

Warlick Academy

Student Handbook

2021-2022



Home of the
Patriots

Ms. Lucretia Rice Principal
Dr. Tim Reed Assistant Principal



A School Of Intervention And Opportunity

Dear Students:

Welcome to Warlick Academy – A school of intervention and opportunity! It is my pleasure to welcome you to a school that holds some of the best secrets for students' educational and personal success.

Our primary responsibility is to provide a positive quality program for building student academics, self confidence, social and behavioral growth opportunities that will maximize their potential. This responsibility is supported in our school's vision statement, "Warlick Academy aspires to create a safe and nurturing learning environment that is tailored to meet the individual social, emotional and academic needs of each student.." Today's world demands students who think critically and make good decisions. We assist by developing long-lasting relationships with students and families, spending time communicating student needs and finding resources to enhance day to day interactions with others. The students of Warlick Academy are provided with numerous opportunities to be challenged as they learn and grow through our many tiers of interventions and support services.

This Handbook provides a great deal of important information regarding our school expectations, as well as our policies and procedures. Please take time to read the handbook thoroughly and discuss this information with your family. Ask us questions if needed as it is important to build strong relationships between home and school to help promote the well-being of our students and their learning process.

The Gaston County Student Information Guide will be your next resource to find a wealth of information including the Student Code of Conduct. Reviewing and following the student code of conduct will be the first step to successfully achieving goals.

We are looking forward to building relationships with you and your family as you aspire to greatness. The Warlick Staff is excited to have you on our campus. Welcome to another exciting year of learning!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucretia R. Rice".

Lucretia Rice
Principal

Safe, Responsible & Respectful

Warlick Academy's Vision, Direction, and Beliefs

Our Mission:

Warlick Academy creates a safe and nurturing learning environment that is tailored to meet individual, social/emotional and academic needs.

Our Direction:

Warlick Academy is striving to prepare students behaviorally and socially to be successful citizens.

Our Beliefs:

Warlick Academy Believes:

- *All students have the potential to be successful and contributing members of society*
- *As professionals, our staff is committed to addressing and meeting students' needs*
- *We consistently provide a safe and orderly environment*

Our Goals:

- *Develop Relationships*
- *Assist With Student Needs*
- *Promote Student's Self-Worth*
- *Build Student Confidence toward Warlick Instruction & Learning*
- *Help Students Respond to Learning/Engagement*
- *Reduce Student Inappropriate Behavior In/Out of School*
- *Increase Grades and Attendance*
- *Support families*
- *Create Lifelong Success*

IMPORTANT DATES

Grading Period	Days	Dates	Report Card Distribution	Interim Reports*	Check-In / Benchmark** Window	Exams
1st Nine Weeks	41	Aug. 23 -Oct. 20	Oct. 28	Sept. 20 - 24	Sept. 20 - 24	Dec. 15 - 21
2nd Nine Weeks	40	Oct. 21-Dec.21	Jan. 13	Nov. 15 - 19	Nov. 17 - 23	
3rd Nine Weeks	45	Jan. 10-Mar. 16	Mar. 24	Feb. 7 - 11	Feb. 14 - 18	May 25 - Jun. 1
4th Nine Weeks	48	Mar. 17-Jun. 1	Mailed home during workdays	Apr. 11 - 14	April 25 - 29	

*Interim Reports: Printed interim reports should be distributed to all students for the first grading period of each semester. Remaining interim reports should be distributed to students whose grade is below a C, or whose grades have dropped more than one letter grade.

Warlick Academy Guidelines for Students

METAL DETECTION – Students will be called to the detector one student at a time. They will remove their mask, shoes, coat, belt, and jewelry and place items on the table. They will empty pockets when instructed to do so. They will walk through the detector and if an alarm/beep occurs, a second entrance through the detector will be required. If the alarm beeps a third time, students may be searched by appropriate officials (see GCS search protocol). Students will be refused entry into the building if they refuse to comply with staff directions and or do not pass security checks. A parent or guardian will be notified for next steps.

PERMITTED ITEMS: Eyeglasses, Lip Balm, House Key, up to \$5, books or homework

MASK: We are continuing to receive guidance on safety for students. Masks will be required to be worn at all times on the school bus. We will enter the 2021-22 school year with mask wearing by students and staff. This guidance is subject to change and at any time. In the case it does our students are expected to comply with the safety guidelines of our school and district.

HALLWAY – Students will walk quietly on the right side of the hallway at all times. There will be no physical contact including hugs, fist bumps, high-fives, handshakes, or gang signs.

CLASS CHANGE – Students will follow scheduled times in order to put away materials and remain seated until the teacher gives direction to change classes. All students must travel directly to the next class.

THE CLASSROOM – Each teacher will provide students with the guidelines that will make them successful in their room. The guidelines are created to make a safe and productive learning environment.

LEAVING AND RE-ENTERING CLASS – Students will travel with an adult at all times other than class change. Class change is monitored by all staff by visibly observing from the hallways.

BATHROOM – Students will be escorted by Warlick staff to the bathroom at all times. No more than three students will be allowed in the high school bathroom at any given time. Middle school bathrooms are single use. Students will remain quiet, flush the toilet and place any trash in the trash can. Students will wash hands and return to the hallway and wait while bathrooms are inspected by their escort. The escort and student will then return to the previous location together.

BREAKFAST- After metal detection, students will walk through the cafeteria securing their breakfast and take it to their Advisory/1st block classroom. Students will select options available for the day. Students may only receive one juice per state board food and nutrition guideline. Breakfast will be free this year.

LUNCH- Warlick Staff will call each class to the cafeteria at the appropriate time for lunch. After receiving their lunch students will line up based on the teachers instructions and return to class as a group. Students may only receive one juice with this meal per state board food and nutrition guideline. Lunch will be provided free of cost this year.

ALA-CARTE- These items will be offered beginning in September pending approval at Warlick.

WARLICK ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

BUS- Before bus transportation is provided, students and parents must read and sign the bus guidelines.

School bus safety is a top priority with Gaston County Schools. In order to make the bus transportation system as safe as possible, parents should remind children of the following conduct and bus safety rules:

- Always obey your bus driver.
- Observe good conduct. Always talk quietly on the bus. Never scream.
- Be at your bus stop on time.
- Help keep the bus clean.
- Stay off the street when waiting for the bus.
- Stay in your seat until the bus comes to a complete stop.
- Don't play with the emergency door.
- Leave the bus only at the front of the door except in case of an emergency.
- Always keep hands, arms and head inside the bus.
- Never use drugs, tobacco, alcohol or profane language on the bus.
- Always use the handrail to get on and off the bus.
- Walk on the left side of the road facing traffic when going to the bus stop. Always stay well off the road.
- When approaching or leaving your bus, if you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Always make sure the bus has stopped and the stop signal is extended.
- Always occupy the seat assigned by the driver or principal.

SCHOOL ENTRY

School Supervision begins at 8:20 a.m.

ARRIVAL - All students will enter through the west entrance of the school (middle school side). Students will walk through the breezeway to begin the security/check in process.

Car riders- Students must be **dropped off** at the west entrance of the school.(middle school side). Please follow instructions provided by the adult on duty. This individual is there to facilitate the safety of all students and adults.

Bus riders- All buses will drop off students on the west entrance of the school (Middle School side). Please follow instructions provided by the adult on duty. This individual is there to facilitate the safety of all students and adults.

DEPARTURE - If it is necessary for a student to leave school before 2:30 p.m. The parent/guardian must come to the office to check the student out. Upon being called to the office for dismissal, the student will be escorted from the classroom to the office. Before leaving,the student must be signed out in the office.

Car riders - Prior to dismissal, all car riders will be escorted to our pick-up location. Students are picked from the west entrance of the school nearest our smaller building.

Bus riders - All Buses will load on the High School Gym side. Front office will call each bus (one at a time). When the bus number is called, students will be dismissed from their 6th block class and follow hallway procedures.

School bus transportation is provided to all students who comply with the Gaston County Rules for Bus Riders. **Students are expected to follow the directions of the bus driver and bus monitors at all times. Failure to follow the directions of any adult involved in bus supervision or the bus driver will result in student discipline and quite possibly in the loss of bus riding privileges.**

GCS Board of Education

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students and parents will find this policy in the Student Code of Conduct on pages 22-29. The school year is 180 days. Families will receive notification of absences at 3, 6, and 10 days. Our school Social Worker will contact you if your child's attendance interferes with their success at our school.

WARLICK ACADEMY adheres to the GCS STUDENT CODE of CONDUCT along with the following restrictions:

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

All electronics, including headphones and cell phones, are prohibited at Warlick Academy!

Students bringing any electronic devices to school will be relieved of the item(s). If a student does not comply with this mandate, the device will be placed in the office and a parent/guardian will be required to pick the item up from the office.

DRESS CODE

Students are to comply with dress code expectations each day of school. Students who choose not to meet the dress code will not be permitted into their class Warlick Staff will call home for appropriate attire to be brought to the school.

Warlick Academy is an academic setting where respect and dignity are a priority. Each student is expected to maintain an appearance that is neither distracting to other students nor disruptive to the educational environment or the safe and healthy climate of schools. Teachers and administrators recognize that the responsibility for the dress and appearance of students rests with individual students and their parent(s)/guardian(s). The following restrictions on dress and appearance shall be enforced:

- Skirts, dresses and shorts of appropriate length are permitted. This translates to these items not being more than 4 inches above the top of the knee. Wearing leggings or tights under the clothing does not negate this policy.
- Leggings and other tight pants must be covered with a long top that reaches below their bottom.
- Midriff must be covered with clothing. Clothing with rips, tears, and/or holes above the knee is considered unacceptable for school.
- Pajamas and bedroom shoes are considered unacceptable for school.
- The wearing of hair combs and picks, hats, caps, bandanas, scarves, any type of headwear or sunglasses applies to males and females and is prohibited. These items brought to school will be confiscated and must be picked-up by parent.
- Jewelry is permitted with the exception of large, heavy chains, medallions or rosaries. No jewelry with spikes, gang signs or symbols, weapons, explicit language, and drug or alcohol symbols are allowed. All Jewelry must come off to go through metal detection. Limit the amount so as not to slow the metal detection process down.
- No style of clothing (or the manner in which it is worn) may expose undergarments or create a distraction or disturbance in school. Bra straps and bra backs are to be covered with clothing.
- Any clothing accessory considered to be a safety hazard is prohibited.
- Any clothing that displays sexually explicit words or drawings, alcohol, drugs, weapons, drug or gang symbols are not allowed to be worn at Warlick Academy. No Chicago Bulls attire.
- Students are responsible for picking up any prohibited items brought to campus.

SCHOOL'S RIGHT TO SEARCH

- Desks or storage places provided for student use are, and remain at all times, property of the Gaston County Schools. These areas and the contents, therefore, are subject to a random search at any time, pursuant to school board policy.
- Warlick Academy conducts daily Metal Detection and frequently will conduct random classroom searches. This is a proactive effort to maintain a safe learning environment for all members of the Warlick Academy.
- Administrators are authorized to conduct reasonable inspection of school property or of students and items brought upon school grounds, including vehicles, when there is reasonable cause to believe that a student may be in possession of evidence that a law or a school rule has been violated. Contraband may be seized by administration.

COMPUTER USE POLICY

Students are required to follow the computer use policy that is outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Both students and parents have signed the GCS Responsible Use Policy for Internet use. Students who are found to be in violation of these policies, including visiting inappropriate websites, accessing blocked sites and visiting social networking websites such as (MySpace, Facebook, Instagram, FaceChat, and Twitter are subject to the following disciplinary actions:

- First violation-Verbal warning
- Second violation-Parent notification and conference with principal or principal designee
- Third violation-Suspension of internet use for 2 weeks
- Further violations will result in termination in internet and computer use and will also result in a 3 day suspension

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Academic infractions involving any form of deception will result in academic and possible disciplinary consequences. Use of a cell phone during a testing is considered deceptive. Cheating is defined as giving or receiving information on any material in a manner contrary to the teacher's instructions. Plagiarism is defined as stealing or passing off the ideas or words of another as one's own. Consequences when a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing:

- The student may receive a "zero" on the assignment or alternate assignment at teacher discretion
- The teacher will notify the parent/legal guardian
- Upon a 2nd occurrence, the student will be referred to an administrator for disciplinary action.

SCHOOL RELATED FUNCTIONS

Students attending a school-related function will not be counted absent. School related functions are school field trips or school-initiated and scheduled activities. These students will be held responsible for making up missed work. The teacher will determine when work is to be made up. The student is responsible for finding out what assignments are due and completing them within the specified time period.

SPORTS

Students are not allowed to play sports for their home school while enrolled at Warlick Academy.

DRIVER EDUCATION

Driver Education will occur at the home school with permission from the home school principal. Warlick Academy is not responsible for driver education. Students and guardians must contact the home school.

AMBASSADORS

Warlick Ambassadors are students who are passing their classes, have no major referrals, good attendance and no suspensions. Ambassadors have more privileges while on campus. The principal will review the application for ambassador status and make a decision after gathering all student information. This happens once per semester.

COMMUNICATION

Students and parents are encouraged to make contacts with the teachers and other school staff as often as necessary. We need to develop a partnership with each other to benefit all people involved, especially the students. Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to speak to support staff (counselors, mental health clinicians, school social worker, educational support specialist, student intervention coordinator, nurse, or principal when they have questions or concerns. The Warlick Staff is committed to assisting students with setting their goals and achieving them.

NEXCHECK

Your Check is Welcome. Gaston County Schools recognizes that occasionally a parent may inadvertently overdraw a checking account and a check may be returned by your bank. In order to recover these funds in a private and professional manner, the Gaston County School system has contracted with Nexcheck, LLC for collection of returned checks. Checks should be written on a commercially printed check with your name, address, and a contact telephone number. When a person writes a check to a school or the School System, he or she agrees that if the check is returned for any reason, it may be represented electronically on the same account, and that the Service Fee for returned checks established by law may be debited from the same account. If the check and fees are not collected electronically, Nexcheck will contact the check writer by mail and/or by telephone to make payment arrangements. All payments need to be made directly to Nexcheck, P.O. Box 19688, Birmingham, AL 35219. For a convenience fee, payments of both check and fee may be made electronically at www.nexcheck.com or over the phone (800-639-2435) using a credit card, debit card or electronic check.

**Warlick Empowering Students
And Cultivating Opportunities for Lifelong Success**

