semester. Schedules are changed only due to academic reasons.

Cell Phones

Students are permitted limited use of the office telephones. Phone messages will be taken and given to the student at a time least disruptive to instruction. FCHS recognizes the value and security that cell phones afford each student and their family. It disrupts the learning environment when cell phones ring in a classroom or students use them in violation of policy. Respect our cell phone policy as we respect and value your use of cell phones to communicate with your student. Cell phones used during a test are confiscated and the student receives a zero (0) for the test grade.

Policy JCDAF allows students in Fannin County schools to carry electronic devices under strict FCSS provisions. For purposes of this policy, the instructional day is defined as the time students arrive on school property until the time school is officially dismissed.

Students may carry cell phones in Fannin County Schools under strict provisions which include:

- Cell phones are to be silenced during the instructional day. Students may use their phones during class changes. **Students may not use their phones during lunches** in order to protect academic integrity, as two-thirds of the student body is in class during each lunch session.
- During the instructional day, cell phones may be used, with permission, for emergencies only.
- The use of electronic devices while on school buses may be used as long as not a distraction to the bus driver.

Any use of electronic devices during the instructional school day, including lunch, without permission shall be considered a disciplinary violation and will be addressed in the following manner:

First Infraction – (1) Confiscate cell phone until the end of the next school day and parent/guardian contacted. OR (2) With parent/guardian permission, the student can serve one day of ISS or one day of Saturday School in order to receive the phone back the same day of confiscation.

Second Infraction – Confiscate cell phone until the end of the next school day, parent/guardian contacted, and the student will serve three days of ISS.

Third Infraction – Confiscate cell phone until the end of the next school day, parent/guardian contacted, and the student will serve five days of ISS. In addition, the student is not allowed to have cell phone at school for the remainder of the school year.

College Days

Juniors and seniors have a total of three college days, not to exceed two per year. Any junior or senior wishing to participate in a post-secondary visitation day must make an appointment with the institution prior to visiting and upon returning to school bring a letter of confirmation from the institution verifying the visit. The letter of confirmation is to be turned into the main office. No post-secondary visits will be allowed after May 1st of each school year. Any exception must have the prior approval of the principal.

Clubs and Organizations: If you have objection to your student participating in any of the active clubs at Fannin County High School you **must** notify the principal in writing. Write the name of the club(s) for which you do not want your student to participate, sign and date the letter.

Exams

Semester exams are mandatory. A schedule for semester exams will be announced by the administration. Students may be exempt from semester exams if they meet the following academic and attendance criteria:

Three absences – 90 or above avg; two absences--80 or above avg; one absence--70 or above avg.

Three tardies to any one class equals one absence; three early dismissals from any one class equal one absence. (Students must be in class for 60 minutes to be counted present.)

Georgia Milestones (EOC's)

With educator input, and State Board approval, the End-of-Course Testing program is therefore administered in the following eight core content area assessments:

- Mathematics—Algebra I and Analytic Geometry
- Social Studies--US History and Economics
- Science--Biology and Physical Science
- English/Language Arts--Ninth Grade Lit and American Lit

Field Trips

Permission for a student to take a field trip with his/her class must be submitted in writing by parents and filed with the teacher prior to departure. Under state guidelines a student must be counted as absent from classes missed unless the field trip experience meets the competencies addressed in the class missed. This must be coordinated in advance by the teacher whose classes are missed. **Students may be denied the privilege of participating on field trips for any of the following reasons: 1) excessive tardies; 2) excessive absences; 3) classroom misconduct; 4) suspensions and/or 5) poor academic performance.**

Fighting/Assault

Definition:

1. Assault - the act or threatening to strike, attack, or harm any person in school or at a school sponsored or school supervised activity. Intentional offensive/physical contact without consent
2. Fighting – involves the exchange of mutual physical contact such as pushing, shoving and hitting, with or without injury.

Fighting/assault will not be tolerated at school or at a school function. Students can be suspended for fighting off campus if the disruption is brought on campus and it interferes with the educational

process. Students can and will be suspended for encouraging fights or assaults.

Fire Drills/Tornado/Safety Drills

Fire drills are held at unexpected intervals monthly during the year so that the student body will be trained to act properly in an emergency. Specific plans and procedures are posted in each classroom.

Fireworks

The possession or handling of fireworks without a permit is illegal in Georgia. Students with fireworks will be liable to suspension and/or referral to police.

Food

Food will not be allowed in any area of the building except the cafeteria without approval. Any drinks that are shared by students will be confiscated immediately.

Fund Raising

All school-related fund raising activities involving students must have the prior approval of the principal and the School Governance Team (SGT). Students are not to be involved in selling merchandise for the benefit of individuals or outside-school organizations while on campus or on the bus.

Gang Activity

Participation or association with gangs or gang activities of any kind will not be tolerated at Fannin County High School. Students found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to immediate suspension, tribunal hearing, and possible expulsion from the Fannin County School System.

Gifted Program

The Fannin County Board of Education recognizes the need to provide gifted education services to students who have the potential for exceptional academic achievement in grades K-12. Students in grades 9-12 at FCHS are served through advanced content and Advanced Placement Courses. Placement decisions are made on a case-by-case basis.

Grading System

Class of 2016 and beyond: A = 108 – 90, B = 89 – 80, C = 79 – 70, Failure – 69 - 0

Grades exceeding 100 are awarded only in AP, ADW and honor classes. Students achieving academic honors will be announced each semester. Principal’s List--All grades 93 or above; Honor Roll—

Overall average of 90 and above. Students at FCHS may receive one full unit for each course taken during a semester in which they earn a minimum grade of 70.

Grade Computation:

No teacher shall use any method other than the uniform grading system for officially reporting the progress of a student to parents.

1. The semester exam counts 20% of the semester grade; state given end- of-course exams also count 20% of the semester grade as deemed by the State Board of Education.
2. All grades shall be computed on grade level.

AP AND DUAL ENROLLMENT WEIGHTED G.P.A. CALCULATIONS

Refer to the FCHS website for these calculations. www.fannin.k12.ga.us

Grade Level Assignment

Students are assigned to grade level for the year on the basis of the number of units earned prior to the beginning of each fall semester. Promotion requirements for each grade levels are:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 9 th grade—must pass 8 th grade | 10 th grade=5 credit |
| 11 th grade—12 credits | 12 th grade=20 credits |

Subject Area

Carnegie Units

English/Language Arts*	4
Mathematics *	4
Science*	4

The 4th Science may be used to meet both the science and elective requirement

Social Studies*	4
CTAE and/or Modern Language/ and/or Fine Arts	3

Health/Physical Education*	1
Computer Technology	1

(Students entering the fall of 2017 SY – Computer Technology not a requirement)

Elective	7
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(Students entering the fall of 2017 SY – Must earn 8 electives)

(Can be academic courses)

Total

28 Units

*Required Courses and/or Core Courses

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation requirements are based on local and state policies. Students and parents should communicate with the School counselors regarding information and assistance. To earn a Diploma, students must: (1) satisfy attendance requirements and (2) earn 28 Carnegie Units.

According to state guidelines, the Fannin County Board of Education (“the Board”) shall provide secondary school curriculum and instructional and support services that reflect the high school graduation and state assessment requirements and assist all students in developing their unique potential to function in society. To be eligible for graduation with a secondary school, students must successfully complete selected courses specified in the SBOE rules and satisfy additional requirements specified.

The Board may grant early graduation under the following conditions:

1. The parents/guardians of the student will, at least two semesters in advance of the requested graduation date, make written application through the guidance office, for early graduation, and provide justification for early graduation.
2. The student shall meet the minimum number of credits and required courses for graduation by date requested for early graduation. (28 required credits to graduate)
3. The student has completed at least one AP or Dual Enrollment course.
4. The student has a 95% average attendance rate each year.
5. The student has completed at least one of the offered Pathways.
6. The student shall have a minimum of a 3.0 Core GPA at the time of the request and shall have a minimum of a 3.0 Core GPA at the date set for early graduation.
7. The student may walk and participate in the spring graduation ceremony.
8. The high school principal shall approve the request.
9. The student has attended high school for a minimum of seven (7) semesters during regular school terms.

If a student’s request for early graduation is approved, he or she forfeits the right to participate in any school related activities after semester seven (7) is completed, other than graduation exercises. Any student enrolled at Fannin County High School is eligible to apply for early graduation. Students who enroll from another state must meet the graduation requirements for the graduating class they enter and the state assessment requirements as referenced in State Board Rule 160-3-1-07, Testing Programs— Student Assessment.

COURSE CREDIT

1. Unit credit shall be awarded only for courses that include concepts and skills based on the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) for grades 9-12 or those approved by the SBOE. Unit credit may be awarded for courses offered in the middle grades that meet 9-12 GPS requirements. The Individualized Education Program (IEP) shall specify whether core courses taken as part of an IEP shall receive core unit credit.
2. No course credit may be awarded for courses in which instruction is based on the GPS curriculum for grades K-8.
3. Completion of diploma requirements does not necessarily qualify students for the HOPE Scholarship Program.

STUDENTS WITH SIGNIFICANT COGNITIVE DISABILITIES

Students with significant cognitive disabilities may graduate and receive a regular high school diploma when the student’s IEP team determines that the student has:

- (a) Completed an integrated curriculum based on the GPS that includes instruction in Mathematics, English/Language Arts, Science and Social Studies as well as career preparation, self determination, independent living and personal care to equal a minimum of 28 units of instruction, and
- (b) Participated in the GAA during middle school and high school and earned a proficient score on the high school GAA test, and

(c) Reached the 22nd birthday OR has transitioned to an employment/education/training setting in which the supports needed are provided by an entity other than the local school system. Upon reaching the age of 22, the student may remain enrolled through the end of the semester. Students who plan to remain enrolled until they reach the age of 22 may walk through graduation ceremonies with their class but will receive their diploma the semester they leave school.

Dual Enrollment program provides opportunities for eligible students in grades 10-12 to enroll part- or full-time in postsecondary institutions and take college courses to earn both high school and college credit. Dual enrollment classes attended on the college campus follow the college calendar and dual enrollment classes attended on the high school campus during their scheduled school day follow the high school calendar.

Students participating in dual enrollment college courses should do so with the knowledge that the course work may be more rigorous and challenging than high school courses. Students are held to a higher degree of independent responsibility and accountability than in regular high school classes.

The letter grade assigned by the college will be converted to the numerical grades below. Eight points will be added to dual enrollment grades. A=95, B=85, C=75, D=65, F=50

Dual enrollment grades earned second semester of the senior year will not be used in the calculation for valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor graduate due to final grades being posted after calculations are made. Dual enrollment grades earned first semester which satisfy the academic core requirements will count in the calculation. See the counselor's office for more detailed information. All high school students are required to take the End of Course tests listed below. If enrolled in a college course that articulates in to one of the courses listed below, the student must take the EOC at the high school, unless the student has already taken the exam.

English: Ninth Grade Literature & Composition

Math: Algebra I & Geometry

Science: Biology

Each dual enrollment student is required to have a mid-term conference with the high school dual enrollment coordinator to review progress. *Fannin County High School reserves the right to make scheduling choices in the student's best interest to ensure a successful high school graduation. FCHS will work with the parent, student, and college in determining the type and number of courses taken in a semester. Our practice is to align the college schedule with the high school block schedule (4 courses); however, if there is an interest in an additional course, please arrange a meeting with the dual enrollment coordinator to discuss this option. *Any student who withdraws from a dual enrollment course and does not immediately enroll in a high school equivalent course, will be given an "F" on his/her high school transcript.

GRADUATION SUPPORT SERVICES

The Board shall provide instructional, support and delivery services that include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. A continuous guidance component beginning with the eighth grade. The purposes of the guidance component are to familiarize students with graduation requirements, to help them identify the likely impact of individual career objectives on the program of work studies they plan to follow and to provide annual advisement sessions to report progress and offer alternatives in meeting graduation requirements and career objectives.
2. Record keeping and reporting services that document student progress toward graduation and include information for the school, parents and students.
3. Diagnostic and continuous evaluation services that measure individual student progress in meeting competency expectations for graduation.
4. Instructional programs, curriculum and course guides and remedial opportunities to assist each student in meeting graduation requirements.
5. Appropriate curriculum and assessment procedures for students who have been identified as having disabilities that prevent them from meeting the prescribed competency performance requirements.

HB 907 states: Your child may be eligible for a Georgia Special Needs Scholarship to attend private school or another public school if your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Information may be found at www.specialedoptions.com relating to eligibility requirements.

Graduation Ceremony

The Graduation Ceremony is a privilege that honors the accomplishments of the Senior Class. Only seniors who have met all Carnegie unit graduation requirements, and have met all other requirements of

FCHS and the Fannin County Board of Education will be allowed to participate in the graduation exercises and ceremony. Exceptions may be made for students with an IEP. Discipline issues can result in a loss of participation in the graduation exercises and ceremony.

Graduation Coach, Dual Enrollment/Testing Coordinator, and Academic Coach

Students and/or parents may see the Graduation Coach, Academic Coach, and Dual Enrollment/Testing Coordinator by appointment.

Hall Passes

Any student in the hallway or on campus during an instructional period must have their planner with a signed hall pass in his or her possession.

Honor Graduates

FCHS Honor Graduates will be designated as those students who possess a cumulative average of 93 on the core courses of English, mathematics, science, and social studies. Calculations will be based on the following:

- Every course will be included in the cumulative average that has a prefix that is one of the four cores (English, mathematics, science, and social studies) and/or satisfies a core graduation requirement.
- Grades that will be averaged will be taken through the fall semester (7th semester) of the senior year.
- Students, who are completing courses through Dual Enrollment, will have their grades from the first semester of their senior year used in the calculation.
- Infinite Campus will do the averaging.
- The cumulative average must be equal to or above a 93 without any rounding.
- In case of a tie for valedictorian or salutatorian, the average of the EOC exams will be used.
- The cumulative averages shall be ranked from the highest descending to the lowest.
- The senior with the highest average will have earned the honor of valedictorian.
- The senior with the second highest average will have earned the honor of salutatorian.
- The ten seniors with the highest average from the top in descending order will have earned the honor of “Top Ten of the Graduating Class. Their names will be placed on the “Top Ten Honor Graduates” plaque.

Honor Societies

Fannin County High School recognizes four honor societies, International Thespian Society (ITS), National Technical Honor Society (NTHS), National Honor Society (NHS), and National Art Honor Society (NAHS). Only these four societies’ honor cords are allowed to be worn by FCCHS chapter member students at FCCHS graduation. All four honor societies have rigorous membership eligibility. ITS, NTHS, NHS and NAHS are honor societies, governed by a set of nationally adopted by-laws. Students must be invited to participate in these organizations and are formally inducted into membership.

House Bill 1176 – Child Abuse Reporting Revisions: O.C.G.A 19-7-5, which now holds volunteers in schools, hospitals, social agencies, or similar facilities responsible for the same child abuse reporting requirements as employees. Volunteers will be asked to review and sign a Volunteer Code of Confidentiality stating they will keep all student information confidential.

Insurance/Student Accidents

All students at FCCHS involved with sports, extracurricular activities or enrolled in career technical and lab courses must show proof of hospitalization or accident insurance. The school provides a policy for the students’ convenience if needed. There are two plans. One plan covers a student from the time he/she leaves home, while at school, and back home, for a period of nine (9) months. The other plan is a 24-hour plan. This plan covers a student 24-hours-a-day for 12 months. Accidents occurring on school grounds, athletic practices or events, or on school transportation or at any event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the person in charge and to the school office as soon as possible. FCCHS and the Fannin County Board of Education cannot be responsible for medical and dental bills.

Internet Electronic Information Access Acceptable Use Policy

With the advent of technology in education, teachers and parents are justifiably concerned about the appropriateness of some of the material made available to students through computer use. Though some hardware and software controls are in place to help control inappropriate use, there is no guarantee that the user will not find a way to access inappropriate material or misuse their time on computers. For a student to access information on the INTERNET or other electronic devices in the media center, or in any other area of the building where the INTERNET is available, he/she must have

an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) on file in the media center. This AUP must be signed by the student's parent/guardian before it is turned into the media center.

Laboratory and Career Technical Shops

Any teacher/student in a shop situation not protected by a barrier or wall must wear safety glasses when equipment is in use or there is danger to the eyes (Ref – FCBOE policy JGF, O.C.G.A., 20-9-1).

Lockers

Lockers are available for students. Students are expected to assume full security of their lockers. School authorities for any reason may conduct periodic inspection of lockers at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. Students are encouraged to use school lockers and refrain from bringing unnecessary items.

Media Center

The media center is open from 7:45am until 3:45pm every school day. Students must come with a purpose for learning. Student patrons of the media center must follow the established rules of acceptable behavior as listed hereafter: No Cell phones; Use a quiet voice so as not to disturb other media center patrons; Take care of all media center materials; Leave food and drinks outside the media center; Sign in at the circulation desk upon entering the media center, using full name. This ensures that a record of your visit is recorded if verification of your whereabouts is needed; Do not print from computers without permission (fee associated with printing). Failure to comply with these rules will result in: Verbal Warning; Return to class; Office referral. Students will need to have something to work on if they are in the media center for this time. If a student is not working during FLEX, they may be asked to leave to free up space for students to work during FLEX. OVERDUES AND FINES - Overdue slips and fine notices will be printed out and distributed to students. To help students learn to be responsible, no new loans will be permitted until overdue materials are returned. Students will be fined \$0.05 for each school day a book is late, with a maximum late fee of \$5.00. If a book is lost or damaged, the book must be paid for before additional books can be checked out. Payment for a lost book is reimbursed should the book be found and returned in good condition. Debts remaining at the end of the school year will roll over to the next year, and must be cleared before graduation. Any items checked out at the time a student withdraws from school must be returned and paid for upon withdrawal. Students will be charged for printing in the media center. Personal copies, or school related items over ten pages, will be charged at a rate of \$0.05 per page for black and white copies and \$0.25 per page for color copies.

Medicine at School

Medicine brought to school to take during the day must be brought to the school nurse. It must be in its prescription container or original non-prescription container and must be clearly labeled with student's name and dosage. You may request an additional labeled container from your pharmacist. The student will be given a pass from the nurse to allow him/her to leave class in order to take medicine at the proper time. Violating this procedure is a violation of our drug policy. Any student needing to see the school nurse will need to report to the clinic and sign in. The school nurse or designated person will dispense medication (aspirin, etc.) as prescribed. SB 126-Stocking and Administering Levalbuterol Sulfate: Schools are authorized to stock a supply of levalbuterol sulfate pursuant to a prescription. Any school employee who in good faith administers or chooses not to administer the medication is immune from civil liability.

Nuisance/Personal Items

In an effort to reduce the opportunity for property to be stolen, we recommend certain items not be brought on school campus. These items *include but are not limited to* all electronic devices, headphones, laser pointers, non-Band musical instruments, card games, etc. School personnel are not required to investigate any reported thefts of these nuisance/personal items. Nuisance/personal items may be confiscated by school personnel and will be returned to the parent/guardian. Repeated violations may result in more serious disciplinary action.

Student Parking on Campus

All students who drive to school must purchase a current parking permit and display the permit at the designated place on the vehicle at all times. **Parking fees are \$30.00 per vehicle per year.** Any violation of these rules or failure to park vehicle in designated parking area could result in impounding of the vehicle, fine, or revocation of parking permit. Any vehicle parked on campus without a permit is subject to be impounded and/or ticketed. Students that are suspended for tardies, parking or driving related violations will have their parking privileges revoked during the suspension.

Students that are chronically tardy may have their parking privileges suspended or revoked.

Parking in visitor's stadium lot is not permitted.

Physical Education Dress Requirements

The State Dept of Education requires that all students in Georgia schools have physical education. Please be prepared to change to gym clothes. Students may change into short pants and shirts or other appropriate clothes for this class. Facilities are provided for making these changes. Shirts and shorts worn during physical education classes should conform to the dress code. Tennis shoes are required.

Restricted Areas

1. Parking lots – Do not walk through parking lot area to get to another campus area – use sidewalks. Staff parking area is off limits to students.
2. Faculty workrooms and restrooms are restricted to faculty use only.
3. Instructional area hallways, field house, gyms, PAC are off limits to high school students before school and during lunch, without teacher supervision.

Student Complaint and Grievance Process

From time to time, conditions arise within the school or school system that need improvement, parents and students have the right to appropriately address concerns. These concerns shall be resolved in an orderly process and addressed first at the particular level of concern that is directly involved with the person(s) involved. Complaints and grievances shall be handled in the following manner:

1. The opportunity shall be provided any student or his/her parents or guardians to first discuss with his/her teacher a decision or situation which he/she considers unjust or unfair.
2. If the matter remains unresolved after the initial discussion, the student or his/her guardian or the teacher, may then bring the matter to the principal's attention for his/her consideration. Official grievances must be made to the principal in writing or with assistance if necessary.
3. If the matter remains unresolved after discussing it with the principal, it may then be brought to the Superintendent or a designee for his/her consideration.
4. Complaints that remain unresolved following any action of the Superintendent may then be referred in writing to the Board of Education.

Suspensions--- There are three types of suspension:

1. In-School-Suspension (ISS): The student will be isolated in the suspension room under direct supervision of a teacher. Class assignments will be provided. Limited restroom breaks are allowed. Students who are habitually absent from ISS for all or any part of the school day will be dismissed from the program.
2. Out-of-School Suspension (OSS): The student is denied the privilege of attending school. During out-of-school suspensions, the student is not allowed on campus or any Fannin County Board of Education properties for any reason. He/she is not allowed to attend or participate in any school functions during this time.
3. Parental Suspension: Student is sent home and cannot return to school until accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Textbooks/Chromebooks

At the beginning of each course, students may receive textbooks and/or Chromebooks. These items are on a loan basis and the student must pay for any damages incurred to the items. Regardless of who does the damage to the items, the student to whom the items are issued is held responsible. All books are to be checked in at the end of the course or when the student withdraws from school. All Chromebooks are to be checked in at the end of the school year or when the student withdraws from the school. The replacement costs for damaged, lost or stolen items are full price. The Chromebook Usage Agreement Form can be accessed on the school website.

Theft and Vandalism

All acts of theft and vandalism involving personal property or school property should be reported at once to an administrator. Students are warned to keep all monies, valuables, books, and clothing under constant surveillance and under lock and key at all times. Large sums of monies and unnecessary valuables should not be brought to school. The penalty for theft or vandalism may include a referral to police. Restitution for stolen or damaged property will be assessed against the guilty student.

Tobacco Use

A student shall not, while under the responsibility of the school or at any school activity on any state school property, possess or use smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or smoking paraphernalia

which includes, but is not limited to pipes, matches, lighters, and rolling papers. Discipline procedures are as follows:

First Offense – Confiscate items, contact parent/guardian and the student will serve three days of ISS.

Second Offense – Confiscate items, contact parent/guardian and the student will serve five days of ISS.

Third Offense—Confiscate items, contact parent/guardian and the student will serve three days of OSS.

Additional offenses— Will result in progressive discipline up to Alternative School placement.

Electronic Inhalant Devices – This includes but is not limited to vapes, e-cigarettes, and juul pods and paraphernalia. The use of and/or the possession of such items will result in the following disciplinary actions:

First Offense – Confiscate items, contact parents and the student will serve five days of OSS.

Second Offense—Confiscate items, contact parents and the student will be recommended for alternative school placement.

Tornado Drills

Specific instructions will be posted in each classroom. The class teacher will instruct students where the safe areas are and will see that the students go to them as quickly and quietly as possible. Students will sit with their knees drawn up and head resting on them. The student will fold their hands at the base of their skull. Students are to remain in the position until instructed to return to class.

Visitors at School

- Friends or relatives of students will not be allowed to visit during classes or to remain on the campus.
- All visitors to the school must register in the main office and receive a visitor's pass, which should be returned to the office upon leaving.
- Former students who have withdrawn are not permitted on campus, except on school business, and they must apply in the main office for a visitor's pass. Visitor's passes or badges must be worn at all times, visible to all.
- Parents are welcome to visit the school at any time and the school is eager to cooperate with them. However, parents wishing to discuss issues with the teachers should make an appointment with the teacher during the teacher's planning block or after school.

Unsafe Schools

Major offenses, including, but not limited to, drug and weapon offenses can lead to schools being named as an Unsafe School according to the provisions of State Board of Education Rule 160-4-8-.16.

Withdrawal from School

A student who desires to withdraw from Fannin County High School to transfer to another school or for any other reason should go to the counselor's office and must follow the established procedure.

STUDENT HANDBOOK STATEMENTS

Asbestos Statement

This is to certify that the Fannin County School System has fully complied with Federal Regulation HOCFR763 – Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). An EPA certified inspector has inspected all school buildings for asbestos. A Management plan for each school is on file in the principal's office. The Management Plan is available to the public during regular business hours. Copies may be obtained for \$.25 per page.

Mindset Program

FCSS has adopted the Mindset Program in order to facilitate insight, raise awareness, enhance skills and certify response teams in preventing and managing aggressive behavior. FCSS uses physical restraint only in circumstances where the student is harming themselves, harming others, or there is imminent danger. If a student has to be restrained under the preceding circumstances, a written report will be given to the parent/guardian within one school day.

Section 504

Any student or parent or guardian (“grievant”) may request an impartial hearing due to the school system's actions or inactions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, or educational placement under Section 504. Requests for an impartial hearing must be in writing to the school system's Section 504 Coordinator; however, a grievant's failure to request a hearing in writing does not alleviate the school system's obligation to provide an impartial hearing if the grievant orally requests an impartial hearing through the school system's Section 504 Coordinator. The school system's Section 504 Coordinator will assist the grievant in completing the written Request for Hearing. The Section 504

Coordinator may be contacted through the school system's central office. Copies of the 504 Procedural Safeguards and Notice of Rights of Students and Parents Under Section 504 may be found at the system website or may be picked up at the central office or at any of the school offices.

ESSA Right to Know

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act, parents may request the following information:

1. Whether the student's teacher: has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction, is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived and is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
2. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

Notice for Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal Law, requires that the Fannin County School District obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education record unless a certain exception is met. One exception is Directory Information. Directory information is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. The primary purpose of Directory Information is to allow the Fannin County School System to include student information in certain school publications or school-related activities such as:

- Yearbooks
- Honor Roll or other recognition lists
- Graduation programs
- Athletic and other extracurricular programs
- Class ring manufacturing companies
- Military recruiters

The Fannin County School District has designated the following information as "Directory Information:

- Student's name, address and telephone number;
- Student's date and place of birth;
- Student's e-mail address;
- Student's participation in official school activities and sports;
- Weight and height of members of an athletic team;
- Dates of attendance at schools within the district;
- Honors and awards received during the time enrolled in the district's schools;
- Photograph; and
- Grade level

You have the right to limit or refuse the disclosure of "Directory Information". If you do not want the Fannin County School District to disclose any or all the above information as directory information, you must notify the principal of the school the student attends in writing within 10 days of receipt of this notice/handbook to opt out of having your child's information included as Directory Information. The written notice must: (1) include the name of the student; (2) include a statement that the parent/guardian or eligible student is opting out of the disclosure of Directory Information under FERPA; and (3) be signed and dated by the parent, guardian, or eligible student (a student age 18 or older). Please note that your written notice will be effective for the current year only and must be renewed on an annual basis should you wish to continue to opt out of the release of Directory Information.

Notice of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

A. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Fannin County School System receives a request for access.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.
3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Fannin County School System to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

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

B. The Georgia Student Data Privacy, Accessibility, and Transparency Act afford parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") the right to file a complaint with their local school system regarding a possible violation of rights under O.C.G.A. 20-2-667 or under other federal or state student data privacy and security laws.

Fannin County School System
 Heather Finley, Director of Instructional Technology
 2290 E First Street
 Blue Ridge, GA 30513
 706-258-2791

hfinley@fannin.k12.ga.us

C. FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in §99.31 of the FERPA regulations. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student –

1. To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in §99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(2) are met. (§99.31(a)(1))
2. To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure Model Annual Notification is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of §99.34. (§99.31(a)(2))
3. To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency in the parent or eligible student's State (SEA). Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
4. In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§99.31(a)(4))
5. To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to §99.38. (§99.31(a)(5))
6. To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop,

validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§99.31(a)(6))

7. To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§99.31(a)(7))

8. To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§99.31(a)(8))

9. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§99.31(a)(9))

10. To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to §99.36. (§99.31(a)(10))

11. Information the school has designated as “directory information” under §99.37. (§99.31(a)(11))

Notification of Rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, requires the Fannin County School District to notify you and obtain consent or allow you to opt your child out of participating in certain school activities. These activities include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following eight areas (“protected information surveys”):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parents
2. Mental or psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student and his/her family
3. Sex behavior and attitudes
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, ministers
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student’s parents
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure, or use of student information for marketing purposes (“marketing surveys”), and certain physical exams and screenings. Following is a schedule of activities requiring parental notice and consent or opt-out for the upcoming school year. This list is not exhaustive, and for surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, the Fannin County School District will provide parents, within a reasonable period of time prior to the administration of the surveys and activities, notification of the surveys and activities and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out, as well as an opportunity to review the surveys. (Please note that this notice and consent/opt-out transfers from parents to any student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.)

If you wish to review any survey instrument or instructional material used in connection with any protected information or marketing survey, please submit a request to your child’s principal. He or she will notify you of the time and place where you may review these materials. You have the right to review a survey and /or instructional materials before the survey or instruction is administered to a student.

Planned Annual Surveys:

Georgia Student Health 2.0 Survey Consent: If you do not wish for your child to participate in this survey, please send a letter stating that you do not want your student to participate with your signature and phone number by September 30, 2019.

Parent/Eligible Student Data Privacy Complaint Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Education that the School District (“District”) shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Student Data Privacy, Accessibility, and Transparency Act, which are designed to ensure that education records and student data are kept confidential and secure from unauthorized access and disclosure.

For the purposes of this policy, a “parent” is defined as a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or guardian. An “eligible student” is defined as a student who has reached 18 years of age or is attending an institution of postsecondary education.

Any parent or eligible student (“Complainant”) may file a complaint with the District if that individual believes or alleges that a possible violation of rights under the above laws has occurred not more than one (1) year prior to the date the complaint is received by the District.

Complaints shall be handled in accordance with the following procedures.

All complaints shall be directed to the Superintendent’s Designee:
FCSS Director of Instructional Technology
2290 E First Street
Blue Ridge, GA 30513
706-258-2791
technologyhub@fannin.k12.ga.us

Upon the receipt of a request from a Complainant, a compliant form will be provided within 3 business days, which is also available on the District’s website.

A written response shall be provided to the Complainant within 10 business days of the Designee’s receipt of the completed complaint form.

The Complainant may file an appeal with the Superintendent within 10 business days of receipt of the Designee’s response.

The Superintendent shall provide a written response to the Complainant within 10 business days of receipt of the appeal.

The Complainant may file an appeal to the Board of Education within 10 business days of receipt of the Superintendent’s response.

The Board of Education shall render a final decision within 10 business days of receipt of an appeal.

Senate Bill 289:

- Districts must notify students and parents of online options beginning in the 2013-2014 school year.
- Districts must allow students to take an online course even if the course is offered in the local district.
- Online courses can be accessed through the Georgia Virtual School, local virtual schools, or for-profit vendor online schools.
- Students attending public schools are provided this option at no cost (if taken as part of their regular school day). Additional tuition fees may apply if a course is taken outside of the regular school day.
- If a district chooses a for-profit virtual online provider, all associated costs and course policies are specific to the for-profit provider.
- Any course taken as part of a student’s regular school day through a for-profit online provider will be paid by the local school. Districts should contact the for-profit online provider for course costs and course policies.

House Bill 175:

- This bill mandates the creation of an online clearinghouse of online courses and online course providers to give parents and students the ability to search the clearinghouse for availability to online courses, online course providers, and guidelines for what constitutes high quality online courses.
- The online clearinghouse and information related to the online clearinghouse can be accessed at the following link:
http://www.gadoe.org/_layouts/GADOEPublic.SPApp/Clearinghouse.aspx

State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.15

EARNING UNITS OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CREDIT BY TESTING-OUT

1. Beginning in school year 2013-2014, a student may demonstrate subject area competency by testing-out of any course that has an associated End of Course exam (EOC).
2. A \$50 fee will be collected prior to administration of the exam. Fee will be reimbursed if a score of "Distinguished" is obtained.
3. A unit of course credit is awarded to students who reach the performance level of Distinguished on an EOC prior to taking a specific EOC course.
4. Students have only one opportunity per course to test-out.
5. At this time, a student may only earn up to three credits by testing-out.
6. Students must meet the following requirements for earning course credit through testing-out:
 - a. Not currently or previously enrolled in the course;
 - b. Have earned a grade of B or better in a content area course that is the same content area of the course for which the student is attempting the EOC;
 - c. Received a letter of recommendation from a teacher in the same content area.
 - d. Received parent/guardian permission as stated by the Local Board of Education.
7. Students who do not reach the performance level of Distinguished when attempting to test-out must enroll in and complete the associated course and retake the EOC even if the student made a passing grade on the EOC during the testing-out attempt.
8. Students who are currently enrolled, or who have previously been enrolled, in a higher-level course are not allowed to earn credit by later attempting to test-out of a lower level course. For example, a student already taking AP Physics may not earn credit for Physical Science by testing-out.
9. Course credit of students who test-out of a course is reported in the same way as the course credit earned through completing courses.
10. Local boards of education may develop policies relating to utilizing grade equivalent scores in the calculation of the student's Grade Point Average (GPA).
11. Under NCAA requirements, units of credit earned through testing-out using the EOC will not count as a core course credit for athletic aid for any student seeking NCAA Division I or II athletic scholarships.

Bus Regulations School Board Bus Policy (Bus Conduct)

While the law requires the school district to furnish transportation, it does not relieve parents of students from the responsibility of supervision until such time as the student boards the bus in the morning and after the student leaves the bus at the end of the school day. Once a student boards the bus – and only at that time – does he/she become the responsibility of the school district. In view of the fact that a bus is an extension of the classroom, the board shall require students to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. When a student does not conduct himself/herself properly on a bus, the bus driver of that school will bring the incident to the attention of the building principal. The building principal will inform the parents immediately of the misconduct and request their cooperation in correcting the student's behavior. A student can be suspended or expelled from school for misbehaving on the bus. A student who becomes a serious disciplinary problem on the bus may have his/her riding privileges suspended or revoked. In such cases the parents of the students involved become responsible for seeing that their child gets to and from school safely.

NOTE: The administration at FCHS expects our students to recognize that school buses transport younger students, and that they are to act accordingly to provide a good role model for younger students.

THE FANNIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING RULES FOR RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS.

1. Stand off the roadway while awaiting the bus.
2. Keep your seat at all times when the bus is moving.
3. Keep your arms and heads inside windows.
4. Walk ten feet in front of bus. Wait for driver's signal before crossing road.
5. Unnecessary conversations with driver are dangerous. Please remain quiet.
6. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom conduct is to be observed.
7. Absolute silence is required at all railroad crossings.
8. The driver is in full charge of bus and students. Students must obey the driver.
9. The driver has the right to assign students to certain seats if necessary to promote order on the bus.
10. Students are not to leave the bus at any place along the route except for necessary bus transfers

unless he/she presents a request by his/her parents that has been approved by the principal.

11. Students are not to use tobacco in any form on the bus.
12. Students must be on time; the bus cannot wait for those who are tardy.
13. Riding the bus is a privilege and should not be abused.

In accordance to FCBOE policy EDCB/JCDAD, failure of students to follow the bus rules will result in negative consequences.

Note: Serious offenses will result in immediate suspension of the student from riding the bus. Students may also be assigned ISS or OSS for serious offenses. Example: throwing objects on the bus would result in a bus suspension and an ISS assignment.

Student Drug Testing Policy

This policy applies to all Fannin County School System students who (1) participate in a school-sponsored extracurricular activity, (2) park a car on Fannin County School System property, or (3) whose parents have chosen to utilize the opt-in option available to them in order to have their child participate in the random drug screenings if they are not involved in extra-curricular activities or on-site parking. A "school-sponsored extracurricular activity" means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, drill team, academic clubs, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic productions, student government, fine arts organizations, industrial technology and agricultural organizations, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of the school system.

Opt-in Option

Parents may choose to include their child in the random drug testing program through an opt-in option. Those students who are included through this method are required to participate for the entire school year.

Testing Program

Testing pursuant to this policy shall be accomplished through various methods to obtain specimens from the student participant. Any student who refuses to be tested as required under this policy, or who alters or falsifies or attempts to alter or falsify a test, shall be removed from these privileges.

Sanctions

Any participating student whose drug test administered pursuant to this policy renders a positive test result as indicated by the testing facility shall be subject to the following consequences:

First Positive Test Result

The participating student and his/her parent/legal guardian will be required to attend a conference to disclose and discuss the test results with the school principal and his or her designee(s).

The student will be required to be re-tested on the next random drug-testing day.

Second Positive Test Result

The participating student and his/her parent/legal guardian will be required to attend a conference to disclose and discuss the test results with the school principal and his or her designee(s). The student and parent/guardian will be informed that they are required to enroll and participate in a drug counseling program. The participating student will be suspended from all school-sponsored extracurricular activities and/or all parking privileges for 20 school days if they are participating in either of these activities. If participating in interscholastic athletics, the student may remain a part of the team and will be expected to participate in team practices and/or conditioning sessions. If participating in other extracurricular activities other than interscholastic athletics, the student may remain part of the activity and will be expected to participate in practices for any upcoming performances. If the student has been issued a parking permit, he/she will not be permitted to park and/or drive on campus. In addition, the student will be required to be re-tested on the next random drug-testing day at the student's and/or parent's/guardian's expense.

Third Positive Test Result

The participating student will be suspended from any and all school-sponsored activities and for driving privileges for one (1) calendar year. At the end of the calendar year, the student will be required to be re-tested.

Upon receipt of the re-test results a determination will be made as follows:

a negative test result will place the student's name back into the random testing pool.

a positive test result shall be treated again a third positive drug test result and the participating student will be suspended from any and all school-sponsored activities and for driving privileges for an additional (1) calendar year. At the end of that calendar year, the student will be required to be re-tested

at the student's and/or parent's/legal guardian's expense. The student will remain at the level of third positive test result until the student has a negative test result at which time the student will begin anew.

Student Support Processes

The Fannin County Board of Education provides a variety of resources which are available at every school within the district to help address student behavioral problems. The school discipline process will include appropriate consideration of support processes to help students resolve such problems. These resources include Student Support Teams, school counselors, and chronic disciplinary problem student plans.

Parental Involvement

This Code of Conduct is based on the expectation that parents, guardians, teachers, and school administrators will work together to improve and enhance student behavior and academic performance and will communicate freely their concerns about, and actions in response to, student behavior that detracts from the learning environment. School administrators recognize that two-way communication through personal contact is extremely valuable; therefore, they provide information to parents as well as on-going opportunities for school personnel to hear parents' concerns and comments. Parents and students should contact the principal of the school if specific questions arise related to the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct specifies within its standards of behavior various violations of the Code which may result in a school staff member's request that a parent or guardian come to the school for a conference. Parents are encouraged to visit the schools regularly and are expected to be actively involved in the behavior support processes designed to promote positive choices and behavior.

Georgia law mandates that any time a teacher or principal identifies a student as a chronic disciplinary problem student, the principal shall notify by telephone call and by mail the student's parent or guardian of the disciplinary problem, invite the parent or guardian to observe the student in a classroom situation, and request at least one parent or guardian attend a conference to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan. Georgia law also states that before any chronic disciplinary problem student is permitted to return to school from a suspension or expulsion, the school shall request by telephone call or by mail at least one parent or guardian to schedule and attend a conference to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan. The law allows a local board of education to petition the juvenile court to require a parent to attend a school conference. If the court finds that the parent or guardian has willfully and unreasonably failed to attend a conference requested by the principal pursuant to the laws cited above, the court may order the parent or guardian to attend such programs or such treatment as the court deems appropriate to improve the student's behavior. After notice and opportunity for hearing, the court may impose a fine, not to exceed \$500.00, on a parent or guardian who willfully disobeys an order of the court under this law.

Student Code of Conduct

A detailed Code of Conduct is located on FCHS website at www.fannin.k12.ga.us

The school's primary goal is to educate, not to punish; however, when the behavior of an individual student comes in conflict with the rights of others, corrective actions may be necessary for the benefit of that individual and the school as a whole. Accordingly, students shall be governed by policies, regulations and rules set forth in the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct is effective during the following times and in the following places:

- At school or on school property at any time;
- Off school grounds at any school-related activity, function, or event and while traveling to and from such events;
- On school buses and at school bus stops.

Also, students may be disciplined for conduct off campus which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process. Parents are encouraged to become familiar with the Code of Conduct and to be supportive of it in their daily communication with their children and others in the community.

AUTHORITY OF THE PRINCIPAL-----The principal is the designated leader of the school and, in concert with the staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. In cases of disruptive, disorderly, or dangerous conduct not covered in this Code, the principal may undertake corrective measures which he or she believes to be in the best interest of the student and the school provided any such action does not violate school board policy or procedures.

AUTHORITY OF THE TEACHER---The superintendent fully supports the authority of principals and teachers in the school system to remove a student from the classroom pursuant to provisions of state law. Each teacher shall comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20-20-737 which requires the filing of a report by a teacher who has knowledge that a student has exhibited behavior that repeatedly or substantially interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in his or her class or with the ability of such student's classmates to learn, where such behavior is in violation of the student Code of Conduct. Such report shall be filed with the principal or designee on the school day or the following school day of the most recent occurrence of such behavior, shall not exceed one page, and shall describe the behavior. The principal or designee shall, within a reasonable amount of time, notify in writing the teacher and the student's parents or guardian of the discipline or student support services which has occurred as a result of the teacher's report. This written notification shall include information as to how the parents or guardian may contact the principal or designee.

PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

When it is necessary to impose discipline, school administrators and teachers will follow a progressive discipline process. The degree of discipline to be imposed by each school official will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior of a particular student and will take into account the student's discipline history, the age of the student, and other relevant factors such as placement in special education programs. Discipline for special education students will be dictated by the student's IEP and in accordance with due process.

The Code of Conduct provides a systematic process of behavioral corrections in which inappropriate behaviors are followed by consequences. Disciplinary actions are designed to teach students self-discipline and to help them substitute inappropriate behaviors with those that are consistent with the character traits from Georgia's Character Education Program. The following disciplinary actions may be imposed for any violation of this Code of Conduct:

- Warning and/or Counseling with a School Administrator or Counselor
- Loss of Privileges
- Isolation or Time-out
- Temporary Removal from Class or Activity
- Notification of Parents
- Parent Conference
- Corporal Punishment
- Detention and/or Saturday School
- Temporary Placement in an Alternative Education Program
- Short-term Suspension
- Referral to a Tribunal for Long-term Suspension or Expulsion
- Suspension or Expulsion from the School Bus
- Referral to Law Enforcement or Juvenile Court Officials: Georgia Law requires that certain acts of misconduct be referred to the appropriate law enforcement officials. The school will refer any act of misconduct to law enforcement officials when school officials determine such referral to be necessary or appropriate.

The maximum punishments for an offense include long-term suspension or expulsion, including permanent expulsion; however these punishments will be determined only by a disciplinary tribunal as outlined in the Fannin County Board of Education policies.

Parents or students may elect not to contest whether a student has violated the Code of Conduct or the appropriate discipline, and in such cases, an agreement may be negotiated which would include the parents or students waiving a right to a hearing before a disciplinary tribunal. Such an agreement and waiver must be approved also by the disciplinary tribunal or hearing officer in accordance with local board policy.

Before a student is suspended for ten days or less, the principal or designee will inform the student of the offense for which the student is charged and allow the student to explain his or her behavior. If the student is suspended, the student's parents will be notified if possible. School officials may involve law enforcement officials when evidence surrounding a situation necessitates their involvement or when there is a legal requirement that an incident be reported.

School officials may search a student if there is reasonable suspicion the student is in possession of an item that is illegal or against school rules. Student vehicles brought on campus, student book bags, school lockers, desks, and other school property are subject to inspection and search by

school authorities at any time without prior notice to students or parents. Students are required to cooperate if asked to open book bags, lockers, or any vehicle brought on campus. Metal detectors and drug or weapon sniffing dogs may be utilized at school or at any school function, including activities which occur outside normal school hours or off the school campus at the discretion of administrators.

BEHAVIORS WHICH WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

The degree of discipline imposed will be in accordance with the progressive discipline process unless otherwise stated.

- Possession, sale, use in any amount, distribution, or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate marijuana, drug paraphernalia, alcoholic beverage or other intoxicant.
- Possession, distribution, attempted sale, or sale of substances represented as drugs or alcohol.
- Sale, attempted sale, distribution, or being under the influence of a prescription or over the counter drug.
- Possession or use of a weapon or dangerous instrument: A student shall not possess, use, handle, or transmit any object that reasonably can be considered a weapon. Students who possess firearms on campus will be subject to a minimum of a one calendar year suspension and will be referred to law enforcement officials.
- Assault, including threats of bodily harm and/or sexual assault, of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, other students, or persons attending school-related functions: Immediate suspension and automatic referral to a disciplinary tribunal if a student is alleged to have committed an assault upon a teacher or other school personnel; possible referral to a disciplinary tribunal if a student is alleged to have committed an assault upon another student or a person attending a school-related function.
- Battery, including sexual battery, of teachers, administrators, other school personnel, other students, or persons attending school-related functions: Immediate suspension and automatic referral to the disciplinary tribunal if a student is alleged to have committed battery upon a teacher or other school personnel; possible referral to the disciplinary tribunal if a student is alleged to have committed battery upon another student or a person attending a school-related function.
- Physical violence against a teacher, school bus driver, or other school personnel:
 1. Immediate suspension and automatic referral to the disciplinary tribunal if a student is alleged to have committed an act of physical violence against a teacher or other school personnel: Expulsion for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public schools for acts of physical violence found by a tribunal to have intentionally made physical contact which causes physical harm to another unless such physical contact or physical harm was in defense of himself or herself, as provided in Code Section 16-3-21; or the Board may authorize the student to attend alternative school for the period of the expulsion; provided, however, that such student is in kindergarten through grade six, then the Board, upon the recommendation of the Tribunal, may permit the student to re-enroll in regular programs for grades 9 through 12; and provided further that if the Board does not operate an alternative education program for grades kindergarten through grade six, then the Board may permit the student in kindergarten through grade six who commits such an act to re-enroll in the public school system. The student shall be referred to juvenile court with a request for a petition alleging delinquent behavior.
 2. Possible punishments may include expulsion, long-term suspension, or short-term suspension for students found by a tribunal to have intentionally made physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of another.
- Bus Misbehavior: Students shall be prohibited from acts of physical violence as defined by Code Section 20-2-751.6. These include bullying, as defined by subsection (a) of Code Sections 20-2-751.4, physical assault or battery of other persons on the school bus, verbal assault of other persons on the school bus, disrespectful conduct toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus and other unruly behavior; students shall be prohibited from using any electronic devices during the operation of a school bus, including but not limited to cell phones, pagers, audible radios, tape or compact disc players without headphones, or any other electrical device in a manner that might interfere with the school bus communication equipment or the school bus driver's operation of the school bus; and students shall be prohibited from using mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective devices in a manner that might interfere with the school bus driver's operation of the school bus.

- Disrespectful conduct, including use of vulgar or profane language, toward teachers, administrators, other school personnel, other students, or persons attending school-related functions.
- Falsifying, misrepresenting, omitting, or erroneously reporting information regarding instances of alleged inappropriate behavior by a teacher, administrator, or other school employee toward a student.
- Any behavior based on a student's race, national origin, sex, or disability that is unwelcome, unwanted, and/or uninvited by the recipient is prohibited, including verbal or non-verbal taunting, physical contact, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature
- Possession or use of tobacco in any form, Electronic cigarette or vapor cigarette.
- Damaging or defacing personal property, including the property of another student or any person legitimately at the school, or school property (vandalism or graffiti) during school hours or off-school hours
- Theft
- Extortion or attempted extortion
- Possession and/or use of fireworks or any explosive
- Activating a fire alarm under false pretenses or making a bomb threat
- Insubordination, disorderly conduct, disobeying school rules, regulations, or directives;
- Disobeying directives given by teachers, administrators, or other school staff
- Classroom and school disturbances
- Violation of school dress code
- Indecent exposure or use of profane, vulgar, or obscene words
- Violations of Board Policy JCDAE, regarding use of pagers and cellular phones
- Inappropriate public displays of affection
- Gambling or possession of gambling devices
- Moving and non-moving driving violations
- Giving false information to school officials
- Cheating on school assignments
- Unexcused absence, chronic tardiness, skipping class, leaving campus without permission, failure to comply with compulsory attendance law
- Hazing
- Inciting, advising, or counseling of others to engage in prohibited acts
- Willful and persistent violation of the student Code of Conduct
- Criminal law violations: A student who has committed a violation of the criminal laws and whose presence on the school campus may endanger the safety of other students or cause substantial disruption to the school operation may be subject to disciplinary action, including in-school suspension, short-term suspension and referral to a disciplinary tribunal.
- Bullying: Georgia law mandates that upon a finding that a student in grades 6-12 has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, the student shall be assigned to an alternative school O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-751.4..

Fannin County Board Policy – Bullying JCDAE

The Fannin County Board of Education believes that all students can learn better in a safe school environment. Behavior that infringes on the safety of students will not be tolerated. Bullying, as the term is defined in Georgia law, of a student by another student is strictly prohibited. Such prohibition shall be included in the Student Code of Conduct for all schools within the school system.

Bullying is defined as follows: An act which occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, or involve electronic communication whether or not such electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication (1) is directed specifically at students or school personnel, (2) is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school, and (3) creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose. Also included but not limited to:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
4. Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
5. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
6. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
7. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Consequences: Grades 6-12

Bullying violations shall result in any of the following consequences or combination of consequences: Parent Contact, Anti-Bullying Contract, Counseling, In School Suspension, Out of School Suspension, Tribunal Hearing, Possible Police Action. Upon confirming that an incident of bullying has occurred, the accused student should be charged with bullying and given an age-appropriate consequence which shall include, at minimum and without limitation, disciplinary action or counseling as appropriate under the circumstances. Schools should clearly communicate to all parties that retaliation following a report of bullying is strictly prohibited and may result in strong disciplinary action.

School Choice

A student who is the victim of bullying (as defined) might under the appropriate circumstances be the victim of a violent criminal offense. If this is the case the student shall be provided within ten (10) school days of the commission of the violent criminal offense, and to the extent possible, the right to transfer to a school that is making adequate yearly progress (AYP) and has not been identified as being on school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring. Since FCSS only has one middle school and high school, this will only apply to our elementary schools. A violent criminal offense is defined as aggravated battery, aggravated child molestation, aggravated sexual battery, aggravated sodomy, armed robbery, arson, kidnapping, murder, rape, and voluntary manslaughter either on campus or at a school-sanctioned event.

Falsifying Reports of Alleged Inappropriate Behavior by Other Students: Any student who knowingly files a false report of bullying, harassment or intimidation is guilty of such and should be punished under the following disciplinary provisions.

Falsifying Reports of Alleged Behavior in Violation of the Student Code of Conduct by Other Students: Students are not to knowingly falsify, misrepresent, omit or erroneously report information regarding instances of alleged inappropriate behavior by other students. This will include knowingly false allegations of inappropriate behavior alleged to have been committed by unknown students.

Retaliation Prohibited

Under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-751.4, retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry is prohibited. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of local board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Retaliation Predicated by a Report of Bullying: "Retaliation" is defined as bullying, harassment or intimidation toward a person in response to a previously reported bullying, harassment or intimidation. IMMUNITY - O.C.G.A.20-2-751.4(e) "Any person who reports an incident of bullying in good faith shall be immune from civil liability for any damages caused by such reporting."

DISRUPTIVE PRESENCE

The Fannin County School District reserves the right to exclude a student's enrollment/attendance at a school due to any off-campus behavior which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process.

If, through notification by legal authorities or other official/unofficial entities, a principal needs to make a determination regarding the application of this policy as it relates to a student's off-campus behavior, the principal will adhere to the following protocol:

- Contact the Director of Student Services who will work with the principal, the school resource officer, and the school board attorney in order to confirm whether or not charges are being filed against the student.

- Work with the Director of Student Services on the potential application of the Fannin County School System “Disruptive Presence” infraction code regarding the student’s off-campus behavior.
- Communicate with the student’s parents regarding (a) the current Georgia requirements regarding schools/school districts dealing with off-campus behaviors and (b) the application of local board policy as it pertains to their student.

Note: Multiple disciplinary problems or any severe disciplinary problems can and will lead to immediate expulsion. Also, off campus aggressive, disrespectful and/or destructive behavior towards a staff member may lead to legal action and suspension/expulsion. Off campus behavior that is brought onto campus and interferes with the education process can and will be dealt with by school officials. The above punishment is a guideline and can be modified based on the severity of the infraction.

Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of Fannin County High School to maintain a learning environment that is free from sexual harassment. It shall be a violation of this policy for any member of the staff to harass a student through conduct or communications of a sexual nature as defined below. It shall also be a violation of this policy for students to harass other students or school employees through conduct or communications of a sexual nature as defined below. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other inappropriate oral, written or physical conduct of a sexual nature when made by a member of the school staff to a student or when made by any student to another student or system employee constitutes sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment, as defined above, may include but is not limited to the following:

1. Verbal harassment or abuse such as sexually-oriented kidding, teasing, and/or jokes
2. Pressure for sexual activity
3. Repeated remarks to a person with sexual or demeaning implications
4. Unwelcome touching such as pinching, patting, or brushing against.
5. Suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning ones’ grades, job, etc.

Any person who alleges sexual harassment by a staff member or student at Fannin County High School or on school transportation must report this behavior directly to the principal or school counselor. All complaints are investigated by the principal.

Weapons Notification

A student shall not possess, use, handle, or transmit any object that reasonably can be considered a weapon on property or in a building owned or leased by a school district, at a school function, or on a bus or other transportation provided by the school district. Weapons may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Any handgun, firearm, rifle, shotgun or similar weapon; any explosive compound or incendiary device; or, any other dangerous weapon as defined in O.C.G.A. 16-11-121, including a rocket launcher, bazooka, recoilless rifle, mortar, or hand grenade.
- 2) Any hazardous object, including any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaka, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disk, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any instrument of like kind, any nonlethal air gun, and any stun gun or taser. Such term shall not include any of these instruments used for classroom work authorized by the teacher.

Students who possess any weapon described in paragraph 1 will be subject to a minimum of a one calendar year expulsion and will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authority and district attorney. Students who possess other weapons or hazardous objects as described in paragraph 2 will be subject to discipline as specified in the student code of conduct. See Board Policy JCDAE-Weapons.

Sports Equity Nondiscrimination Notice: State law prohibits discrimination based on gender in athletic programs of local systems (Equity in Sports Act, O.C.G.A. 20-2-315). Students are hereby notified that Fannin County School System does not discriminate on the basis of gender in its athletic programs. The sports equity coordinator for the school system is Dr. Scott Ramsey, Fannin County High School, 360 Rebel Circle, Blue Ridge, Georgia, and (706) 632-2081. Inquires or complaints

concerning sports equity in this school system may be submitted to the sports equity coordinator.

Statements of Nondiscrimination

The Fannin County Board of Education prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities, as well as employment, on the basis of race, color, sex religion, creed, national origin, age or disability. FCHS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in any educational program or employment policy. All programs are offered to all students, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

Positive Behavior Support---Addressing the Behavior of All Students

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) is a school-wide system of monitoring and documenting student behavior. Through this tiered system, negative actions are redirected and positive actions are rewarded. Through the collaboration of administration, teachers and students, behavior expectations have been established.

P R I D E

Focus	Learn Today, Achieve for Life
Character	Serve as a Positive Role Model
High Expectations	Demonstrate Responsibility
Show Respect	Value Yourself, Others and Surroundings

PBS Expectations/Goals are the following:

Hall Behavior

Focus	Keep moving, stay right
Character	Use appropriate language, actions, and attitudes
High Expectations	Keep the hall clean and clutter free
Show Respect	Maintain appropriate space

Classroom Behavior

Focus	Relate today’s activities for tomorrow’s future
Character	Develop work ethic and integrity
High Expectations	Master Georgia Performance Standards
Show Respect	Be considerate of yourself, others, and surroundings

Bathroom Behavior

Focus	Focus on cleanliness; keep the area clean
Character	Maintain proper hygiene; wash your hands
High Expectations	Manage time wisely
Show Respect	Respect property

Cafeteria-Behavior

Focus	Develop healthy eating habits
Character	Clean up after yourself
High Expectations	Leave your area better than you found it
Show Respect	Be considerate

Transportation Behavior

Focus	Focus on safety
Character	Use appropriate actions
High Expectations	Be on time and in appropriate areas
Show Respect	Value your surroundings and park in designated areas

Commons Area Behavior

Focus	Maintain appropriate and timely use of commons area
Character	Use appropriate language, actions, and attitudes
High Expectations	Keep the commons area clean and clutter free
Show Respect	Maintain appropriate space

FCHS Testing Information 2019-2020

ACT -- Sept 14; Oct 26*; Dec. 14; Feb. 9; April 4; June 13*; July 18*

SAT -- Aug 24; Oct 5; Nov 2; Dec 7*; March 14; May 2; June 6

PSAT -- Oct 16, 2019

* Not offered on FCHS campus

ACCUPLACER Testing (available through the Counselor's Office and Dual Enrollment Coordinator)
AP Exams -- May 4 – May 15, 2020

EOC Window 1st Semester -- Dec 2 – 20, 2019
Final Exams 1st Semester -- Dec 19 & 20, 2019
EOC Window 2nd Semester -- April 27 - May 15, 2020
Final Exams 2nd Semester -- May 21 & 22

Performance Contract

In order to encourage and promote student success, it is necessary for the student, teacher and parent to work together toward this common goal. On the school website is the performance contract for students, teacher, and parents emphasizing every person's responsibility in achieving this success. Below is an outline.

The teacher will

- Post notes and tutoring opportunities on website
- Assist in class as needed and be available for extra help as often as possible
- Send home progress reports every 4 and ½ weeks and contact parent if failing
- Post weekly grade(s) in Infinite Campus and provide syllabus

The student will

- Take notes daily, work diligently in class, and ask for help as needed
- Come prepared to class daily and take advantage of opportunities for help
- Write down assignments and access teacher website to have assignments complete and turned in on time
- Schedule time to make up missed exams and complete make up work following school's make up policy

The parent will

- Access parent portal and monitor student's grades
- Review student planner and check with student for homework and exams
- Remind student to study nightly and be responsible for work, especially when absent
- Contact the school and teacher when a problem arises

2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Aug 1- 6	Pre-Planning
Aug 7	First Day of School for Students
Sept 2	Holiday (Emergency Make Up Day)
Oct 17	Early Release Day for Parent Teacher Conferences
Oct 18	Professional Learning Day – Teachers Only (Emergency Make Up Day)
Oct 21	Holiday (Emergency Make Up Days)
Nov 25 – 29	Thanksgiving Holiday (Emergency Make Up Days)
Dec 23 - Jan 3	Christmas and New Year Holiday (Emergency Make Up Days)
Jan 6 & 7	Professional Learning Days – Teachers Only (Emergency Make Up Days)
Jan 8	Students Return from Holiday
Jan 20	Holiday (Emergency Make Up Day)
Feb 17	Holiday (Emergency Make Up Day)
Mar 13	Early Release Day for Parent Teacher Conferences
Apr 10 – 17	Spring Break (Emergency Make Up Days)
May 22	Last Day of School and High School Graduation
May 25	Memorial Day Holiday
May 26 – 28	Post Planning
May 29	Emergency Make Up Day

Days for holidays and spring break can be used to make up days missed due to inclement weather or other reasons.

