

***HOME OF THE BULLDOGS!***



# **Student/Parent Handbook**

**Dixon Middle School**

**2020 - 2021**

**118 Ridge Field Ave  
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460  
Phone: 910-347-2738  
Fax: 910-327-1372**

**Please read carefully. Policies and procedures have changed in order to adhere to CDC and NC Covid-19 guidelines and policies.**

# GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION & STUDENT POLICIES

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Dixon Middle School! The faculty and staff are very interested in your education. We want you to make the most of this opportunity. Take your classes very seriously and always put forth your very best effort. Become involved in athletics, clubs, and other extracurricular activities. This is the time to prepare yourself for high school and for your future. We will help you in any way that we can.

### Academic Success

*High Expectations=High Student Achievement*

During this time in your life, EDUCATION is your career. Coming to school each day is your job. These are the expectations of your job that you should meet each day:

1. Take NOTEBOOK, LAPTOP, PEN, and/or PENCIL to class each day.
2. Bring SPECIAL MATERIALS to class when required.
3. Be prepared; complete HOMEWORK assignments.
4. Be responsible for LEARNING in each and every class.
5. Put forth your best EFFORT at all times.

### Athletics

Due to Covid-19, all sports are suspended until further notice. Once sports resume all policies below will apply and additional policies may be added.

The athletic program is an important part of the school; however, it is secondary to the academic program of the school. There are certain requirements that students must meet to participate in athletics:

1. Student must be in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
2. Student must pass at least one less course than the number of required core courses each semester.
3. Students will forfeit athletic eligibility when unlawful/unexcused absences, out-of-school suspensions, or any combination of unlawful/unexcused and out-of-school suspensions during the previous semester exceed ten (10) days.
4. Student must not have turned 15 on or before August 31st of the current school year. There are only two years of eligibility in middle school.

There are also general athletic guidelines for Dixon Middle School:

- ❖ **All fees and fines must be paid for a child to be eligible for athletics!**
- ❖ Parents are responsible for the transportation of their child to and from practices and home athletic events. A student must have timely transportation to participate.
- ❖ All practices and tryouts are closed to visitors.
- ❖ All players and parents must sign a sportsmanship pledge and attend a rule meeting before a student can participate in athletics.
- ❖ Coaches will share additional rules for individual sports.
- ❖ Team members may not participate in games or practices on days they are absent, in ISS, or suspended from school.
- ❖ Removal from the team for disciplinary offenses is at the discretion of the coach and/or Administration.

### Attendance/Absenteeism

Attendance will be taken daily, during both face to face and virtual instruction. Students are expected to be in class on their cohort days and to attend class virtually via teams on the other 3 days.

Regular attendance is directly connected to student achievement. It is essential that students be in school every day. According to Onslow County Board Policy #4400, in order for a student to receive credit for a course (**Period Attendance**), a middle school student must be in attendance for 160 days per year-long course which means only 20 absences; 80 days per semester course which means only 10 absences. All absences, whether excused or unexcused will be counted. Students with more than 20 absences (10 within the first ninety days and 10 within the last ninety days) in a school year shall not be promoted to the next grade except by determination of the principal or designee upon careful review of the student's records.

A student is considered absent for the day (**Daily Attendance**) if they are present for less than half the school day (12:20 p.m.). Absences require notes of explanation. Parents of students who are habitually absent may be charged legally for violation of the compulsory attendance law. Any absence after ten will require a doctor's excuse.

The following reasons, as stated in North Carolina General Statute, are considered acceptable for being coded excused absences for **Daily Attendance** purposes

#### Daily Attendance Excused Codes:

- ❖ Personal illness or injury
- ❖ Death in the immediate family

- ❖ Quarantine
- ❖ Educational Opportunity (Approval from the principal prior to the absence is required and all work must be made up.)
- ❖ Medical or dental appointments
- ❖ Court or administrative proceedings
- ❖ Religious observances

Any student who is absent will have three school days to make up any missed work upon their return to school. It is the responsibility of the student to request the missed work. Serious illness needs to be worked out with the student's teachers and/or the administration on a case-by-case basis in advance or as soon as possible.

### Bus Regulations

**The wearing of face coverings is required at all times on the bus. Temperatures will be taken, and screening questions asked as students board the bus. Students must enter and exit the bus 6 feet apart.**

Because the safety of our children is a top priority, it is imperative that all parents and students review the Onslow County Schools' Student Discipline Policies and School Bus Safety Regulations Handbook. Of particular importance are School Bus Safety Student Conduct Rules and Misconduct on a School Vehicle. These policies will be enforced with parents and students receiving written notification of consequences based on severity of violations and prior rule infractions. Please help us ensure that the bus ride for all students is a safe one.

Dixon Middle School General Bus Rules include:

1. Students must obey the driver or other adult monitors at all times.
2. Students must be seated while on the bus facing the front with their feet on the floor.
3. Students shall not extend their head or arms out of the window at any time.
4. Students are not to throw objects of any kind out of the windows.
5. There is not to be any profanity, shouting, loud talking, whistling, loud laughing, and scuffling, spitting, or disorderly or improper conduct of any kind on the bus.
6. Be at the designated stop on time. Drivers cannot wait for students who are not at the bus stop.
7. Food, gum, or beverages are not permitted on the bus.
8. Talking on a cell phone is not permitted on the bus.
9. Students may ride **only** the bus to which they are assigned. Students may **only** get off and on the bus at their assigned stop.
10. The use of electronic devices on the bus is at the driver's discretion.
11. Video and/or audio recordings are prohibited.

12. The number to reach the Dixon district bus coordinator is (910) 347-6708.

Consequences for infractions of bus rules may include (but are not limited to): a written warning, suspension from riding the bus for one to two weeks, and up to losing the privilege to ride for the remainder of the school year. The consequences assigned are at the discretion of the administration.

### Child Nutrition

Child Nutrition offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$1.25**; lunch costs **\$2.25**. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is **available at no charge** for breakfast and **\$.40 for lunch**.

**If your child was free or reduced last year, it is not an automatic approval this year.** Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the Child Nutrition office notified you in writing that your child is eligible for the new school year. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: **Child Nutrition Department, P. O. Box 99, Jacksonville, NC 28541 or bring it into our office at 200 Broadhurst Rd, Jacksonville, NC 28541. Our telephone number is (910) 478-3480.**

**Parents are responsible for all charges accrued until the date the application is approved.**

Students approved for free or reduced priced meals must choose a FULL meal. Individual items and milk selections result in a la carte pricing. A la carte items are not available for charging. Free and reduced breakfast and lunch applications are available from the homeroom teacher. Each student is assigned a computerized student number to purchase breakfast and lunch. This number is to be used by that student only. Students may use their lunch number only once per meal. Misuse of another student's lunch number is considered theft and will result in disciplinary action.

### Communicable Diseases

If a child has a communicable disease (for example, pink eye or head lice) Board Policy requires that he/she remain at home until the disease is no longer contagious for the protection of other students and staff.

## Conferences

Conferences will be held via a conference call or on Microsoft Teams.

We encourage parent-teacher conferences. A parent-teacher conference or a phone call to a teacher is the first step a parent should take if there is a concern. Conferences are scheduled by calling the school receptionist at 347-2738. FERPA (confidentiality regulations) requires that conferences be arranged by the legal parent or legal guardian and that the legal parent or legal guardian be present at the conference.

## Extra-curricular Activities

All afterschool activities have been cancelled due to Covid-19. Once activities resume the following policy will apply.

Attendance at school dances and other after-school activities is considered a privilege. Students who owe fees are not to attend these events until all charges have been paid.

Acceptable dress per the school dress code and good behavior are required in order to attend. Students will not be permitted to attend dances if they are assigned ISS or OSS on the date of the dance or if they have repeated behavior problems at school as this might be considered a safety issue. Students must be picked up promptly after the event. Students picked up more than 30 minutes after an event, may not be allowed to attend future events.

## Grade Reports

To keep parents informed and involved in their child's education, progress reports will be sent home every nine weeks. Interim reports will be sent home at week three and week six of the grading period. Parents are also encouraged to sign up for Parent Portal on Powerschool so that they have up to date information on their child's grades.

## Guidance

Students are encouraged to visit with the counselors for personal guidance and for information on grades, study help, and testing programs. Counselors are available to discuss any home, school, or social concerns. The counselors are also available for assistance with peer mediation.

## Hall Passes

When it is necessary for a student to be out of class for any reason, he/she must have a pass. Hall passes for specific destinations are used by each teacher. Failure to have a hall pass from a teacher will be considered skipping class. Only one student from each class should utilize a hall pass. Students should proceed directly to their destination without unnecessary detours.

## Inclement Weather

In the event of bad weather, OCS sends out phone alerts to notify students and staff of school delays and closings. Also, students should listen to the local radio and TV stations for school news. In the case of delayed opening, the buses will also run late. This news will be broadcast over the news media. Please ensure that the school has correct contact information so that the messages are received.

## Instructional Time

One important way that a school can have a positive and direct impact on student achievement is through the protection of instructional time. For this reason, **no visitors will be allowed to classrooms during the school day** unless they are a guest speaker, part of a planned instructional activity or have made arrangements ahead of time with the front office.

## Media Center

Students may check out a maximum of two books. Books may be checked out for a two-week period and may be renewed twice. Students with overdue or lost books cannot check out additional books until this is taken care of. If a student loses or damages books that are checked out in his/her name, the student is expected to pay for the book.

## Medication

Except in special circumstances, which have been approved by a physician and the school nurse (i.e., certain asthma inhalers), all medication is dispensed from the school office. Parents must pick up a medication form from the school office to be completed by a physician. This completed form and the medication need to be brought to the office by the parent. Students are not permitted to carry medicine themselves nor are they allowed to self-medicate. For safety reasons, over-the-counter medications (i.e., Tylenol, cough drops, eye drops, etc.) cannot be dispensed by school personnel or used by students without a physician's written order. Students cannot carry over-the-counter medications on their person or in their personal possessions. **Students who bring medication to school and do not comply with these guidelines will be disciplined, to include possible suspension from school and referral to legal authorities.**

## Moment of Silence

The Onslow County Board of Education authorizes the observance of a moment of silence each day in all grades in the school system. A moment of silence may not exceed one minute in length, must be completely unstructured, and free of any influence from any source and no other activity will be allowed during that time. We observe the moment of silence at the start of the school day.

## PTO

Dixon Middle School parents have formed a school support organization—PTO. This organization welcomes all parents. If you are interested in joining, please call the school so that we can get you a contact form for this organization.

## Promotion/Retention Standards

*OCS Board of Education Policy 3420:*

*"..In order to be considered for promotion, students in grades 3 through 8 shall perform at least at grade level as identified by the state end-of-grade tests, observations, grades, teacher-generated, locally-generated, and state-generated assessments; work samples, portfolios and/or other factors in all areas of the curriculum.*

*It is recognized that the final authority to grade and place students is the responsibility of the principal, in accordance with G.S. 115C-288(a). The principal shall consider the pupil's classroom work and grades, the student's scores on standardized tests, and the best educational interests of the student."*

## School Hours

The classroom doors will open at 8:15 AM. **Students will not be permitted on campus before 7:45 AM unless they are attending scheduled tutoring or a school-sponsored activity.** They will not be allowed before this time because there is no one to provide supervision. The tardy bell will ring at 8:25 AM. Students who arrive in their classroom after 8:25 AM will be marked tardy. School officials will notify parents when tardiness becomes a recurring problem. There are 2 bells to end the school day: (1) the first bell is for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades (2) a second bell is for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. **Students are expected to leave school immediately following dismissal** unless they are involved in a school-sponsored activity.

## Student Physical Examination Requirements

Physical examinations for middle school students will be required only for those participating in athletics, or those students who are unable to participate fully in regular PE classes. The doctor should indicate limitations in PE classes on the physical form or in a written note. Any student who is under a doctor's care cannot participate in athletics or PE until the doctor provides a written release. *Physical forms must be presented to the coach prior to the first day of practice or try-outs for any athletic team, including cheerleading.*

## Signing In/Out

Early checkout is strongly discouraged. Students miss valuable instruction and will be counted absent in accordance with the county attendance policy. Occasionally, we understand that it will be necessary for a

student to leave during the school day. Students will not be released to anyone but a parent, legal guardian, or emergency contact (as noted on the student emergency data sheet). Anyone unknown to the school officials on duty should be prepared to show proper identification when they come for a student during the school day

*Late arrivals (Students who arrive after 8:25)*

Parent must bring the student to the door and buzz the office. Mrs. Kellum will go to the door and ask screening questions and take temperature. If a student has a temperature of 100 or more, the parent and student can wait outside and have the temperature retaken. If the temperature is still 100 or higher, parent must take student home.

*Checking Students out Early*

Parents must come to the door and buzz the office. Parents will use the intercom system to request student to be checked out. Mrs. Kellum will call student out of class. Parents may wait outside or in their vehicle for student to be released. Parents will not be permitted to wait inside for students. Please make every effort possible to not check out your child after 3:00.

**To prepare for dismissal and to ensure the safety of all students, it will not be possible for students to be checked out after 3:00 PM.**

## Student Recognition

We believe in recognizing and rewarding excellence in our students. We have several recognition programs:

- ◆ Honors Assemblies—Celebrations will be held at the end of the year to recognize students who have been on honor roll and principal's list all year.
- ◆ Students receiving Honors recognition each nine weeks will be awarded a certificate from their homeroom teacher.
- ◆ Grade-level incentive trips—Details about eligibility will be shared by each grade level team.

## Supplies

Students are expected to have required necessary supplies every day. Paper and pencils are required for all classes. A specific supply list per grade level will be made available.

## Telephone

To keep use of the office phone to a minimum, students need to make sure they are responsible and bring homework, projects, uniforms, instruments, etc. with them to school. **No student will be called out of class to the phone unless it is an emergency; instructional time is important.** Please, make arrangements for pick-up, staying after school, etc., before the student leaves home each morning. Students who must use their cell



phones to call home can do so in the main office. See section below for cell phone policy.

### **Textbooks/Laptops**

Students are expected to take proper care of all books/laptops issued to them or used in the classroom or library. Students are responsible for returning all books on schedule. **If a book/laptop is lost or damaged, it must be paid for.** Students must be responsible for their books/laptops. Books/laptops should not be left unattended. Students are expected to bring their books/laptops to class daily unless directed otherwise by the teacher. **When student is issued a 1:1 laptop, both the laptop and charger must be returned to the school at the end of the year. A fee will be assessed if any part is missing.**

### **Title IX Statement**

Onslow County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding Title IX: Title IX Coordinator, Onslow County Schools. 200 Broadhurst Road, Jacksonville, N.C. 28540, 910-989-2021.

### **Traffic Flow**

**Parents should remain in their cars.**

Cars will pull up to one of the staff members in front of the school. A staff member will take students' temperatures and ask screening questions while students are in the car.

Beginning at 3:13, car riders will be dismissed. Students will be dismissed by class starting with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade then 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Students will line up 6 feet apart in front of the school and must wear their face covering. When students' parents arrive, cars will

be loaded. Additional students will be called to fill spots as students are loaded into vehicles. **Parents must remain in their vehicles.** Parents who park in the parking lot must stand beside or remain in their cars. Students will be sent across the street to meet parents. **Cars will not be permitted to line up in the parking lot.** The parking lot will be closed at 3:00. Students **will not** be permitted to cross the street at the end of the building. Please do not park in the grass on the side of the building.

### **Tutoring**

When available, tutoring will be held in the morning from 7:45am until 8:15am. Students must have prior approval to attend any tutoring sessions. See individual teachers for tutoring days.

### **Visitors**

Visitors will not be permitted at this time. Parents who are dropping off or picking up students or have been requested by the administration to come to school are essential visitors and will be permitted on campus. Masks must be worn when entering the building.

All visitors are to report to the school office when they arrive on the school campus. All visitors must sign in and receive a visitor's pass before being escorted to their meeting or conference. No visitor is to be unescorted on the campus at any time. The safety of our students is a top priority. Thank you in advance to all visitors for your support of this policy.

## **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

The rules and regulations are established for the health, safety, and welfare of all students. Students are responsible for knowing the rules and policies of the school system and DMS. The following listings are the basic rules. However, additional regulations may be added as necessary. Please refer to the Student Related Board of Education Policies and School Bus Safety Regulations handbook that your child was given by their homeroom teacher for additional important policies. Whenever possible, student discipline will be handled between the teacher, student, and their parents. Dixon Middle School is dedicated to effective school/family communication and it is through this contact that we can meet the needs of each individual student. Each teacher has

a written classroom management plan that they will share with students and parents at the start of the school year.

### **Aggressive Behavior/Bullying**

Any action, whether physical, verbal, or non-verbal that is meant to intimidate or demean another student or a staff member will not be tolerated. Parents will be contacted.

1<sup>st</sup> Offense- up to 3 days of ISS

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense- up to 5 days of ISS

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense- up to 3 days OSS

\*Repeated offenses may result in referral to law enforcement.

### Affection

Kissing, hugging, and holding hands are not acceptable conduct at DMS. A warning will be given. If this behavior continues, parents will be called. Continued behavior will result in disciplinary action.

### Bomb Threat

House Bill 517 - Making or communicating a false bomb threat is a serious crime and is now considered a felony in the North Carolina. Perpetuating a bomb threat hoax by bringing fake explosive devices into schools or school events is also a felony. Encouraging or aiding a minor in bringing explosive devices on a school campus is also a felony crime. Parents who are found to be negligent with regard to their children, who commit these crimes, may be required to pay restitution.

### Cell Phones/Cameras/Personally Owned Devices

Cell phones, cameras and personally owned devices are not to be used on campus during the school day except when approved by a school official. **All cell phones should be turned off or on silent and placed in a secure area of the student's purse or book bag so it cannot be seen.** Earphones and ear buds must be in students' bookbags unless they are being utilized for classwork. **Students may not record any portion of an active classroom without the consent of the teacher.** Students may not take pictures or video of any tests or assignments without the consent of the teacher. **Students may not video other students with or without their consent for any purpose other than instructional.**

County Office policy states:

- Any video, audio, or photographic recording in classrooms or other areas designated for student learning without prior consent from the teacher and/or school administration is strictly prohibited.
- Any video, audio, or photographic recording in restrooms, locker rooms, or any other areas where privacy is an expectation is impermissible. Violations of this rule may result in criminal charges.

Students can expect to have these items confiscated and turned into the office if they are in violation. First offense: item will be returned at the end of class. Second offense: item returned at the end of the day. Repeated offenses will require item to be picked up by parent/guardian and possible disciplinary action. Refusal by a student to give up an item to a school official or staff member will result in ISS/OSS.

### Cheating

Cheating/Plagiarism is not tolerated. This can include turning in someone else's work as your own. Students caught plagiarizing/cheating will make up the assessment/assignment in question in an alternate location.

### Cologne/Perfume/Spray Deodorant

Colognes, perfumes, scented lotions, and spray deodorants can trigger asthma attacks with many students at our school, to include the bus. Many students are also highly allergic to these types of sprays. **Colognes, perfumes, scented lotion, and spray deodorants must be left at home.** If you have Physical Education or participate in athletics after school, bring a form of solid or roll-on antiperspirant/deodorant with you. Sprays are not permitted in locker rooms, even during athletic functions or practices. These items will be confiscated and will need to be picked up by a parent or guardian.

### Disruptive Behavior

Classroom rules are established in order to maximize instructional time. Students who are talking excessively, out of seat, and distracting other students cause a disruption to the learning of the class. Continued behavior of this type will result in disciplinary action and possible behavior plan.

## Dress Code

Students are expected to dress appropriately while at school in order to minimize distractions to learning. Clothing should fit appropriately. *Administration will make the final decision on appropriate school dress. Special days such as hat days are approved on occasion at the discretion of administration and will be announced in advance.*

***The following attire will be the Dress code for ALL Dixon Middle School students during the instructional day which includes exams.***

**Face coverings must be worn at all times. Face coverings may be removed when students are eating or drinking.**

- ❖ Excessively tight or form fitting clothing is not permitted. Leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, or any other tight-fitting clothing are not to be worn without an over-garment that is finger-tip length.
- ❖ **All shorts/skirts/skortts must be at least finger-tip length.** This includes gym shorts and soccer style shorts.
- ❖ Any rips in clothing must be below fingertip length or something worn underneath the area.
- ❖ Hats, bandanas, headgear or sunglasses are not to be worn during the school day. Chains, gloves and spiked accessories are considered a safety issue and are not to be worn.
- ❖ No flip-flops, athletic sliders, shower shoes, or bedroom slippers are permitted. This is an OSHA violation. All sandals need a back strap. Shoes must be worn at all times.

- ❖ Costumes, pajamas, pajama-like clothing, or other sleepwear are not permitted. This includes during exams.
- ❖ Bathing suits and/or swim trunks are not appropriate for school.
- ❖ No biking shorts may be worn as an outer garment.
- ❖ ALL shirts must not be revealing and must cover all undergarments.
- ❖ Half shirts, tank tops, strapless dresses or shirts, see through, fishnet, and clothing exposing the midriff, shoulders, or cleavage are not permitted. Shoulders must be covered. Oversized sleeveless shirts that expose the underarm or chest area are not permitted (example: basketball jerseys).
- ❖ Sagging/bagging pants, low-riders and hip-huggers are not permitted. Oversized pants must be belted. Underwear must not be exposed.
- ❖ Gang writing, lettering, symbols, offensive, obscene, or vulgar words are not be shown or written on clothing, jewelry, book bags, etc. In addition, garments with suggestive language and/or advertising displaying alcoholic beverages, tobacco or any illegal substances are not allowed.

Students dressed inappropriately will have a parent called for a change of clothing or will need to wear clothing supplied by the office. Students dressed inappropriately will not be allowed to return to class until they are appropriately attired. Any lost class time and class work must be made up.

#### **Drugs, Alcohol, and Illegal Substances**

Possession, use, and/or distribution of drugs, alcohol, and other illegal substances are strictly forbidden at DMS and are in violation of the law. Charges will be filed by the School Resource Office (SRO). Students will also be referred to the school counselor. Students involved in these activities will receive out of school suspension. Long-term suspension, alternative school, and expulsion may also result.

#### **Fighting**

Any student who engages in a fight and who is determined to have either provoked it or who could have reasonably prevented it from happening will be charged with fighting. Often, students indicate that they have simply been defending themselves in a fight. Defending one's self involves getting away from the fight and notifying a teacher without throwing punches or engaging in the altercation. **Fighting is unlawful on public property and may result in charges being filed by the SRO.** During an exchange, if students are asked to disperse and they do not, they will be disciplined for failing to follow an administrative directive.

1<sup>st</sup> Offense                      up to 5 days OSS  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense                      up to 10 days OSS  
 Additional offenses:  
 Possible OCLC referral or Long-term suspension

#### **Food, Gum, Candy, Drinks**

No food, gum, candy, or drinks (*except bottled water*) are allowed on school property including buses, buildings, or the school grounds during the school day except at lunch and when authorized by school faculty. **Energy drinks are not permitted at any time.**

#### **Harassment/Communicating Threats/Bullying**

Harassment/communicating threats/bullying reporting forms for students and parents are available in the front office and on the school's webpage. Students, parents, volunteers and/or visitors are encouraged to submit any complaints of discrimination of harassment, other than sexual harassment, through the grievance procedure established in policy 1740/4010, Student and Parent Grievance Policy. Reports may be made anonymously, and all reports will be investigated. Once the investigation is completed, violations may be result in in-school or out-of-school suspension.

#### **Horseplay**

Aggressive physical contact between students is a safety risk for the students involved, as well as those around them. Even when students are "playing around", they run the risk of injury or an escalation into hostile behavior or a fight. An investigation will take place.

1<sup>st</sup> Offense                      up to 3 days of ISS  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense                      up to 5 days of ISS

#### **Inappropriate Materials**

The possession of inappropriate magazines, books, or *Internet* materials is prohibited. This includes possession of inappropriate or lewd materials on school grounds or distributing (or showing) to other students and non-instructional games. Disciplinary action can include the following: Loss of internet and technology and /or up to 3 days ISS.

#### **Profanity**

The use of profanity in school is strictly prohibited. Please respect yourself and those around you. Students caught using or writing profanity on campus will receive the following disciplinary action:

Not directed towards              Up to 3 Days ISS  
 School personnel.  
 Directed towards a                      UP to 5 Days OSS  
 staff member  
 Profanity on the bus may result in bus suspension.

#### **Prohibited Items**

Students **may not** possess the following items on school property or at school events:



1. Skateboards or wheelies.
2. Pillows and blankets
3. Non-educational toys

### **Refusal of Teacher/Administrator Directive**

The refusal to follow reasonable directives of teachers or other school personnel will be considered disobedience. Students may not refuse to follow a directive because they do not like the directive or believe it to be unfair. If a student has a question or concern with the directive of a teacher, it should be discussed with the teacher in private or brought to the attention of an administrator at a later time.

**Students may not walk out of class without permission.** Students may see school counselors or school officials by obtaining a hall pass from their teacher.

Minimum action up to 3 days ISS

\*Refusal to follow an administrative directive may result in up to 3 days OSS.

### **Skipping School or Class**

Any student who is not in his/her scheduled class is considered skipping. Failure to sign in or out during the day for any reason is considered skipping school. Any student in the hall without an approved pass is considered skipping.

1<sup>st</sup> Offense Up to 1 Day ISS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense Up to 3 Days ISS

### **Stealing, Vandalism, or Destruction of School Property**

Any student found guilty of stealing, vandalism, and/or destruction of school property will be disciplined by the school, pay restitution, and may be referred to law enforcement officials.

Minimum action up to 3 days ISS  
Maximum action up to 5 days OSS

### **Tardiness**

The school day begins at 8:25 a.m. Any student who arrives after 8:25 a.m. and is not in their assigned homeroom is considered tardy and must be signed in at the office by a parent or guardian. **EXCESSIVE EARLY CHECK OUT OR TARDINESS TO SCHOOL MAY AFFECT PROMOTION** (OC Board Policy #4400). Please take measures to ensure that you are on time.

### **Technology**

All students must have signed permission by parents/guardians to have and use technology or Internet at

DMS. Students must follow all school and OCS guidelines and policies for Internet and technology use and will face disciplinary action for failure to do so. These consequences may include, but are not limited to ISS, OSS, and loss of technology and Internet privileges.

### **Theft**

Stealing can be a serious problem in schools. Students should take care to protect their possessions. Items that are valuable or not necessary should not be brought to school. The possession of property (books, clothing, and equipment) that is not your personal property will be viewed as stealing. Such property should be turned into a school official immediately. Students are not permitted to barter, trade, or sell personal or commercial items at school, other than through an approved school fundraiser. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged property. In these situations, the student will be given the opportunity to file a report with the school's SRO.

### **Throwing Objects**

Any "wasps", spitballs, rubber bands, pencils, erasers, or any other airborne item or device is a serious **safety** and behavioral issue and may result in disciplinary action.

### **Tobacco Products/E-Cigarette/Juul/Vape**

Students are prohibited from using or possessing any tobacco product/e-cigarette, or tobacco/e-cigarette paraphernalia, such as cigarettes, Juuls, vape pens, vape liquid, lighters or matches (1) in any school building, school vehicle or on the school grounds at any time; (2) at any school-related activity, including athletic events; or (3) at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of school personnel, including school trips.

1<sup>st</sup> offense Up to 3 days ISS  
2<sup>nd</sup> offense Up to 3 days OSS  
3<sup>rd</sup> and further offenses Up to 5 days OSS

All Onslow County Schools are tobacco free at all times and at all activities, including athletic events. This includes students and adults.

### **Weapons**

Any weapon or item that can be used as a weapon is strictly prohibited. This will result in up to 10 days suspension and possibly more serious consequences such as long-term suspension. Weapons are reported to law enforcement and charges will be filed. This is a very serious rule violation.

**Please read closely the section on weapons in the school system handbook**