

Hunter Huss High School Student Handbook 2023-2024



Make Your Mark!



Empowerment



Success



Respect



HUSKIE PRIDE

Hunter Huss High School's Mission:

Empower students to be lifelong learners and equip them to be successful members of society.

Vision

Hunter Huss High School will produce:

- Students instilled with Huskie Pride
- Prepared graduates equipped for success
- Responsible citizens with an awareness of self-worth
- A safe, supportive, inclusive, nurturing environment

Beliefs

- Success
- Empowerment
- Accountability
- Commitment
- Dedication
- Respect
- Protection

Values

- Support
- Sense of Belonging
- Relationships
- Diversity
- Collaboration
- Safety
- Consistency
- Hard Work
- Feedback
- Communication

Alma Mater



Hunter Huss we give to thee
Praise now and ever,
You our hope and joy shall be
Honor thine forever.
We shall long recall the years,
All the friends that we hold dear,
Hunter Huss we praise thee,
Praise forever more to thee.



Hunter Huss Administration

Principal:

Bryan Denton



Assistant Principals and Counselors:

Student Last Names	Assistant Principal	Counselor
A - D	Michelle Pettiford	Matt Gray
E - J	Carole Hamblin	Leah Brown
K - Q	Deidre Johnson	Victoria Johnson
R - Z	William Winston	Tega Bell
Instructional Support AP	Nicole Sparrow April McGee	

Office Personnel/Student Support

Resource Officer	William Joint and Andrew Rodgers	Security	Elizabeth Galmon and Anthony Brown
Financial Secretary	Tina Seibeck	Data Manager	Rebecca Pace
Business Manager	Antonio Lee	Receptionist	Donnie Jackson
Nurse	Laurie Carpenter	Social Worker	Sarah McArver
Dean of Students	Whitney Hill		

ACADEMICS

Grades & Grading Scale

		Regular	Honors	AP/IB
A	100-90	A = 4	A = 4.5	A = 5
B	89-80	B = 3	B = 3.5	B = 4
C	79-70	C = 2	C = 2.5	C = 3
D	69-60	D = 1	D = 1.5	D = 2
F	Below 60			

Classification of Students

Credits required for promotion	Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
10th Grade	6	6	6	6
11th Grade	13	13	13	13
12th Grade	20	20	20	20
To Graduate	28	28	28	28

High School Grading Practices

Tests, Major Projects, Performances, etc.	60%
Quizzes	20%
Daily/Classwork/Homework	20%

Important Dates

Grading Period	Dates	Report Card Distribution
1st Nine Weeks	Aug. 16 , 2023 – Oct. 12, 2023	Oct. 12 , 2023 Parent-Teacher Conferences Oct. 19, 2023 Report Cards
2nd Nine Weeks	Oct. 16, 2023 – Dec. 20, 2023	Q2: Jan. 11, 2024 Report Cards
3rd Nine Weeks	Jan. 8, 2024 – Mar. 7, 2024	March 7, 2024 Parent-Teacher Conferences March 14, 2024 Report Cards
4th Nine Weeks	Mar. 11, 2024 – May 22, 2024	May 22, 2024 Last Day for Students

Testing in North Carolina at HHHS

- End-of-Course Tests – (EOCs) in specific courses: Math 1, English 10, Biology, and Math 3
- Career and Technical Education EOC Tests – All CTE classes
- WorkKeys - Job skills assessment (12th Graders)
- Advanced Placement Tests – Required for students enrolled in AP classes who desire college credit
- PSAT – Preliminary test for SAT
- PreACT – Preliminary test for ACT (All 10th graders take this test)
- ACT – College admissions test (All 11th graders take this test)

Reteach/Retest

- Students may attend a Reteach/Retest session to make-up work missed due to an absence.
- A student may retest any major test that counts 60% of the nine weeks grade one time.
- Any student who makes below a 75 is eligible to retest.
- The highest grade a student may make on a retest is 75.

Academic Honesty

Cheating is defined as giving or receiving information on any material, including but not limited to homework, classwork, quizzes, projects, labs, papers, etc. in a manner contrary to the teacher's instructions.

- **Use of a cell phone, smartwatch, calculator, the internet, or other prohibited items or resources during an assessment is considered cheating.**

Plagiarism is defined as stealing or passing off the ideas or words of another as one's own.

Consequences for cheating or plagiarizing:

First Offense

- The student will receive a 0 for the original assignment. The student will be provided an alternative assignment. The highest grade that the student will be able to earn on this alternative assignment is a 75. This will count as the student's Reteach/Retest. Failure to re-submit the assignment by the assigned due date will result in a zero.
- Additionally, the teacher will inform the student of the alternative assignment, including when this assignment is due. The teacher will also communicate home to the parent notifying them of the incident and the actions that were taken.
- Finally, the teacher will record the cheating/plagiarism as a minor incident in Educator's Handbook where they will document in detail the incident when they spoke to the parent, and the due date of the alternative assignment.

2nd Offense from the same teacher, in the same class:

- The student will receive a 0 for the original assignment. The student will be provided an alternative assignment. The highest grade that the student will be able to earn on this alternative assignment is a 75. This will count as the student's Reteach/Retest. Failure to re-submit the assignment by the assigned due date will result in a zero.

- Additionally, the teacher will inform the student of the alternative assignment, including when this assignment is due. The teacher will also communicate home to the parent notifying them of the incident and the actions that were taken.
- Finally, the teacher will record the cheating/plagiarism as an Office Referral in Educators handbook where they will document in detail the incident when they spoke to the parent, and the due date of the alternative assignment.
- The administrator will assign the student 1-3 days of ISS and schedule a parent-teacher conference with the student's SSMT team.

Additional Offenses from the same teacher, in the same class:

- The student will receive a 0 for the original assignment. The student will be provided an alternative assignment. The highest grade that the student will be able to earn on this alternative assignment is a 75. This will count as the student's Reteach/Retest. Failure to re-submit the assignment by the assigned due date will result in a zero.
- Additionally, the teacher will inform the student of the alternative assignment, including when this assignment is due. The teacher will also communicate home to the parent notifying them of the incident and the actions that were taken.
- Finally, the teacher will record the cheating/plagiarism as an office referral in Educators Handbook where they will document in detail the incident when they spoke to the parent, and the due date of the alternative assignment.
- The administrator will assign the student 1-10 days of OSS and notify the parent and SSMT team.

Parent Portal on Website

The district has placed a Parent Portal service on the GCS website that allows parents to follow the progress of their child throughout the year. Contact the school for more information regarding the Parent Portal.

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION HIGH SCHOOL ENDORSEMENTS

Based on State Board of Education Policy GCS-L-007

Students enrolled in North Carolina high schools shall have the opportunity to earn Endorsements to their High School Diploma that identify a particular area of focused study, beginning with the graduating class of 2014-2015. The earning of endorsements shall be based on the following criteria:

- A. Students shall meet all requirements set forth in State Board Policy GCS-N-004 “State Graduation Requirements” related to earning a high school diploma.
- B. Students may earn a Career Endorsement, a College Endorsement, a College/UNC Endorsement, a North Carolina Academic Scholars Endorsement, and/or a Global Languages Endorsement.
- C. The requirements for earning these endorsements are defined below:
- D. Students may earn more than one Endorsement.
- E. Students are not required to earn an Endorsement in order to receive a diploma.
- F. The implementation of this policy is required for all Local Education Agency high schools. This policy is optional for charter school boards of directors.

Career Endorsement Requirements

- A. Except as limited by N.C.G.S. §115C-81(b), the student shall complete the Future-Ready Core mathematics sequence of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Math I, II, III or Integrated Math I, II, III and a fourth mathematics course aligned with the student’s post-secondary plans. Acceptable fourth math courses for the Career Endorsement include any math course that may be used to meet NC high school graduation requirements, including applied math courses found in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) domain.
- B. The student shall complete a CTE concentration in one of the approved CTE Cluster areas ([CTE Cluster Areas](#)):
 - Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
 - Architecture and Construction
 - Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications
 - Business, Management and Administration
 - Education and Training
 - Finance
 - Government and Public Administration
 - Health Science
 - Hospitality and Tourism
 - Human Services

- Information Technology
 - Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
 - Manufacturing
 - Marketing, Sales and Service
 - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
 - Transportation, Distribution and Logistics
- C. The student shall earn an unweighted grade point average of at least 2.6.
- D. The student shall earn at least one industry-recognized credential. Earned credentials can include Career Readiness Certificates (CRC) at the Silver level or above from WorkKeys assessments OR another appropriate industry credential/certification.

College Endorsement Requirements

- A. The student shall complete the Future-Ready Core mathematics sequence of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Math I, II, III or Integrated Math I, II, III; and a fourth mathematics course aligned with the student's post-secondary plans. The fourth math course must meet University of North Carolina system minimum admission requirements or be acceptable for earning placement in a credit-bearing college math class under the North Carolina Community College System's Multiple Measures Placement policy.
- B. The student shall earn an unweighted grade point average of at least 2.6.

College/UNC Endorsement Requirements

- A. The student shall complete the Future-Ready Core mathematics sequence of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Math I, II, III or Integrated Math I, II, III and a fourth mathematics course that meets University of North Carolina system Minimum Admission Requirements that include a mathematics course with either Algebra II, Math III or Integrated Mathematics III as a prerequisite.
- B. The student shall complete three units of science including at least one physical science with a lab, one life science and one additional science course; (Note: NC's physical science course counts towards this requirement).
- C. The student shall complete U.S. History or equivalent coursework.
- D. The student shall complete two units of a world language (other than English).
- E. Students shall earn a weighted grade point average of at least 2.5.

North Carolina Academic Scholars Endorsement Requirements

- A. The student shall complete the Future-Ready Core mathematics sequence of Math I, II, III; Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II; or Integrated Math I, II, III and a fourth mathematics course that meets University of North Carolina system Minimum Course Requirements that include a mathematics course with either Math III, Algebra II, or Integrated Mathematics III as a prerequisite.
- B. The student shall complete three units of science including an earth/environmental science course, biology, and at least one physical science course that must include either physics or chemistry.
- C. For students entering ninth grade in 2012-13 or later, the student shall complete four units of social studies including World History, American History: Founding Principles, Civics and Economics, American History I and American History II.
- D. The student shall complete two units of a world language (other than English).
- E. The student shall complete four elective credits in any one subject area, such as Career and Technical Education (CTE), JROTC, Arts Education, World Languages, or in another content area.
- F. The student shall have completed at least three higher-level courses during junior and/or senior years which carry quality points such as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Dual Enrollment courses; Advanced CTE and CTE credentialing courses; honors level courses, or Project Lead the Way courses.
- G. The student shall earn an unweighted grade point average of at least 3.50.

Global Languages Endorsement Requirements

- A. The student shall earn a combined unweighted 2.5 GPA or above for the four English Language Arts courses required for graduation.
- B. The student shall establish proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English, using one of the options outlined below and in accordance with the guidelines developed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.
 - 1. Pass an external exam approved by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction establishing “Intermediate Low” proficiency or higher per the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) proficiency scale.
 - 2. Complete a four-course sequence of study in the same world language, earning an overall unweighted GPA of 2.5 or above in those courses.

3. Establish “Intermediate Low” proficiency or higher per the ACTFL proficiency scale using the Credit by Demonstrated Mastery policy described in GCS-M-001.
- C. Limited English Proficiency students shall complete all the requirements of sections 5a and 5b above and reach “Developing” proficiency per the WorldClass Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) proficiency scale in all four domains on the most recent state identified English language proficiency test.

** Please refer to the Gaston County Schools High School Curriculum Guide publication for exceptions, specific information on grading, courses, college athletic eligibility, dual enrollment, North Carolina Virtual Public School, GCS online courses of study, etc.

*** Online Courses offered to GCS students through N.C. Virtual Public School.

Graduation

Graduation will be held on May 24, 2024 for students who have met all North Carolina and Gaston County graduation requirements.



Graduation at Hunter Huss High School is a formal academic ceremony. Ladies should wear a knee-length dress and men should wear a white shirt, navy/black pants, and a tie under their gowns. No flip-flops or tennis shoes will be worn at graduation. Students who need assistance in acquiring appropriate clothing need to contact their guidance counselor. To participate in graduation, students must attend graduation practice on Friday, May 26.

Further details regarding graduation and graduation practice will be provided to Seniors in mid-May.

Other School Policies

Checkout Policy

- Students are required to have a parent or guardian check them out in person.
- Student drivers may check out on non-event days with parent/guardian permission via written note prior to checking out.
 - School personnel will verify identity by calling the guardian at a number listed in our student information system.
- Students cannot check out between 3:00 and 3:30

- **Any student leaving campus for ANY REASON without first signing out will be considered skipping resulting in disciplinary action.**

Tardy Policy

Tardy 1- Warning

Tardy 2- Warning and parent contact

Tardy 3+ Referral to administration

Dress Code

All students should dress appropriately and maintain an appearance that will not disturb or disrupt class or any school-related activity. In today's fashion world, there are many styles available to our students and some of them simply are **NOT** appropriate for school. The following is a list of examples of prohibited items; however, this list is not exhaustive. **Any dress that school officials deem a disturbance or distraction will not be allowed.**

- No mesh shirts, cutoff T-shirts, or backless tops.
- Hem of shirt must overlap the top of pant/skirt/short.
- Undergarments should be covered at all times.
- No pants with holes in inappropriate areas.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- Excessively short shorts (boys & girls), skirts or dresses are not allowed.
- No clothing with indecent language or pictures, or containing alcohol, drug, or tobacco related messages.
- No hats, bandanas, any other headwear, or sunglasses inside the building.
- No clothing that is associated with or denotes gangs or gang related activity.

In the event that a student is determined to be in violation of the dress code, or dressed in any way that disrupts school, a parent will be notified and the student will be required to change clothing in order to proceed with his/her day.

Medication

Students ARE NOT allowed to possess medication of any type while at school.

All over-the-counter or doctor-prescribed medications must be checked in with the school nurse and adhere to the policies in the Gaston County Schools Code of Conduct.

Solicitation of Funds

Students may not solicit funds at school or sell items on campus unless approved by the administration. Clubs and organizations recognized by the school may receive fundraising approval for items to be sold before school, during lunch or after school, as well as in the community. **Edible items cannot be sold during lunch periods.**

School Security Policies

Random Metal Detection

Hunter Huss personnel will randomly use metal detectors at school entry points, between classes, and during classes to promote school safety. Any unauthorized items will be confiscated.

Closed Campus

Hunter Huss High School operates a closed campus. Students are NOT permitted to bring visitors to school or to leave campus for lunch. Access to students during the school day is allowed only to immediate family members who can verify their relationship in PowerSchool.

Deliveries

As a part of our closed campus policy, Hunter Huss High School will not accept deliveries for students. This includes items such as balloons and flowers, etc.; and meal deliveries from vendors such as (but not limited to) GrubHub, UberEats, etc.

Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Restricted Areas

Restricted areas are defined as locations off-limits to students during the day. Violations of restricted area policies will result in disciplinary actions. The following areas are restricted:

- Parking lots: Administrative permission is required to enter the parking lot during the school day.

- Bus area: Upon arrival to school, students are to leave the bus loading area.
- Gym, gym hallway, and athletic fields: Only students scheduled for physical education are permitted in these areas during the school day.
- Cafeteria and lunchroom area: Students are permitted in the cafeteria and lunchroom areas only during breakfast, their scheduled lunch period, or with prior administrative permission.
- Lobby: Students should not loiter in the lobby.
- Restrooms: Students will have a designated pass provided by the teachers.

Lockers

Lockers will not be utilized during the school year.

Electronic Device Policies

Personal Devices

Being allowed to use electronic devices, such as cell phones and headphones, during the school day is a privilege. Violations of this policy may result in confiscation of the student's cell phone, headphones, speakers, or other personal devices. Additional violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action. Students must adhere to each teacher's classroom policy.

Hunter Huss High School assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged personal devices of any kind that students bring on campus.

Instructional time will not be used by Hunter Huss Staff to search for lost or stolen items, including cell phones, headphones, speakers, etc.

At no time may a student use a GCS device to charge their own personal device(s).

- Students who are in violation of this policy will be referred to the administration for disciplinary action and may have their access to GCS devices revoked.

Cell Phones and Headphones

Cell phones and headphones can be used before school, during lunch, and after school.

- Students must use headphones if they wish to listen to music during the times mentioned above.

- At no point should your music be so loud that others can hear your music or you cannot hear others who are speaking to you.
- At no point will it be acceptable for students to recite music lyrics that use profanity or unacceptable language out loud in common areas.
- At no point will students be allowed to unplug their headphones and/or connect to a speaker or other audio device to listen to their music and/or share their music out loud with others.
- Educational Usage (BYOD) - Within their classrooms, individual teachers have the discretion to decide whether to allow students to use cell phones, headphones or other personal devices for educational purposes.

School Devices

Gmail

GCS provides Gmail access to all students. HHHS administration will monitor all incoming and outgoing Gmail messages.

Students should only use their GCS Gmail for school-related purposes.

Students should not use their GCS Gmail as a personal messaging app.

Students who abuse their Gmail will be subject to disciplinary action and may have their access to their GCS email revoked.

DyKnow

GCS and Hunter Huss High School take each student's internet safety very seriously. For that reason, all internet traffic on GCS networks is filtered through various Firewalls. Additionally, HHHS staff have access to a software program called DyKnow that allows for the monitoring of each student's internet activity while they are at school.

Students are expected to only use their GCS internet access for school-related reasons. Students who abuse their internet privileges will be subject to disciplinary action and may have their access to the GCS internet networks revoked.

Fees

Students are expected to take care when using any GCS device, such as a Chromebook.

Students who lose, damage, or steal GCS devices may be charged for the cost of repairs up to the cost of full replacement for the device. Additionally, students who lose, damage, or steal GCS devices may be subject to disciplinary action.

Transportation Policies

Bus Riders

School bus transportation is a privilege that is provided to all students who comply with the Gaston County Rules for Bus Riders. Students are expected to always follow the directions of the bus driver. Failure to follow the directions of any adult involved in bus supervision or the bus driver will result in student discipline and possible loss of bus riding privileges.

Students riding the bus in the morning are expected to leave the bus lot and head directly into the school building upon arriving on campus. Students are expected to report directly to first period after getting breakfast. Breakfast must be picked up immediately after entering the building.

Students riding the bus in the afternoon must report directly to the bus lot located behind the cafeteria. Students are not to linger in the building.

Student Vehicles and Parking Regulations

Student use of a personal vehicle on campus is considered a privilege, which can be revoked if safety and/or security of others become compromised in any way. It may also be revoked for the following:

- leaving campus without permission
- going to the car during instructional time
- having repeated violations of the school tardy policy
- choosing not to comply with traffic patterns
- occupying more than one parking space

Students are discouraged from keeping valuable items in their vehicles while parked on campus. **All vehicles parked on campus are to be registered and can be subject to search by the administration.** Parking passes are \$20.00.

Students with early release or students attending class on another campus must leave campus immediately following their last class of the day at Hunter Huss High School.

Failure to post your parking tag or parking illegally will result in your car being towed.

Attendance Policy

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE ATTENDANCE:

- Students are expected to be in each class each school day. Students may only have ten (10) absences in a semester course, including excused and unexcused absences.
- In order for students to be counted present in a course, they must be in attendance at least seventy-five (75) minutes of the ninety (90) minute class period.
- For students who exceed ten (10) absences in a course and are passing the course, an appeal must be filed to be eligible for course credit (see the GCS Student Code of Conduct for details).
- In order to be recorded present for a whole school day, a student must be present at least one-half of the school day.
- Following any absence(s), a student is required to present written documentation stating the reason for the absence.
- All absences will be coded unexcused in the computer until written documentation is received.
- Written documentation must be presented within three (3) school days after the student returns to school.

Drivers Education & Student Attendance

Students will be allowed to enroll in driver education only if they meet a minimum of 94% attendance the semester before enrolling in driver education. **Students must have been in attendance 84 days of the 90-day semester in the year or semester before enrollment in driver education with Gaston County schools.**

Parents may register their children for driver education classes by contacting the NC Driving School at 704-922-1960 at the North Carolina Driving School.

Parents may pick up Driver Eligibility Certificates at the North Carolina Driving School office located at 1012 B Philadelphia Church Road Dallas, NC 28645 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Lose Control/Lose Your License Dropout Prevention Guidelines

A student under age 18 must pass 3 out of 4 courses in a semester to maintain a NC Drivers' License under state guidelines. Students passing fewer than 3

courses in a semester will receive notification from the state that his/her license has been suspended until the course requirements are met.

Students given an expulsion/suspension for more than 10 (ten) consecutive days for one of the three reasons listed below are subject to having their permit/license suspended for up to one calendar year.

- The possession or sale of an alcoholic beverage or an illegal controlled substance on school property.
- The possession or use on school property of a weapon or firearm that resulted in disciplinary action under G.S. §115C-391(d1) or that could have resulted in disciplinary action if the conduct had occurred in a public school.
- The physical assault on a teacher or other personnel on school property. Students who are at least 14 years old or who are rising 8th graders are subject to this law.

The law applies to all students, even to those exempted under Dropout Prevention/Driver's License Legislation.

Unlike the Dropout Prevention/Driver's License Legislation law that ends when a student turns 18 years old, the "Lose Control" law does not stop at age 18, nor does it stop when the student graduates.

Students who may lose their permit/license under this legislation may be eligible to regain the permit/license after a six-month period by displaying exemplary behavior in an alternative education setting or having successfully completed a school district approved drug or alcohol treatment counseling program.

Clubs and Organizations

HHHS offers students the opportunity to participate in many different clubs and academic organizations.

Athletics

Athletic Eligibility

To participate in athletics, student absences must not exceed 13.5 days per semester. Athletes must be on track with their graduation cohort and must pass three out of four classes from the previous semester. Students should refer to the 2022-2023 Gaston County School Curriculum Guide for specific information relating to athletic eligibility requirements.

Sports Teams Athletic Activities	Coach(s)	Season
Varsity Football	Randy Thompson	Fall
JV Football	Randy Thompson	Fall
Girls Golf	Victoria Powell	Fall
Varsity Volleyball	Anette Phillips	Fall
JV Volleyball	Anette Phillips	Fall
Girls Tennis	Dennis Free	Fall
Cross Country	Michael Hatcher	Fall
Boys Soccer	Fernando Perez	Fall
Varsity Cheerleading	Ashley Hearn	Fall & Winter
JV Cheerleading	Makayla Mayhew	Fall & Winter
Varsity Boys Basketball	Troy Phillips	Winter
JV Boys Basketball	Troy Phillips	Winter

Varsity Girls Basketball	Bobby Lipscomb	Winter
JV Girls Basketball	Kelly Hawkins	Winter
Wrestling	Sam Mall	Winter
Swimming	Jessica Kimmel	Winter
Varsity Baseball	Michael Micik	Spring
Varsity Softball	Victoria Powell	Spring
Girls Soccer	Bobby Lipscomb	Spring
Girls Track	Anette Phillips	Spring
Boys Track	Joseph Gabriel	Spring
Boys Golf	Michael Hatcher	Spring
Boys Tennis	Dennis Free	Spring

****For additional information, contact the Athletic Director, Jack Bridges.**

School Year 2023-2024
Gaston County School Nutrition (GCSN)

[Gaston County Schools Breakfast/Lunch Menu](#)

As part of the CEP, all HHHS students are able to utilize free breakfast and lunch.