Welcome to Hickory Ridge High. We expect you to work with us to assure your success; your commitment to hard work, school spirit, and involvement can be the key to a successful year at Hickory Ridge. Enjoy this key to your success at Hickory Ridge!—Dr. Shaun Poole

HICKORY RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK

Student attendance

ABSENCES

For the year 2010-2011, the school calendar is:

- School begins at 8:00 A.M.
- A Lunch 11:00 - 12:09
- B Lunch 11:49 - 12:38
- Specials
- A Lunch 12:56 - 1:45
- B Lunch 11:49 - 12:38
- 1st period 8:00 - 8:34
- 2nd period 8:35 - 9:24
- 3rd period 9:27 - 10:16
- 4th period 10:20 - 11:09
- End of the instructional day 2:25 unless otherwise noted

For the year 2011-2012, the school calendar is:

- School begins at 8:00 A.M.
- A Lunch 11:00 - 12:09
- B Lunch 11:49 - 12:38
- Specials
- A Lunch 12:56 - 1:45
- B Lunch 11:49 - 12:38
- 1st period 8:00 - 8:34
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To report a bullying incident, please complete the HRHS Bullying Report on the HRHS home page under the Resources tab.

STUDENT USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES, BLOGGING, AND THE INTERNET - POLICY CODE: 4313

INTRODUCTION

The Blackboard respects the right of students to use social networking sites (e.g., Facebook), personal web sites, Blogs, Wikis and other web tools [collectively “Internet Postings”] as a medium of self-expression. However, inappropriate Internet Postings by students can cause substantial disruption to the school environment. According to policy, students must follow the following guidelines for Internet Postings, regardless of the location of the Internet access.

PROHIBITED BEHAVIORS

- Students shall not use profane, pornographic, obscene, indecent, lewd, vulgar or sexually offensive language, pictures or graphics in Internet Postings that could cause a substantial disruption to the school environment. Such postings will result in out-of-school suspension for the student responsible.
- Students shall not use language, pictures or graphics promoting violence or gang activity in Internet Postings.
- Students shall not use Internet Postings to libel or defame the Board, School system, school employees, or other students.
- Students shall not use Internet Postings to harass, bully, or intimidate employees or other students. Behaviors that constitute harassment and bullying include, but are not limited to, comments that are derogatory with respect to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, color, age or disability; sexually suggestive, humiliating, or demeaning comments; and threats to stalk, harass, physically injure or damage the property of another student or employees.
- Students shall not take and/or post pictures of school system employees without obtaining written permission. Students shall not falsify representations themselves as an employee of the school system.

CONSEQUENCES

A student will be disciplined for creating and/or distributing written or electronic material, including Internet Postings and texts that cause substantial disruption to school operations and/or interfere with the rights of other students or staff members. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action, up to and including long-term suspension, 365 days suspension or expulsion.
Students are expected to use good judgment in their manner of dress and personal appearance. The following dress code is in effect:

1. Hats, sunglasses, and head coverings of any kind may not be worn or visible in the building. These items will be confiscated on every offense and returned to students at the end of the semester.
2. Dresses, skirts (male and female) and shorts must be no shorter than three inches above the knee. Sheer pieces and sitps in skirts must also be no shorter than three inches above the knee. 
3. No-shoulder tops or halter tops are allowed.
4. No see-through clothing. No undergarments are to be visible including bra straps.
5. No midriffs should show; shirts must be longer than the waistline of skirts, shorts, pants, or leggings.
6. No deep-plunging shirts; all shirts should adequately cover the upper body including the shoulders, back, midriff, and sides. Necklines that expose any cleavage are not permitted.
7. Pants and shorts are to be worn at the waist with no holes above the knee. 
8. Bedroom shoes, slippers or pajamas are not permitted.
9. No bandanas or bandanna material may be worn, except for medical or special use.
10. Wallet chains or any chains on clothing are not to be worn as they present a safety hazard.
11. Clothing and other items may not display, advertise, or promote any product or activity that is illegal or inappropriate, such as alcohol, drugs, sex, violence, or gang affiliation. Any slogan or symbol which is likely to disrupt or detract from the educational process is prohibited.
12. Gang attire (including but not limited to clothing with bandanas, etc) and gang symbols are prohibited on campus at all times.

The faculty and administration reserve the right to question and discourage any attire considered in poor taste or disruptive to the educational process.

Procedures:
1. Change clothes and/or Parent brings a change of clothes. If student refuses to follow procedure, subsequent consequences will be applied.

PERSONAL PROPERTY
Protect yourself by being cautious with your property. Examples of suggestions:
1. Identify all your personal belongings in a manner that cannot be erased.
2. Do not carry large sums of money or jewelry to school.
3. Keep your locked locker at all times.
4. Do not leave clothing, purses, etc. lying around on desks, cafeteria tables, the floor, etc.
5. Lock your valuables in a locker. The faculty cannot supervise every student at all times; therefore, it is your responsibility to adequately secure your property at all times.
6. Lost or stolen electronic devices are not the responsibility of HRHS.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE
The administration has the right to search a student’s locker, his/her belongings, or vehicle if it is deemed there is reasonable suspicion that a rule has been violated. Trained, law enforcement K-9 units periodically conduct random searches for controlled substances. Illegal substances and/or stolen property will be confiscated and law enforcement will be contacted. Students in unenforced areas of campus will automatically be subject to search.

DISCIPLINE POLICIES
The administration, faculty and staff are concerned that each individual student experience academic success and learn responsibility for his/her behavior. We firmly believe that parents and students also share this concern with us.

If a student fails to follow the guidelines for conduct at Hickory Ridge, that student may be subject to the following consequences: control room, after-school detention this punishment may involve mandatory participation in an after-school work detail, Saturday school detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, alternative placement, PASS, and expulsion. Repeated and/or flagrant violations may result in the student being suspended for the remainder of the school year or alternative placement.

CONTROL ROOM
Students who fail to follow the rules and procedures outlined in the Student Code of Conduct will be redirected to the Control Room. While in the Control Room, students will remain quiet and complete their assignments. Once the violation has been assessed, Administration may assign an additional consequence or intervention.

AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION (ASD)
Students who fail to report to ASD will be assigned to Saturday School detention. The decision to assign after-school detention is at the sole discretion of the HRHS administration. The following are examples of rules violations that can result in ASD:

1. Being in an unattended area of campus, including the Faculty Parking Lot
2. Breaking in the lunch line
3. Failure to report for a teacher-assigned detention
4. Participation in gambling or any unauthorized games
5. Horseplay
6. Fighting or any violent acts
7. Out of class without a hall pass

SATURDAY SCHOOL DETENTION (SSD)
Students who fail to report, or are tardy to their assigned SSD will receive one day of in-school suspension. Repeat violations will result in OSS. The decision to assign Saturday School Detention is at the sole discretion of the HRHS administration. SSD is held in the cafeteria from 7:30 - 10:30 AM. No student will be admitted after 7:30 AM. Students may be assigned SSD up to three times each semester. The following are examples of rules violations that can result in being assigned SSD:

1. Cutting class
2. Excessive tardy violations
3. Failure to report to After-School Detention
4. Failure to check in or out properly
5. Hazing or intimidation of other students.
by the school administration. Speeding, parking violations, and reckless operation of a motor vehicle are prohibited, and result in a detention and/or loss of driving privileges for an amount of time deemed appropriate by the school administration. The speed limit in the Student Parking Lot is 10 mph. The speed limit in the Ridge Road is 25 mph. Violators will lose their parking pass and/or parking privileges for an amount of time deemed appropriate by a school official. A fee is required to register a car for parking on school property. A valid school parking sticker must be displayed on the lower driver’s side front window in any vehicle parked on school property. Students must report to the building immediately upon arriving at school and leave campus immediately after dismissal. If a student drives a vehicle other than the one that is registered, the student should notify the Front Office.

Any student who leaves campus and/or transports another student off campus without permission will lose driving privileges.

BUS REGULATIONS
Your bus driver is performing a service by providing you with transportation to and from school. You depend on the driver for your safety, so you should follow his/her directions and refrain from any inappropriate behavior. Your life may depend on it. Failure to follow the bus rules can result in suspension from the bus and/or school.

1. Stand off the roadway while awaiting the bus.
2. Students are advised to be at assigned bus stop 10 minutes prior to pick-up time.
3. Stay in your seat at all times.
4. Keep all body parts inside the window.
5. No eating and drinking on the bus.
6. Smoking, using profane language, gambling, threatening other students and horseplay of any kind are not permitted.
7. Buses will load immediately after school.
8. Students are only permitted to ride the bus to which they are assigned.

PARENT CONFERENCES
As courtesy to school officials as well as parents, the Administration asks that parents call the school to schedule conferences with teachers and/or administration. Parents should call the teacher directly to set up a parent/teacher conference.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
1. The number of units required for graduation will be 27 units.
2. Transfer students must complete their maximum potential for earning units less 5. Students attempting to earn credits outside of Cabarrus County Schools must have prior approval from the Principal and the High School Director.
3. A student must complete all of the following courses in order to graduate: English 4 units, Science 3 units; one each in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics; 4 units, Social Studies 3 units; one each in American history, Economics, and Geography; and a foreign language through level 5, or, if they go to their classes without permission from a school official. A fee is required to register a car for parking on school property. A valid school parking sticker must be displayed on the lower driver’s side front window in any vehicle parked on school property. Students must report to the building immediately upon arriving at school and leave campus immediately after dismissal. If a student drives a vehicle other than the one that is registered, the student should notify the Front Office.

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ATHLETICS
Hickory Ridge offers students the opportunity to participate in the following competitive sports: football, volleyball, cross-country, soccer, tennis, basketball, wrestling, swimming, baseball, softball, track & field, golf and cheerleading.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY
To be eligible for a team a student must:
1. Pass a minimum of three (3) courses during the previous semester at an approved high school.
2. Be an enrolled student of the school.
3. Have completed all assignments.
4. Have earned no grade lower than a C-.
5. Have no unexcused absence in a semester.
6. Have a 2.0 or better Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) for all previous high school courses.
7. Be on good behavior and not in any type of suspension, OSS, or ISS, or violated any of the Academic Integrity guidelines.
8. Meet any eligibility requirements established by the school or the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

ANY student who requests a change once the schedule has been created in the Spring can make a request for change, only if the following conditions apply: the student is not on suspension,Correo electrónico: lynn.rhymer@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Any student who does not return their assigned textbook at the end of the semester will be charged the full price of the missing book. Students will be assessed a fee for any damages to textbooks that may occur. Students are strongly encouraged to place covers on their textbooks. Students with overdue fees owed to HRHS are not to participate in extracurricular activities including participating in and attending athletic events. Students with a negative cafeteria balance of $8+ will be given a substitute lunch. Textbook reimbursement for off campus classes will not be fulfilled after the stated deadlines.

STUDENT SERVICES
Student Services is available for every student in the school. Services provided include assistance with educational planning, interpretation of test scores, occupational information, career information, study helps, help with homework, school and/or social concerns, or any issues the student may feel like they would want to discuss with the counselor.

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