

**Hunter Huss High School
Student Handbook
2019-2020**



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:

Tonnell Oliphant

Student's Last Names: A-G

James Hilburn

Student's Last Names: H-O

Chris Dixon

Student's Last Names: P-Z

Page Willis

Student's Last Names: TBD

Counselors:

Katherine Eckert

Student's Last Names: A-G

Heather Griffin

Student's Last Names: H-O

Lisa Brooks

Student's Last Names: P-Z

Office Personnel/Student Support

Resource Officer *Doug Black*

Security *Josh Davis*

Financial Secretary *Tina Walker*

Data Manager *Jill George*

Business Manager *Antonio Lee*

Receptionist *Donnie Biggerstaff*

Nurse *Casey Hudson*

Social Workers: *Whitney Hill*

College Advisor *Olivia Liccione*

Sarah McArver

Instructional Management Coordinator *Chastity Stamey*

Student Success Coordinator *Ashley Hearn*

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 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
10 th Grade	6	6	6	6
11 th Grade	13	13	13	13
12 th 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	Interim Reports Distribution	Report Card Distribution
1st Six Weeks	Aug. 26, 2019 – Oct. 4, 2019	Sept. 16, 2019 - Sept. 20, 2019	Oct. 10, 2019 Parent-Teacher Conferences
2nd Six Weeks	Oct. 5, 2019 – Nov. 19, 2019	Oct. 18, 2019 - Nov. 1, 2019	Dec. 5, 2019
3rd Six Weeks	Nov. 20, 2019 – Jan. 17, 2020	Dec. 16, 2019 - Dec. 19, 2019	Jan. 23, 2019
4th Six Weeks	Jan. 18, 2020 – Mar. 5, 2020	Feb. 18, 2020 - Feb. 21, 2020	Mar. 12, 2020 Parent-Teacher Conferences
5th Six Weeks	Mar. 6, 2020 – Apr. 27, 2020	Mar. 30, 2020 - Apr. 3, 2020	May 7, 2020
6th Six Weeks	Apr. 28, 2020 – June 9, 2020	May 13, 2020 - May 19, 2020	Week of June 15, 2020

Testing in North Carolina at HHS

- End-of-Course Tests – (EOCs) in specific courses: Math 1, English 10, Biology, and Math 3
- Career and Technical Education EOC Test – 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 six 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 Offences 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 (<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/cte/curriculum/>);
 - 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 June 13, 2020 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, June 12.

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 2:45 and 3:00

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

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 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.

Vending Machines

Vending machines are located throughout the school campus (students are not allowed to use teacher machines). Vending begins at approximately 1:30 PM each day.

Hunter Huss High School assumes no responsibility for lost money or damaged goods received from vending machines.

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

First Period teachers will issue a locker to each student at the beginning of the school year, free of charge. Students can only use school-issued locks. Any non-school locks will be cut off lockers.

Lockers are the property of Hunter Huss High School. Therefore, if school officials have reasonable suspicion that a prohibited or illegally possessed item is present, individual lockers or storage areas may be searched without prior notice.

Students are not permitted to share lockers and must use the locker that is assigned to them by their teacher. Students who are found to be sharing lockers will be subject to disciplinary action.

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.

If a personal device is confiscated, the device will be turned into the Front Office and the parent notified. A parent must come to the school to collect the device.

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 stay only in the allowed designated areas as they wait for the 1st Bell to ring.

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.

Athletics

Athletic Eligibility

To participate in athletics, student absences must not exceed 13 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 2019-2020 Gaston County School Curriculum Guide for specific information relating to athletic eligibility requirements.

Sports Teams Athletic Activities	Coach(s)	Season
Varsity Football	Jamar McKoy	Fall
JV Football	Tyson Graham	Fall
Girls Golf	Walt Wallace	Fall
Varsity Volleyball	Molly Landry	Fall
JV Volleyball	TBA	Fall
Girls Tennis	TBA	Fall
Cross Country	Michael Hatcher	Fall
Boys Soccer	TBA	Fall
Varsity Cheerleading	Iris Mills	Fall & Winter
JV Cheerleading	TBA	Fall & Winter
Varsity Boys Basketball	Walt Wallace	Winter
JV Boys Basketball	Michael Hatcher	Winter
Varsity Girls Basketball	Bobby Lipscomb	Winter
JV Girls Basketball	TBA	Winter
Wrestling	TBA	Winter

Swimming	Jessica Kimmel	Winter
Varsity Baseball	Michael Micik	Spring
Varsity Softball	Katie Eckert	Spring
Girls Soccer	TBA	Spring
Girls Track	Gzamia Davis	Spring
Boys Track	Joseph Gabriel	Spring
Boys Golf	Walt Wallace	Spring
Boys Tennis	Melissa Bess	Spring

****For additional information, contact the Athletic Director, Steve Gardner.**

School Year 2019-2020
Gaston County School Nutrition (GCSN)

1) Meal Prices

- a) Breakfast
 - i) Paid students (all grade levels) \$1.20
 - ii) Reduced price students (all grade levels) \$0.00
 - iii) Adults (staff and visitors) \$1.50
- b) Lunch
 - i) Paid students (grades K – 5) \$2.70
 - ii) Paid students (grades 6 – 12) \$2.80
 - iii) Reduced price students (all grade levels) \$0.40
 - iv) Adults (staff and visitors) \$3.75

2) Charged Meals

- a) Students who do not have money may charge a meal if their account has not exceeded the following limits:
 - i) Elementary (K – 5) \$13.50
 - ii) Middle School (6 – 8) \$ 5.60
 - iii) High School (9 – 12) no charging allowed
- b) Elementary and middle school students who do not have money and who have exceeded the charge limit may receive a complimentary alternate meal upon request.
- c) Principals will be provided a daily list of students who have exceeded the charge limits so that they can inform the students they will only be able to receive a complimentary alternate meal unless they bring meal money the following day.
- d) High school students who do not have meal money may also request a complimentary alternate meal if they are unable to find or borrow money.
- e) Students who have received more than five (5) complimentary alternate meals per year may receive additional complimentary meals at the mutual discretion of the Principal and School Nutrition Director.
- f) Students who apply for free or reduced price meal benefits are responsible for all charges incurred before their Free and Reduced Meal Applications are received by the Cafeteria Manager or School Nutrition Department.
- g) Students who have exceeded the charged meal limit may not purchase a la carte items with the exception of milk, fruit juice, or water.
- h) Schools are provided negative balance letters for distribution to students at least once a week.
- i) A negative balance report can be provided by the Cafeteria Manager at any time upon request.

3) Student Accounts

- a) Check, Cash, or Money Order can be accepted in the school cafeterias.
- b) Parents/Guardians may utilize K12PaymentCenter at www.k12paymentcenter.com to pay with their credit or debit card. PLEASE NOTE: This service is available at all schools as a means of collecting and managing other school fees.
- c) Parents requesting a refund must contact the School Nutrition Business Manager at (704) 836-9110 ext. 3.
- d) Positive balances remaining at the end of the school year will remain on students' accounts for the following school year unless a refund is requested.
- e) NSF checks are referred to NEXCHECK, a check guarantee and collection service.

4) A la Carte guidelines

- a) A la carte items may not be charged.
- b) Students who have exceeded the charge limits, \$13.50 in elementary schools and \$5.60 in middle schools, may not purchase a la carte items except milk, fruit juice, or water.
- c) Students who are within the allowable charge limits, under \$13.50 in elementary schools and \$5.60 in middle schools, may not purchase a la carte items until all charges are paid.

5) Free and Reduced Meal Applications

- a) Paper applications are available at the school office, the school cafeteria, the enrollment department at the Central Office, and at the School Nutrition Center in Lowell.
- b) Online applications are available for SY 19-20 on the Gaston County Schools website. Links can be found on the School Nutrition departmental tab.
- c) Only **one application** is required **per household**.
- d) Paper applications should be returned to the school Cafeteria Manager or the School Nutrition Center – 500 Reid Street, Lowell, NC 28098.
- e) Students who received free or reduced price meals on the last day of school in School Year 2018-2019, will **temporarily** receive free or reduced price meals at the beginning of School Year 2019-2020. **However**, all households must submit a new application each year, and the application must be processed for benefits to continue after the first 30 school days of the new school year.
- f) Foster children are categorically eligible for free meal benefits, and should be included on the household application (not a separate application).
- g) Students designated as homeless by Gaston County Schools' homeless liaison are categorically eligible for free meals. No application is

required, but documentation must be received from the homeless liaison before benefits begin.

- h) If any member of the household receives Food and Nutrition Services – Food Services & Nutrition Services (FNS, formerly known as food stamps), Work First Cash Assistance (Formerly TANF), or FDIPIR, provide the name and case number on the application for the person who receives the benefits. All students listed on that application are categorically eligible for free meals.
 - i) If a student receives Food and Nutrition Services (FNS, formerly known as food stamps), Work First Cash Assistance (Formerly TANF), benefits and is notified that he/she has been approved for free meal benefits by way of Direct Certification, and application is not required for that student. If there are other children that have not been identified as being directly certified, but who are living in the same household, please contact the Free and Reduced Meal Specialist at the School Nutrition Center in Lowell for assistance, (704)-836-9110 ext. 1.
- 6) Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Universal Free Breakfast and Lunch
- a) All nineteen schools participating in CEP during SY 19-20 have been renewed for SY 19-20.
 - b) Students transferring/advancing to non-CEP schools will need to complete a GCSN Free & Reduced Meal Application for school year 2019-2020.
 - c) Families of students moving from a CEP school to a NON CEP, will need to apply for Free and Reduced Meals in order to receive benefits at the new school.
 - d) Students qualifying for Direct Certification of Meal Eligibility do not need to complete an additional application upon returning for school year 2019-2020. Students approved by Direct Certification will receive a mailed notification of benefits from GCSN by August 26, 2019.
- 7) Special Dietary Needs
- a) Students with unique meal time needs may request modification to school meals by completing a Diet Order form.
 - b) Diet Order forms may be obtained from the Cafeteria Manager, the School Nurse, the School Nutrition Center in Lowell, or on School Nutrition page on Gaston County School website www.gaston.k12.nc.us
 - c) The Diet Order form must be signed by a recognized medical authority and returned to the school nurse, or Cafeteria Manager or School Nutrition Center.

8) Holiday Meals

- a) Grades K- 12 Wednesday, November 20, 2019
- b) Grades K- 8 Wednesday, December 11, 2019
- c) Grades K- 8 Wednesday, April 1, 2020
- d) Price for Adult for holiday meals is \$4.00**

9) Water Availability During Lunch Meal Service

- a) The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (the Act), Public Law 111-296, establishes a requirement for making water available to children in all school meal programs. Drinking water must be made available to students at no charge and without restriction in place where meals are served.
- b) To ensure water availability during meal service, each school's Principal must choose one of the following options:
 - i) Allow students to access water fountains in the dining room or an adjacent area.
 - ii) Request a water cooler with disposable water cups which are supplied by School Nutrition and maintained by Cafeteria staff.